

**Morgan County Economic Development Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
February 22, 2022
Morgan County Courthouse**

MINUTES

Members Present: Ed Asher, Terri Beard, Sean Forney, Mark Harrell, Larry Omms, Ryan Rebant, Brandy Steele, Kristen Tuttle, and Susan Webster

1. Call-to-Order

Larry Omms called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. Quorum present.

2. Minutes

Sean Forney made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by Ed Asher, and the motion was approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

Terri Beard made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and expenditures for January 31, 2022. The motion was seconded by Ed Asher, and the motion was approved.

4. EDA Projects/Business

- a. Letter of Intent for Lot 8 and Lot 9 in 522 Business Park – Lyn Goodwin reported prospect continues to update business plan and is preparing a Letter of Intent to purchase Lot 8 and Lot 9 in the 522 Business Park. Prospect now plans to present at the March EDA meeting.
- b. Letter of Intent for Lot 6 in 522 Business Park – Prospect was introduced via Zoom. Prospect discussed plans for aquaculture facility and Letter of Intent to purchase Lot 6 in the 522 Business Park. Sean Forney made a motion to authorize EDA President Larry Omms to sign Letter of Intent to purchase Lot 6 between prospect and EDA. The motion was seconded by Susan Webster, and the motion was approved.
- c. Caperton Furnitureworks Expansion – The West Virginia Department of Economic Development (WVDED) is awarding Caperton Furnitureworks a \$300,000 grant from the Governor's Closing Fund for its expansion project. The WVDED wants to process the grant funds through the Morgan County EDA. EDA board members discussed and are in concurrence.
- d. Prospects Update – No further updates at this time.
- e. 522 Water/Sewer Extension EDA Grant Letter of Support – The EDA has been asked to submit a Letter of Support for the Warm Springs Public Service District and Berkeley Springs Water Works' U.S. EDA American Rescue Plan Act grant application for \$6.2

million for the U.S. 522 water/sewer extension project. Sean Forney noted the grant would be an 80 federal/20 local match. Application is due the end of March with a decision expected by the end of September. Sean Forney made a motion to authorize the EDA Executive Director to submit a letter of support for the project. The motion was seconded by Mark Harrell, and the motion was approved.

- f. FY 2022 LED Grant Resolution – The West Virginia Department of Economic Development (WVDED) has awarded the Morgan County EDA a Local Economic Development grant in the amount of \$22,727. Mark Harrell made a motion to approve a resolution authorizing the EDA Executive Director to enter a contractual agreement with the WVDED to receive and administer the grant funds. The motion was seconded by Ed Asher, and the motion was approved.
- g. Morgan County Job Fair Sponsorship – The EDA has been asked to be a sponsor for the Berkeley Springs-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce’s Morgan County Job Fair on April 8. Sponsorship fee is \$500, the same amount as in 2019. Susan Webster made a motion to approve a \$500 sponsorship for the Job Fair. The motion was seconded by Sean Forney, and the motion was approved.
- h. EDA Office Furniture Sponsorship – CNB Bank has offered the EDA a \$5,000 sponsorship toward the furniture for the EDA’s renovated office space. Terri Beard made a motion to accept the \$5,000 sponsorship from CNB Bank. The motion was seconded by Sean Forney, and the motion was approved, with Mark Harrell abstaining from the vote.
- i. Disposal of Old EDA Computers/Cameras/Equipment – Lyn Goodwin noted several old laptops, cameras, etc., have been discovered while unpacking and organizing the renovated EDA office space. Terri Beard made a motion to authorize the EDA Executive Director to work with the Morgan County IT Department to properly dispose of any obsolete equipment. The motion was seconded by Susan Webster, and the motion was approved.

5. Director’s Report

Lyn Goodwin noted her Director’s Report was included in the meeting packet. She mentioned the following items from the report:

- FY 2022-2023 EDA Budget Request was submitted to the Morgan County Commission.
- The West Virginia House of Delegates approved House Bill 4002 (Certified Sites and Development Readiness Program and Fund) and has referred the legislation to the West Virginia Senate for consideration.
- Charles Kapp has resigned from U.S. Silica, which creates a vacancy on the EDA board. Morgan County Commission has been notified of the vacancy. U.S. Silica will recommend a new representative for the County Commission to consider appointing to the EDA board.


6. Announcements/Public Comment

Sean Forney noted Governor Justice's Office announced two Transportation Alternatives and Recreational Trails Program grants for Morgan County. One grant in the amount of \$496,246 is for the Town of Bath's Streetscape project and the other grant in the amount of \$250,000 is for Cacapon State Park Foundation's bike trails.

7. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Mark Harrell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Terri Beard, and the motion was approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Attest:

President:  Secretary: 