



**Economic Development Committee
AGENDA**

Wednesday, August 8, 2024

3:00 p.m.

Courthouse – Room 1273
721 Oxford Ave, Eau Claire, WI

Join by Phone:

Dial in Number: 415.655.0001
Access Code: 2538 759 5370

Join by Meeting Number:

Meeting Number: 2538 759 5370
Meeting Password: h6GixTHrh26

Join from Meeting Link:

<https://eauclairecounty.webex.com/eauclairecounty/j.php?MTID=m2475dc2c91dd05443d4a79da6496e961>

*A majority of the county board may be in attendance at this meeting;
however, only members of the committee may take action on an agenda item.*

1. Call to Order and Confirmation of Meeting Notice
2. Roll Call
3. Review/Approval of July 10, 2024 Meeting Minutes- **Discussion/Action**
4. Introductions
5. Public Comment
6. Overview of the creation of the committee and scope – **Discussion/Action**
7. Economic Development in the Eau Claire County Community: Economic Development Corporation – Luke Hansen, Executive Director. **Information/Discussion**
8. Review of County Comprehensive Plan in relation to economic development. Rod Eslinger, Director of Planning and Development. **Information/Discussion**
9. Future Agenda Items
10. Announcements
11. Adjourn

Prepared by: Kathryn Schauf, County Administrator

PLEASE NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities through sign language, interpreters, remote access, or other auxiliary aids. Contact the clerk of the committee or Administration for assistance at (715) 839-5106. For additional information on ADA requests, contact the County ADA Coordinator at (715) 839-7335, (FAX) (715) 839-1669, TTY: use Relay (711) or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703.

MINUTES

Economic Development Committee

Wednesday, July 10, 2024 AT 2:00 p.m.
Eau Claire County Courthouse – Room 3312
721 Oxford Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54703

Members Present: Brett Geboy, James Rolbeicki, Sarah Gordee (v), Becca Coleman (v) (v)=virtual attendance

Members Absent: Stella Pagonis, Timothy Davis

Others Present: Rod Eslinger (Planning & Development Director), Kathryn Schauf (County Administrator), Nancy Coffey (County board chair), Steve Jahn (Momentum West), Scott Allen (West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Com), Scott Rogers (Eau Claire Chamber), Luke Hanson (EC Area Economic Development), Aaron White (City EC), Ray French (Regional Econ Develop), Sue McDonald (clerk)

Call to Order and confirmation of meeting notice

Brett Geboy called the Committee to order at 2:00 p.m. and confirmed the meeting notice.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Election of Chair: James Rolbeicki nominated Brett Geboy. Vote approved 4-0 in favor of Brett Geboy.

Election of Vice-chair: Brett Geboy nominated Stella Pagonis. Vote approved 4-0 in favor of Stella Pagonis.

Overview of the creation of the committee and scope & Economic Development in the Eau Claire County Community

Participants discussed what they felt was important and how to contribute.

- Rod Eslinger - gave an update on the importance and success of broadband in Eau Claire County and emphasized the importance of the county comprehensive plan.
- Scott Allen – Comprehensive plan for 7 county region, updated group on what WCWRPC was doing and what resources were available. Working on a 2025 rewrite of 5 year plan.
- Scott Rogers- Advocating for strong community and business
- Luke Hanson- Eau Claire Area Economic Development – emphasis on local development, organizational plan, business retention & assets, placemaking
- Aaron White- City of Eau Claire- large scope of work- expansion/startup loans, housing development, industrial development, manufacturing, secure funding, branding
- Ray French- business & community development, focus on create economy for all – non-traditional – grant program access for development and business attraction-
- Steve Jahn- Digital access, informational video production, social media, housing cooperative development, entrepreneur resources, manufacturing alliance

Committee members input:

- James Rolbeicki – Interest in learning about all of the opportunities and educating people. Township growth issues & sustainability. Cooperation between entities & breaking down barriers.
- Becca Coleman- Focus on business, why they want to move to EC and expand here.
- Sarah Gordee- Marketing, multiple industry/organization perspective.

Determine meeting schedule & entities to invite:

City of EC, City of Altoona, WEDC, WCWRPC, EDC, DECI, Augusta/Fairchild (eastern EC), Visit EC, Momentum West, Rural partners network, Impact 7, WHEDA, Wisconsin Business Development Innovation Center, Futures forum, UW-Extension, CVTC

Topics for Next meeting:

- Look at county comprehensive plan & issues
- Look at City EC plan

Setting meeting time: 2nd Thursday of Month -3pm

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m. Submitted by Sue McDonald, clerk