



**Proceedings of the Economic Development Corporation Meeting
Wednesday, October 1, 2014**

A Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) was held on Wednesday, October 1, 2014 at 10:00 A.M. in the Conference Room #1, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood, Michigan.

1. Chair John Wyssling called the meeting to Order at 10:06 a.m.
2. Recording of the Roll

MEMBER	Present		EXCUSED	NOT EXCUSED
	YES	NO		
Cayer, Joseph F.	X			
Lemke, Joseph		X	X	
Kobylinski, Devon		X		X
Peterson, Jim		X		X
Ramme, Dave	X			
Ruppe, Mark	X			
Schneller, Tom		X	X	
Schonberg, Bob	X			
Wyssling, John	X			
Quorum	5	4	Quorum	

Also Present: Community Development Director Michael J. D. Brown.

3. Approval of the September 3, 2014 Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Ruppe to accept the meeting minutes of September 3, 2014. **Second** by Cayer. **Motion Carried 5 to 0.**

4. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion by Cayer to accept the Agenda. **Second** by Ramme. **Motion Carried 5 to 0.**

5. Citizens wishing to address the Commission regarding Items on the Agenda (Three-minute limit).

None.

6. Citizens wishing to address the Commission regarding Items Not on the Agenda (three-minute limit).

None.

7. Items for Discussion and Consideration:

- a. RLF Funding Request from Bruce Vuorenmaa: Vuorenmaa isn't ready this month, but is working with America's Small Business Development Center (SBDC) to create a business plan, to present to the Corporation.
- b. Medical Marihuana: Director Brown updated the Corporation on the proposed State Law, and allow the Corporation to give input for the City Commission to consider. The Planning Commission and the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority (DIDA) had discussed this matter and came to the conclusion to allow the provisioning centers into the downtown. Allowing the centers could potentially give an economic boom to the downtown, while allowing Public Safety to regulate and monitor in a high visibility area. Director DiGiorgio of Public Safety addressed the Corporation. He stated that the current situation is a nightmare for Public Safety. This proposed law will allow Public Safety to gain control of the situation. Schonberg asked the question what does this law have to do with the EDC and are they looking for financial support? Director Brown stated that he wanted to allow the Corporation to have a say in the matter, because it is a hot button topic, which revolves around the business community. DiGiorgio stated that he is trying to get as much input as he can, to help give Public Safety and the City Commission direction. Schonberg asked Director DiGiorgio and Director Brown if they think that the Corporation should support them financially. Director Brown stated that he doesn't believe that they will need funding for this type of business. Wyssling stated that there is a possibility that they may come for funding. Cayer stated that if a business is to come before the Corporation requesting money, then they will discuss and make a decision based on its merits. Ruppe asked if the County should regulate it. DiGiorgio stated that the State is requiring the municipalities to regulate it. Ramme stated that there is no merit to have Medical Marihuana in the City or Gogebic County, and the Corporation should focus on jobs in the Industrial Park. The Corporation moved on to the next item on the agenda.

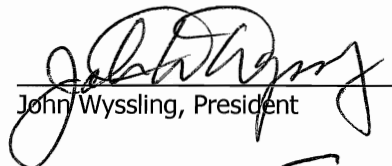
8. Project Updates:

- a. Comprehensive Plan Implementation Status: Director Brown updated the Corporation. Staff is currently working on the branding and marketing portion of the plan. Staff has met with a couple firms and will have more information in the coming months.
- b. Business Retention Program: Wyssling had met with four (4) businesses.


9. Other Business: None

10. Next Meeting: November 5, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

11. Adjournment. Ruppe left the meeting at 10:27am. **Chair Wyssling called the meeting to order due to no quorum.**



John Wyssling, President



Tim Erickson
Community Development Assistant