

**Grow North Regional Economic Development Corporation
General Membership Meeting
May 13, 2009
PCA's William Buedingen Training Center
Tomahawk, WI**

Present:

Bill Bell	Julie Berndt	Sue Bessert
Sandy Bishop	Jim Brown	Marjorie Bunce
Glenn Callaun	Steve Daigle	Mel Davidson
Amanda Dietrich	Bob Egan	Danielle Fatla
Tera Fritz	Karen Graff	Jodi Hanson
Mary Hardtke	Kurt Harry	David Hibbard
Brian Kief	Jennifer Kaminski	Sandy Kinney
Paul Knuth	Rob Krieghoff	Dan Kuzlik
Bart Lamers	Pete Otis	Teri Phalin
Jack Sroka	Kim Swisher	Charles Toms
Gregg Werner		

Jodi Hanson called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

1. Minutes

The minutes from the March 11, 2009 meeting were approved.

Egan – Motion to accept

Kreighoff - Second

2. Treasurer's Reports:

A. Treasurer's Report – Pete Otis

- Current balance - \$8,067.30

Kuzlik – Motion to accept

Egan – Second

3. Business Development:

A. Manufacturer's Professional Group – Jim Brown

Jim Brown reported on the March 3rd Manufacturing Network meeting.

The group toured Printpack Inc. manufacturing, followed by a speaker at dinner who presented on future manufacturing trends from the Wis.

The next manufacturing network meeting is scheduled for October 6th with a tour of the WPS Weston 4 power plant in Weston. Details will be announced in the near future.

B. Inventors' & Entrepreneurs' Club – Dave Hibbard reported:

- 95 members and growing

- meetings are well attended

- Business Expo:

o Grow North sponsors 2 - \$500 stipends @ Business Expo

- 70% return on surveys of Business Expo
 - 90% of businesses will return next year
 - 3rd year of the Business Expo is being planned
- Downtown Rhinelander and I & E Club will have a joint meeting on May 19th at the Claridge, 5 p.m.
- C. Technology Center of Excellence
 - no report
- D. Research Facilities Cluster – Dan Kuzlik
 - The event at Treehaven has been held 2yrs in a row. The most recent event was held in February of 2009.
 - The feedback from attendees has been positive and the next meeting is being planned for 2010
- E. Community Foundation Proposal – Dan Kuzlik
 - Dan reported that a grant has been received to study opportunities for creation of a community foundation
- 4. Infrastructure:**
 - A. Rural transportation bus service – Dan Kuzlik
 - This project is moving forward and data is being gathering to determine the possibility of acquiring stimulus money
- 5. Tourism:** – no report/tabled (Diane Hapka was unable to attend)
- 6. New Business** – Jodi Hanson
 - A. Senator Kohl’s office reported that first time home buyers will be eligible for an \$8,000 credit toward down payments.
 - B. Karen Graff (Russ Feingold’s office) – Senator Feingold’s office will assist with information on stimulus package funds.
 - C. Broadband funds -- representatives from Kagen’s office reported that stimulus funds for broadband service are being directed toward communities with no broadband service
- 7. Broadband Committee** – Jack Sroka introduced Jeff Collins of Sonicnet, who made a presentation on the expansion of wireless broadband service in the northwoods.
- 8. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.**
 - Egan - Motion
 - Otis - Second