

**Minutes**  
**October 5, 2019**  
Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting  
Young's | 8:00am



- A. Call to Order/Roll Call** Rick Kent, Mark Bromley, Jason Price, Katie Clark, Rick Kinsey, Mike Bjork, Abby Miller, Mary Dalpra, Jonny Waara, Jeff Ofsdahl, Paul Schuytema, Erika Lindwall, Leeann Kirkpatrick
- B. Visitor Comments**
- C. Additions to Agenda & Agenda Approval**
  - a. Motion to skip Item Lines F-J and instead discuss the County Budget and subsequent funding issues of the ICECA in Item Line K.
    - i. Motion: Katie                      2nd: Rick Kinsey                      Pass: Unanimous
- D. Mission/Vision Statement**
- E. Review and Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**
  - a. September 5, 2019 (Action Item)
    - i. Motion: Mark                      2nd: Mike                      Pass: Unanimous
- F. Financial Report**
  - a. Financial Reports
  - b. Q4 Budget Amendment (Action Item)
- G. Events**
  - a. Harvest and Haunt, Recap
  - b. Business After Hours, Paint River Landing, October 10
  - c. Economic Summit, October 18
- H. Chamber of Commerce**
  - a. Chamber Director Update
- I. Discussion Items**
  - a. Parental Leave Policy (Action Item)
  - b. Financial Sustainability
- J. Executive Director Update**
- K. Trustee Comments**
  - a. Lengthy discussion regarding the funding status of the ICECA took place. The County's budget meeting on October 4, 2019 saw around 80 constituents in support of both 4H and the ICECA and those who spoke were very passionate, several of which were local business owners. It was realized that even among the County Commissioners, there seemed to be some confusion as to what the ICECA does and how it operates (i.e. it is one organization, not the Chamber *and* the ICECA). One commissioner proposed a business-funded option and produced a letter stating the parameters. The letter stated that Katie Clark would be on this bank account and that the funds would only be released if the target amount is reached. Katie stated that while she was aware of the vague idea of this option, she was unaware of the letter and presented copies of said letter to the Trustees. After lengthy discussion, it was decided that this is not a viable or

sustainable option for the ICECA to be funded in 2020 as it had the possibility of clouding the water in the wake of a possible millage.

- b. Also discussed was the requirement of the County if there must be an EDC or similar entity to be acting in the county. Mary noted that she would do research on the matter and get back to the board with an answer.
- c. The board also discussed a millage. Work would need to be started now to make the March or August elections - it was decided that a non-November election would yield better results. Paul was tasked with researching what would need to be done to pursue a millage and to put together a timeline for the process.
- d. Upon discussion of what would happen if the ICECA were defunded by the County altogether, Paul explained that his prediction is that most Governmental Units would subsequently pull their funding. The Executive Director position would be voided, the Chamber Director position would be whittled, and the Office Manager position would be forced to be part time or seasonal. The CD and OM positions would also have a significant drop in salary as well. With the low staffing level, most events orchestrated by the Chamber would also “go away” such as the Lunch and Learn programs, Humongous Fungus Fest, the Economic Summit, Chicago(N)ight (the Iron Line replacement event), etc.
- e. It was decided that the ICECA would present to the County Commissioners a halved proposition of \$35,000 and, if granted, to pursue a millage. If the County decides to not fund the ICECA, additional decisions will be made at that time.

**L. Adjourn 9:48 am**

- a. Motion: Jeff                      2nd: Mike                      Pass: Unanimous

**Next Meeting:** November 7, 2019 | 8:00 am | Location: Young’s