



IRON COUNTY

ECONOMIC CHAMBER ALLIANCE

October 2022 Iron County Economic Chamber Alliance Trustee Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order by President Mike Bjork (3:01 pm)/Roll Call
 1. Trustees Present- Mike Bjork, Katie Clark, Nikki Hebert, Rick Kinsey, Anthony Dallavalle, Kevin Schmutzler (3:10 pm), and Hannah Goodman.
 2. Trustees Excused- Scott Abata, Becky Waters, and Justyna Skolasinski
 3. Others in Attendance- ICECA Chamber Director Zach Hautala and ICECA Assistant Chamber Director Brett Smithson

- II. Agenda Approval 1) Rick 2) Anthony All Trustees in Favor

- III. Approval of Minutes (August) 1) Rick 2) Hannah All Trustees in Favor

- IV. Financial Report
 1. August Financials
 2. September Financials
 3. Harvest & Haunt Financials

} 1) Rick 2) Nikki All Trustees in Favor

- V. Old Business
 1. ICECA Complex Improvements
 - i. Zach stated that the new parking lot for the ICECA building is complete. He has been in contact with both Craig Richardson of Wirewire and Bill Casagrande from FA Industrial on potential start date for the culverts in the park. No specific date was determined as other parties involved are very busy with other projects at the moment.

 2. Campground Host Golf Cart
 - i. Campground host Ed really enjoyed his new golf cart to use in the park. This made cleaning the bathrooms, delivering mail, and overall monitoring of the park much easier. He greatly appreciated the purchase and looks forward to coming back as the host in 2023.

3. Harvest & Haunt Review

- i. Overall, another successful Harvest & Haunt event put on by the ICECA. The generated profit exceeded just over \$1,600 and an estimated attendance was between 1,100-1,300 people despite the weather.

VI. New Business

1. RV Park/ICECA Signs

- i. A quote was provided from Nicolet Signs for new installment on signs at the RV Park. The current signs are faded and old. The new signs would be metal with reflective writing so nighttime arrival of campers would know where to go. Anthony wanted Zach to look into different quotes as well from Wonder Sign.

2. WUPPDR Appointment

- i. Zach mentioned to all trustees that during the September County meeting, Mike Stafford nominated Zach to the full board for appointment to the WUPPDR board. He would attend roughly 4-5 meetings per year and have regular correspondence with Executive Director Jerry Wuorenmaa. It would help WUPPDR and Iron County become stronger together with their connections.

3. Per Diem

- i. Rick added this for new business based on the fact that Zach & Brett travel to many monthly meetings for the county and for all municipalities. He also stated that traveling to many businesses to talk to them and possibly spend money is not cheap. He was hoping there could be some type of incentive given to them so they could continue to do this. This may be something that needs to be worked into the budget for next year.

4. Additional Bonuses

- i. An electronic vote was held on October 10th to give RV Park Host, Ed, a \$750 bonus for the 2022 camping season. Ed does a great job for the ICECA and has helped the RV Park revenue increase again this year. *Due to the weather forecast, Ed left a

few days earlier than originally anticipated so he would be gone for the season before our scheduled meeting.

VII. Chamber Update

1. Zach gave a verbal Chamber Update.

VIII. Visitor Comments

1. There were no visitor comments made.

IX. Trustee Comments

1. Rick stated that we should figure out a way to get everyone involved at Business After Hours. New businesses may want to make a connection with other businesses but feel awkward walking into groups that are already established. He also wants the trustees to “think big” in terms on making decisions that will benefit Iron County. Also thinks that votes on topics during meetings, people just say yes, and he believes there should be “no’s” to have bigger discussions. Also wants Zach and Brett to keep the trustees in the loop with meetings they have with other groups/organizations.
2. Katie is trying to think of ways how businesses can collaborate and work together in their communities.
3. Hannah stated that housing is a big issue all over the Upper Peninsula. There is a mass shortage of attorneys with a substantial amount of debt and no housing for them.
4. Mike thought of an idea to have 2-3 person committees of the trustees to think of topics that should be covered and have more discussion during the trustee meetings.
5. Kevin expressed his thoughts on the lack of affordable housing which in result is having a major teacher shortage in our area.
6. Nikki mentioned that she has a very positive attitude for Iron County as we move into 2023.
7. All trustees discussed the idea of needing to focus on one “area”/topic. Trustees are to come up with an area for discussion at the next meeting.

- X. Adjourn (4:07 pm) 1) Rick 2) Katie All Trustees in Favor

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 9th, 2022, at 3 pm in the Crystal Falls City Council Room

Meeting Minutes Recorded by ICECA Assistant Chamber Director Brett Smithson