UERPC COMMISSION BOARD
MINUTES OF APRIL 16, 2015 MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kay Zimmerman, Jane Regan, Larry Gibbs, Darla Kelchen, Leon Griebenow, Paul Ryan, Robert Belden, Peg Sherrets, Vicki Rowland, Mark Bohle, Janet McGovern, Dean Thompson, Mark Kuhn, Charles Frana, Nina Taylor, and Les Askelson. Larry Schellhammer arrived at 5:30.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary Koopman, Ron McCartney, Kay Vorwald, Patti Ruff, Roger Arthur, Alison Holten, and Michael Klimesh

OTHERS PRESENT: Fred Schuster, Rachelle Howe, Sue Severson, Lisa Lensing, Lori Brockway and Diana Johnson

Chairman Leon Griebenow called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm at UERPC's Postville office. Roll call was taken. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was requested for approval of the agenda. Motion by Bohle; seconded by Frana. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION: Fred Schuster, Regional Director of U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley's office was in attendance to present the board with a certificate of appreciation for UERPC's 42 years of service to Northeast Iowa and the State of Iowa. Schuster thanked the board members for helping Northeast Iowa communities build their futures.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was requested for approval of the minutes of the January 15, 2015 meeting. Motion by Thompson; seconded by Rowland. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

AMENDMENTS TO BUDGET: Severson and Lensing presented the fiscal year 2015 Budget Amendments for Region 1 Employment and Training and Upper Explorerland. A motion was made by Askelson; seconded by Kelchen to approve the 2015 fiscal year budget amendment for both organizations. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

QUARTERLY DISBURSEMENTS: Lensing presented the list of disbursements for approval. A motion was made by McGovern; seconded by Bohle to approve quarterly disbursements for UERPC. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

COST ALLOCATION: Lensing noted that the cost allocation is going through reorganization so there was nothing to report and no action is needed at this time.

2016 BUDGET: Lensing explained the fiscal year budget for Upper Explorerland for 2016. A motion was made by Thompson; seconded by Kuhn to approve the fiscal year 2016 budget as presented. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Lensing and Severson presented the treasurer's report for Region 1 Employment and Training and Upper Explorerland. A motion was made by Askelson; seconded by McGovern to approve the treasurer's report as presented. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

HOME APPLICATIONS: Brockway discussed two homebuyer applications which will be submitted for the cities of Postville, Monona, Fayette and West Union. A motion was made by McGovern, seconded by Bohle to approve the submission of the homebuyer applications to the Iowa Finance Authority in the amounts of $395,000 each. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

CAR REPLACEMENT: Howe explained that UERPC had recently submitted bids to regional car dealers. Twelve options were returned from five dealers. After careful consideration of the options, a motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Gibbs to award the winning bid to Torkelson's for a 2015 Dodge Caravan for $20,940. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING REPORT: Griebenow stated that there wasn't any report at this time as the Executive Committee had not met this quarter.

Board member Larry Schellhammer joined the meeting.

METRONET DISCUSSION: Discussion was held on the Metronet and its' abilities in the area. The grant deadline stipulations are ending soon and there is a need to be proactive in planning for the future. Griebenow is currently on the Metronet committee representing UERPC. Any questions regarding the Metronet and our partnership can be directed to him or Decorah City Administrator Chad Bird.

LITIGATION UPDATE: Howe stated that she had spoken with the UERPC attorney. The attorney stated that the UERPC case had been fully reviewed by the Iowa Supreme Court in January. A decision should be published by April 21st.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE: Howe had prepared a director's report and sent within the board packets. She discussed her meetings with various partners, along with discussion on the Metronet to help rural communities, the hiring of a new Winneshiek County Economic Development Director and a Budget 101 training recently held in Postville.

FLOOR ITEMS: Griebenow handed out a flyer discussing how it is currently National Volunteer Week. He wanted to thank the board for their volunteerism throughout the region.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 23, 2015 which will be held in the Marquette/McGregor area.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Gibbs; seconded by Ryan to adjourn the meeting. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

The above constitutes my interpretation of the matters discussed and the decisions reached. Please contact the undersigned for any corrections or omissions.

/s/ Diana Johnson, Recording Secretary