

**WAEDA Board Meeting Minutes**  
**November 13, 2018**  
**WAEDA Office Building – 611 Main Ave**

**Directors in Attendance:** Newly Voigt, Paul Sannes, Donna Sommer, Tony Thoreson

**Others in Attendance:** Tana Larsen, Alyssa Meier

The meeting was called to order by President Newly.

**The minutes from the October meeting** had been emailed to members and will be posted on website. Paul moved to approve the minutes, Donna seconded. Motion carried.

**Financial Statement was reviewed.** Paul moved to approve financial statement, Donna seconded. Motion carried.

**Sales and Use Tax Committee Request** – Request has been submitted and meeting scheduled for December 3 at 5:30. We will schedule a special board meeting at 5:20 so all board members can attend sales and use meeting.

**Community Sign** –Tana reported that she has talked to Brad Feldman with Indigo Signs. We should be able to remove the sponsor panels and be in compliance. We would then try to recognize the sponsors another way, perhaps in the landscaping.

**Website** – washburnlife.com has been launched. Still working with Laura Gardner on release of pictures. Paul moved that we pay \$250 for the 9 photos we would like to use with a release to use on the website. Tony seconded. Motion Carried. Tana discussed analytics report of website. There have been 550 users, many of them being from out of state.

**Business Happenings** – Tana discussed that the meat market that was looking at Washburn will likely go to Center due to business incentives offered there. She also announced that McLean County Implement is up and running. K&D Services is also under new ownership.

**Storefront Improvement Grants** – BHG will be ready to request their payment. They do need to submit proof of what they paid yet. Goetz Funeral home is waiting for bill from landscaper before submitting request. Captain's Cabin has indicated they may apply for the grant.

**Tomorrow's Leaders Panel** – Mrs. Gedrose's class will be having several community leaders be part of a panel for students to question. This is being organized by the extension office. Tana, Paul and Joe Sheldon will attend.

**Partner's in Marketing Grant** - \$21,470 expenditure approved with \$15,029 coming from Department of Commerce. Match coming from \$4,000 received from Lodging Tax Fund and \$2,441 from WAEDA funds. We will have \$600 going per month to AE2S for a retainer. Part of the awarded amount was for Strategic Planning.

**Board Members** – Tana presented a letter received from Keith Jacobson resigning from the board due to commitments. Paul moved to accept resignation. Tony seconded. Motion carried. Discussed replacement. Joe Sheldon has indicated he would agree to serve if appointed.

**Projects/Funding Opportunities** – Tana discussed some projects that she is looking at working with and grants available. These include the 1905 Courthouse Project, Memorial Building Kitchen Upgrade, McLean County Implement, Olafson Farms and a couple of other area businesses looking at our revolving loan fund.

**Small Business Saturday** – this is scheduled for November 24. Last year WAEDA sponsored Santa Bucks. This year, Tana asked if we would sponsor Washburn Bucks for giveaway. Paul moved to sponsor \$100 in Washburn Bucks. Donna seconded. Motion carried.

**Property Tax Abatement** – discussion was held regarding the program. This is a city or county program and so Tana was referred to the tax director.

**Upcoming Events** – Tana reviewed events coming up in the city in the near future.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

*Next meeting will be Monday December 17 at 5:00 pm at 611 Main Avenue.*

Respectfully Submitted,

*Donna Sommer*