

BACED

The BACED meeting was held at the Township of Strong Municipal Office on Monday, March 18, 2019

Present: Chair Tim Brunton, Margaret Ann MacPhail, Lewis Hodgson, Celia Finley, Bob MacPhail, Staff: Beth Morton, Nicole Fraser, John Theriault, Dave Gray.

Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Minutes

Resolution No. 2019-003

Moved by: Lewis Hodgson

Seconded by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Be it resolved that the Burk's Falls & Area Community Economic Development Committee approve the minutes of the February 11th BACED Meeting as CIRCULATED/AMENDED.

Carried.

CEDO Report

Dave Gray outlined his written report highlighting:

BACED/CAEDA Budget Merger

Ten participating parties/municipalities have confirmed and it may be eleven depending on Joly's contribution, to be considered. McMurrich/Monteith, Kearney and Machar have all opted out.

Dave presented a "Scenario 2 Budget" and draft work plan. The budget merger will allow for BACED to overcome their budget shortfall and continue delivering services, while allowing CAEDA to avoid hiring a temporary six-month EDO to fill the vacancy during the current EDO maternity leave. The work-plan outlines projects that would serve all participating parties/municipalities.

Resolution No. 2019-004

Moved by: Lewis Hodgson

Seconded by: Celia Finley

Be it resolved that the Burk's Falls & Area Community Economic Development Committee approve the merger of the BACED and CAEDA Budgets to provide economic development services across both catchment areas from April to October 2019.

Carried.

Resolution No. 2019-005

Moved by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Seconded by: Celia Finley

Be it resolved that the Burk's Falls & Area Community Economic Development Committee agree to operate as ACED in partnership with the Central Almaguin Economic Development Association and other interested regional partners moving forward.

Carried.

The Committee directed Dave Gray to contact Powassan to consider regionally participating immediately rather than buying in when the ACED funding is established. ACED partnership to be further discussed at the joint meeting at 7:00 pm.

Cyber Security Presentation Partnership

Dave Gray advised the Committee that Blue Sky has approached BACED with a partnership opportunity to host a cyber-security presentation for small business and municipalities on May 14th, 2019 with all costs associated paid by Blue Sky. Dave is currently working with Blue Sky to plan the event.

Digital Main Street Opportunity

Dave Gray advised that the digital Main Street Program Application is good to go and pending review from BACED and CAEDA, the Digital Main Street Proposal will be submitted for further review from the Digital Main Street Coordinators.

Broadband Support and Development

Dave Gray connected with David Fell of the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) through Laridae Consulting to learn about their broadband expansion projects that have been ongoing for the last several years. Mr. Fell suggested that in our pursuit of expanding broadband we consider developing a network of stakeholders and stakeholder organizations including ED, municipalities, supportive organizations (such as PMCN & Blue Sky) to facilitate communications and increase efficiency of advocacy efforts; consider commissioning a supply map, and thoroughly identifying apparent market failure, both the old 5MBPS service level threshold and the new 50MBPS/10MBPS standards; and commissioning a costing analysis to be equipped with the appropriate information to support any federal or provincial funding opportunities that are, or become, available – such as the current CRTC 50/10 funding.

The 2019 budget will not support commissioning the above noted studies, however Dave Gray noted that it is possible to start discussions and building a support network.

Business Engagement Model

Two meetings were held in partnership with BACED, CAEDA, AHCC and the Business Centre to discuss potential models moving forward. Dave outlined the main takeaways from the meetings and suggested initial sessions. Initial sessions will require minimal funds from BACED, leaving flexibility to adapt as the concept evolves.

Wendigo Lake / Project D.A.R.E / Project R.E.A.C.H. Support Opportunity

The Committee approved sending a letter of support from BACED to MPP Miller and the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services regarding the Wendigo Lake / Project D.A.R.E / Project R.E.A.C.H. Support Opportunity.

Other Business

Dave Gray advised the Committee that he is moving forward with the Community Guide.

Next meeting date set for Monday, April 15, 2019 at 5:30 pm in Strong Township.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.