



**Meeting of the Economic Development
Authority
Held at the Elk River City Hall
Monday, March 17, 2025**

Members Present: President Matt Westgaard, Commissioners Cory Grupa, Jeff Hartwig, Mike Beyer, Jennifer Wagner, and Charlie Blesener

Members Absent: Commissioner J. Brian Calva

Staff Present: Economic Development Director Brent O'Neil, Economic Development Specialist Joshua Mollan, and City Clerk Tina Allard

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. CONSIDER AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner Charlie Blesener and seconded by Commissioner Jennifer Wagner to approve the agenda. Motion Carried 6-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner Mike Beyer and seconded by Commissioner Cory Grupa to approve the following consent items as outlined in their respective staff reports. Motion Carried 6-0.

4.1 Draft EDA Minutes from 01-21-2025

4.2 Check Register

4.3 Balance Sheet

4.4 Revenue/Expenditure Reports

5. OPEN FORUM

No one appeared for Open Forum.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Consent of Sale of Fox Haven Properties to Kwik Trip

The staff report was presented.

Moved by Commissioner Jennifer Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Charlie Blesener to consent to the transfer of property between Java Elk River Retail, LLC and Kwik Trip, Inc. Motion Carried 6-0.

7.2 Committee Updates

Mr. Mollan provided the following updates:

Beautification and Public Art Committee

The committee is discussing new programs. One is a landscape garden award to highlight neighborhoods; the other for commercial business gardens/landscaping. For public art they are considering grant awards to create new or maintain current artwork. There would be two award periods a year at \$2,000 each. This would leave \$6,000 in the budget for other activities. It would be a pilot program for one year.

Together Elk River

This committee is wrapping up the Highway 169 project with three last posts to address comments heard from the public on speed limits, highway access striping, and Westbound Highway 101 to the Highway 10 connection. They are discussing a mobile marketing campaign this summer to promote the charm of Elk River with fun activities and visiting local businesses.

The Authority inquired as to the status of the blue business signage along Highway 169.

Debbie Rydberg, Elk River Area Chamber of Commerce, stated she will reach out MnDOT to find out the status of this program.

7.3 General Updates

Mr. O'Neil provided the following updates:

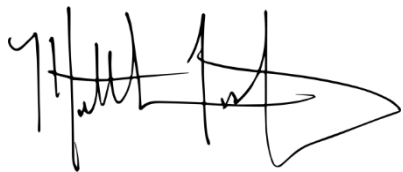
- Working on creating a marketing committee for destination marketing.
- Received inquiries about the Tyler Avenue property.
- Reviewing programs for handling vacant spaces. Initial work will start with the Joint Finance Committee.
- Update on J&J Machine expansion, which is still moving forward, but they are not looking to pursue any incentives at this time.

8. MOTION TO ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING

Moved by Commissioner Mike Beyer and seconded by Commissioner Jennifer Wagner to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Minutes prepared by City Clerk Tina Allard.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Westgaard', with a stylized, elongated final stroke.

Matt Westgaard, EDA President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tina Allard', with a large, looped 'A'.

Tina Allard, City Clerk