

**VERMILION COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
COMMUNITY AUDIT -CHALLENGE D COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MARCH 8, 2006 MEETING
Court House Annex 6 N. Vermilion St. 3rd floor**

PRESENT: William Boyer Michelle Pride Jeff Fauver Dave Kietzmann

ABSENT: Scott Eisenhauer Gary Hackler Ed Hubbard Gary Ludwig Todd Spezia
Jeannie Cook Lara Conklin Jean Minick Tracy Wahlfeldt

GUEST/STAFF: Lori Brewster

CALL TO ORDER – Co-Champion Jeff Fauver called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2006 meeting was made by Dave Kietzmann, seconded by Michelle Pride. Approved by a unanimous voice vote. Motion carried.

Review of U of I Extension Office Proposal: Pride stated that the proposal is very well defined. The Extension office does have dividers that can be used and could possibly help with a copier if was a small amount, the building is set up for phone lines and internet. Fauver asked if this would include any administrative help. Pride announced by the end of April the Extension office will only have one secretary, but depending on the business this could be a possibility. The Extension could probably provide some extra help, space could be provided, Pride would not be interested in hiring a part-time person to assist. The U of I Sub-Lease would be used. Parking space is included with the proposal and there is a garage that is available. The parking lot will be resurfaced in the spring.

Fauver commented that incubator space is generally less than \$8 per sq foot, but this could maybe be offset with grants etc., and understood that Pride has to run a business. Fauver stated that incubators are generally a discounted rate and not a market rate. Fauver felt the proposal was a market rate.

Fauver suggested that Pride contact Ed Adrain to find out what those interested in starting a small business what their needs are.

Fauver would like to find a grant to subsidize the rent to tie up the space for a year and then offer the space to individuals.

Pride shared ideas that Extension has a Community and Economic Lab on campus and would like to have people feel out a survey to gather information. Brewster stated that a mailing list could be obtained from IDES.

Kietzmann and Fauver suggested working with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), the banks and checking the attendance of the class for small business (35 – 40 people).

Pride would check on small business development survey and speak with people on campus to look at surveys that are already developed.

Fauver suggested completing the survey and getting the survey out to individuals, develop a list of individuals that may be interested in going into the incubator while looking for a grant and work with the small business development center during their seminar in the spring (will not be held this year). Market to the SBDC and the banks.

Fauver stated that the WIB Executive Committee could discuss postage. The survey could be posted on a website.

Kietzmann stated that under “Already in Place” would like to see added Small Business Development Center added to Priority #2.

Review Challenge D Goals & Objectives and Discuss Collapsing – The Committee discussed combining Priorities 6 & 8 and 3 & 7.

Review Priorities 1-4 Goals & Action Plans and Identify Those Completed — Post-Pone until next meeting.

Discuss Benchmarks, Measurements, and Responsibilities for Goals 1–4 - Post-Pone until next meeting.

COMMENTS – None

NEXT MEETING – April 12, 2006.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn was made by Dave Kietzmann, seconded by Bill Boyer. Approved by a unanimous voice vote. Motion carried.