

**Wabasso EDA  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, May 7, 2025  
5:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. with board members Pat Eichten, Roger Baumann, Brad Pitzl and Chuck Robasse in attendance. Also present was EDA Director Brandon Baune, MVRA/Program Director McKenzie Taylor, and Redwood County Economic Development Coordinator Grady Holtberg.

**April Minutes** - The minutes of the April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, meeting was approved with a motion by Robasse, second by Pitzl.

Eichten – yes; Baumann – yes; Pitzl – yes; Robasse - yes

**May Spotlight** – McKenzie Taylor presented May's Business Spotlight on the Wabasso C-Store. Mr. Baune to distribute on the website and Facebook.

**Update on EDA Focus Survey** – Mr. Baune noted that he had completed and began distributing the EDA Focus Survey. Many people have taken the survey so far and the results were unsurprising. The community is making clear that daycare and housing, be it single-family, multi-family and senior living, are the most important areas to residents.

**Grady Holdberg, Redwood County EDA Coordinator** – Grady joined the EDA meeting to discuss programs with Redwood County as well as to see if he can help the EDA get over the hump on the issues that are important to them. He first discussed current relevant programs such as RLF loans, Tax Abatement Programs, and a new Housing Trust Fund. He also noted that housing, especially transitional housing for the aging population, and lack of daycare options were a focus of the Redwood County EDA. Grady spoke about what he knew on the program Walnut Grove used to build affordable housing. It was the consensus of the EDA to have Mr. Baune reach out to United Community Action to find out more about this program.

There was also a lot of discussion on how the EDA could better support daycares in the city. The importance of retaining the daycares we have was crucial, but enticing new daycares was also important. The EDA discussed putting together grants for both existing and perspective daycares. It was the consensus of the EDA for Mr. Baune to work with Mr. Holtberg and Mrs. Taylor to put together draft grants for the next meeting.

It was also noted that Christian Peterson of Keller Williams Classic Realty NW and KW Commercial was scheduled to join the meeting to discuss how he and the Wabasso EDA could work together on housing issues in the community. While he was unable to attend the meeting, he plans on joining in May. Mr. Holtberg noted that he helped connect Christian with the Wabasso EDA and that he could be a great partner.

**Past Due RLF Payments** – Mr. Baune noted that there were little changes from last month, though payments were made this month on past due loans. He also noted that one other company was behind a month but expected that they would be caught up next month.

**Treasurer's Report** – Motion by Pitzl, second by Baumann to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Eichten – yes; Baumann – yes; Pitzl – yes; Robasse - yes

**Bills** – Motion by Robasse, second by Baumann to approve the April Bills.

Eichten – yes; Baumann – yes; Pitzl – yes; Robasse - yes

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Brandon Baune  
Director