

Upper Valley Economic Council

Meeting Minutes: May 22, 2017

Next Meeting: Monday June 19, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

The meeting was brought to order at 7:05 pm.

Present: Alvin Theriault, Lois Eash, Steve Gould, John Owens, Brian McQuarrie, Peter Qualey and Jeff Packard.

Guests: Jill Ducharme - Sustainable Writing & Consulting, Barbara Hayslett - Senator King's Office

Minutes: It was moved, seconded and passed to accept the minutes of April 24, 2017.

Treasurer's Report/Sign Warrants: Office Manager Packard presented the Treasurer's report for May 22, 2017. The Board voted to approve the report as read. The Board signed the warrants.

Amendments to agenda: UVEC Release Form From the Wind Project
Chairman's Report

- 1. Broadband/Fiber Optics:** The Municipal Owned Broadband presentation has been rescheduled for Tuesday, June 5, 2017 at 7 pm. At the Sherman Municipal Building. The Board held discussions on the project and asked Jill questions on the ConnectME Grant.
- 2. Grindstone Land Transfer:** Chairman Qualey updated the Board about the land transferred to UVEC from H.C, Haynes. The Board had a question and answer session on this project.
- 3. UVEC Release Form from the Wind Project & LLC's:** Chairman Qualey gave a brief history of the Wind Project and the LLC's. There was a question and answer session on the Wind Project. Chairman Qualey stated that the project was ending and that UVEC would like to withdraw. Alvin Theriault made a motion to sign the Release Form and Steve Gould Seconded the Motion. The Motion unanimously passed.
- 4. Jill Ducharme Update:** Working on the Gloria MacKenzie Grant for Stacyville & Sherman. The request for operating funds for the Food Pantry from the John T. Gorman Foundation was denied.

Office Manager's Report:

Food Pantry Report for 5-'17:

62 Households Served, Sherman – 29 Households, Stacyville – 19 Households
Other Towns - 14 Households. There were a total of 166 people, 49 of these were senior citizens, 48 were children, and 69 adults. We have 18 volunteers with a total of 120 hours as of 5-22-'17. The Food Pantry received 983 lbs of food from the

Postal Service Food drive. This came from the Post Offices in Stacyville, Sherman & Benedicta. Started printing out the UVEC Business Guide and will place them in various businesses and the Town Offices of Stacyville & Sherman. Mellissa of Calculations will be coming to the UVEC Office to adjust QuickBooks so there can be clean reports for the various accounts. Pioneer Broadband has raised their fees \$10 across the Board.

New Business/Other:

Business up-date: Office Manager Packard assisted a Sherman Business looking to sell.

Scenic Byway: The next meeting will be 6-15 -'17 at the Patten Lumbermen's Museum at 1:30 pm. The Gateway Signs for Patten will be installed by the end of June. Barbara Hayslett plans to attend the next meeting.

UVEC RBEG Update: Over \$27,000.00 available to lend out to Businesses.

Sherman Boralax Plant: No Update

Barbara Hayslett: She is covering the Southern part of Aroostook County down to Lincoln. She has been in contact with Jeff and Town Agent Vonalee Sides of Stacyville on any development of the Bio Mass Plant in Stacyville. Sen. King has been busy involved in Hearings and some of the Confirmation Processes Sen. King has held conversation with the person who is number two at the Department of Interior about the Katahdin Woods & Waters Monument. The Sen. feels it is an economic fiber for the area and bad feelings aside should not stop the Monument from moving forward and creating an economic impact it should. Sen. King is involved with the Forestry Industry of Maine and the projects in the Millinocket area as well. If there is anything that we felt they needed to hear about or any projects we need assistance with please have Jeff contact her.

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

John Qualey, Treasurer
