

Green County Development Corporation Board Notes
August 16, 2018
Bailey's Run Vineyard, New Glarus

1. **Attendance:** John McNeil (Big Radio), Richard Thoman (AmericInn/County/City of Monroe), Sam Liebert (City of Monroe), Joe Hunter (Colony Brands), Ron Schaaf (Bank of New Glarus/Sugar River Bank), Brian Wilson (Village of Belleville), Beth Luchsinger (County Board), Bryan Gadow (Village of New Glarus), Craig Fuchs (Orchid International), Matt Urban (Blackhawk Technical College - BTC), April Fuhr (Village of Monticello), Mike Sanders (Monroe Clinic), Nikki Matley (Thrivent Financial), Noah Thompson (Green County Development Corporation), Cara Carper (Green County Development Corporation).
2. **Welcome to Bailey's Run Vinyard by Janet Kuehl:** Janet thanked the board for visiting their new facility and offered a tour at the end of the meeting.
3. **Call to Order:** President Nikki Matley called the meeting to order at 7:36 am.
4. **Welcome of Guests:** Welcome to Calvin Boldebeck from Congressman Mark Pocan's office.
5. **Community Roundtable/Partner Reports/Board member Business for the Good of the Order:**
Richard Thoman (City of Monroe/County) – The Green County Beef Producers are holding the Great Steak Out tonight at the Fairgrounds. Serving from 4:30-8 pm. Ribeye steak, sweet corn, potatoes and more!

Sam Liebert (City of Monroe) – The City of Monroe is starting their budget process earlier this year. The new Zoning Ordinance will come up at the September 4 Council meeting. The start of Redevelopment Authority meetings will be rescheduled. The City hopes to announce some good economic development news soon! Employees will be moving back into City Hall in September. Sam and his wife welcomed a new baby girl August 6.

Brian Wilson (Village of Belleville) – Belleville finished 1/3 of the design of the police department and library. They will go out for bids in December/January. Belleville had \$6.9 million in net new construction this year which will be a boost in equalized value. They hope for no tax increase this year.

Bryan Gadow (Village of New Glarus) – Bryan reminded Board members of the Small Community Forum on Wednesday, August 22 at the New Glarus Hotel. Please RSVP by FRIDAY to ensure they have enough food.

Mike Sanders (Monroe Clinic) – Monroe Clinic is hosting an Art Reception tonight starting at 4:30 pm featuring FUSEDChicago Artists. Gallery talk at 5:15. The exhibit will be on display until November 2.

Monroe Clinic recently hired two new cardiologists and continue to rebuild their cardiology program.

For the third year in a row, Monroe Clinic was named as one of 100 Great Community Hospitals. This is an honor they don't apply for – it is based on public available information. <https://www.monroeclinic.org/2018top100>

The Fowler Children's Dental Clinic is currently housed in the county Government Services Building that will be demolished. They will be renovating the former REACH building on the Monroe Clinic Campus. Thank you to Delta Dental for a \$181,000 grant for part of the renovation. CG Schmidt is providing \$70,000 of donated in-kind work on the renovations. Monroe Clinic also contributed with a \$0 lease for the future. Fowler Clinic has an ongoing need for funds. They serve children in Green and Lafayette counties who are between 1 and 15 years old and receive free or reduced school lunch or have Medicaid coverage. They are limited by the number of dentists available. They are trying to create a state network of dental clinics.

Hospice Home paid was paid off with the last Golf Outing. Thank you to the County for a \$1 lease on the land.

Ron Schaaf (Sugar River/New Glarus Bank) – Bank staff will be working on strategic planning to plan where the bank is going. They will be celebrating their 125th Anniversary in October, so watch for party announcements. They are working to get a new computer system running, and it has been time consuming.

Beth Luchsinger (County) – The Health Committee converted a Health Nurse position to an Environmental Health Specialist to do things like well testing. They expect it will be a 3 day a week position. Tourism is gearing up for Cheese Days.

Joe Hunter (Colony Brands) – Colony Brands has a new program of paying employees for 8 hours of work to volunteer for a 501(c)3 organization. They will be keeping track of all employee volunteer hours and will recognize hours of service. 100 employees have already taken advantage of the program and put in their 8 hours of paid volunteer service.

Matt Urban (BTC) – Matt is working with the Monticello Chamber to increase their capacity, such as with job descriptions. School starts next week at BTC. All of the classes at the Monroe Campus are full, except Medical Assistant. They are starting a new early direct shuttle service to the North Janesville Campus and the Milton Advanced Manufacturing Training Center. BTC submitted eleven Wisconsin Workforce Advancement Training (WWAT) grants this year and received all eleven!! Three of the grants are in Green County. Let Matt know if your industry is interested in these grants for the future. They did a number of collaboration grants, clustering industries under one grant.

John McNeil (Big Radio) – Spotlights on Green County include information on the Rebecca Ryan Kickoff Event next week and the upcoming Entrepreneurial Training Program. John will also tape a Spotlight with Summer Intern Noah Thompson before he

leaves for school. It's football, football, football at Big Radio. The first game is tomorrow! They are rolling out a new program with Toby Golembeski. It will be a live show every Saturday morning from 9-10 am. John commented on the large number of people he sees walking around the Square from other places.

April Fuhr (Village of Monticello) – Twisted Tree restaurant is now open. The Morning Mug will be opening in September. Monticello does have some retail space available. April finds her new position on the Village Board to be very interesting. The village finalized their referendum language for the November election. A new Economic Development Committee has been formed. It is an energized group.

Craig Fuchs (Orchid International) – ORCHID received a WWAT grant last year and they have training every Friday for 6-8 weeks from BTC. It is going very well and he highly recommends it. Craig mentioned that a group of safety workers toured the plant yesterday and police/fire are all working together.

Calvin Boldebeck (Rep. Mark Pocan's office) – The House is currently on recess. The Senate will be back again soon to discuss the Supreme Court nominee. Congressman Pocan is doing listening sessions in the district.

Nikki Matley (Thrivent Financial) – The second Generosity Day was a huge success with 44 booths. More than 1,000 people attended and impacted 1,000s more with their help.

The Monroe School Board finalized their referendum for the November election. They passed a drug testing policy. They identified they test students in all other areas, but not for drugs/alcohol. They tests are random for students in extra curricular activities. If a student tests positive, the school will use the same protocol for if they violated the alcohol or grade policies (sit out games). Results are confidential and Green County AODA will be providing resources. The policy is meant to prevent, not “catch.” It's a deterrent to behavior.

6. Approval of Agenda, Minutes (June 7, 2018), Financials (June 2018)

Motion by Bryan Gadow, second by Ron Schaaf. Motion approved.

7. Events Update

Cara reviewed the upcoming events at the bottom of the agenda and encouraged board members to attend and spread the word.

8. Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Update

Representatives from the Department of Administration came to Monroe to do a presentation regarding changes to the RLF program (see June minutes for background information). Members of the Green County Finance Committee were present and had many questions about potential ways Green County could receive \$1.1 million in RLF funds back from the state. Renovations at Pleasant View may be a possible use for that funding. The Finance Committee will meet September 4 to discuss their options.

9. **Staff Update**

Summer Intern Noah Thompson what he learned while working as an intern at GCDC. He said three critical things he learned was about the shortage of workforce, the shortage of housing and the need for a younger workforce. He felt UniverCity will likely help bring younger people to Green County. He stressed the need for new apartment buildings. He also encouraged businesses to offer internships. He and his fellow students look to LinkedIn for their internship information. He said if businesses have the resources and capabilities, they would be well-served to create an internship program.

Noah also created a promotional video about the Enterprise Center.

10. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be Thursday, September 20 in Monroe.

11. **Adjourn:** Motion by Richard Thoman. Second by Mike Sanders. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 am. All attendees were treated to a tour of Bailey's Run Vineyard.