

**Green County Development Corporation Board Notes**  
**November 15, 2018**  
**NEW Government Services Building, Monroe, WI**

1. **Attendance:** Nikki Matley (Thrivent Financial), John McNeil (Big Radio), Richard Thoman (AmericInn/County/City of Monroe), Beth Luchsinger (County Board), Bryan Gadow (Village of New Glarus), Craig Fuchs (Orchid International), Matt Urban (Blackhawk Technical College - BTC), Mike Sanders (Monroe Clinic), John Bernstein (City of Brodhead), Jesse Duff (Fehr Graham), Brian Wilson (Village of Belleville), April Fuhr (Village of Monticello), Art Carter (County Board Chair), Cara Carper (Green County Development Corporation).
2. **Call to Order:** President Nikki Matley called the meeting to order at 7:35 am.
3. **Welcome of Guests:** No guests today.
4. **Approval of Agenda, Minutes (September 20, 2018), Financials (September/October 2018):** Motion by Brian Wilson, second by John Bernstein. Motion approved.
5. **2019 Budget:** The Board reviewed the budget. Motion by John McNeil to approve the 2019 budget, second by Brian Wilson. Motion approved.
6. **Events Update:** Cara reviewed the upcoming events at the bottom of the agenda and encouraged board members to attend and spread the word.
7. **Staff Update:** Cara reviewed her report. Fifty six people attended the Celebration of Entrepreneurship Tuesday night. Seven businesses graduated from our Entrepreneurial Training Program class and gave their “elevator pitches.” Four new videos of businesses that benefitted from SBDC counseling were unveiled. Watch for them on the GCDC Facebook page and share them.
8. **Community Roundtable/Partner Reports/Board member Business for the Good of the Order**

*Craig Fuchs (Orchid International)* – Craig attended the Green County YMCA “Dueling Pianos” fundraiser Saturday night. It went really well and more than 150 people attended.

*Jesse Duff (Fehr Graham)* – The Juda Turkey Trot benefits the Whitney Family. The run starts at 9 am on Thanksgiving day at the high school.

*Art Carter (County Board Chair)* – The County Board passed their budget. The next battle is wind generators. The county doesn’t have much power to control wind generator siting. If people want more local control, they need to talk with their legislators. (And the issue is the same for Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs).)

*Beth Luchsinger (County Board)* – RoAnn Warden from the Health Department provided a great fact sheet on wind generators that separates fact from fiction. There would be

some financial benefit to the county. There is also financial benefit to landowners who lease their land to the wind generator companies.

The Home of Our Own (HOO) project is progressing in New Glarus. It will provide 40 units of housing (10 of 40 will be for adults with special needs). The housing will be affordable and tax credit, not Section 8. The New Glarus Plan Commission will be reviewing the project tonight.

*Bryan Gadow (Village of New Glarus)* – There seems to be more support for the HOO project. The second phase would bring an additional 40 units. The housing will be built in the subdivision behind the grocery store. Bryan also discussed the progress his UniverCity classes are making on their projects in Green County.

*Mike Sanders (Monroe Clinic)* – It's not too late to get your flu shot! Things are busy at Monroe Clinic. Visit the Skywalk to get a great view of all the construction going on.

*John Bernstein (City of Brodhead)* – A group is working with the Plan Commission on a senior citizen complex on the county line where the Baptist Church was. More duplexes are being built in that area and they have been rented before they are even built!

*Richard Thoman (County Board/City of Monroe)* – Richard reminded us that people don't know what the acronym SBDC means (Small Business Development Center). The City Council met last night. They approved the capital portion of the budget, but not the operating part. The next meeting regarding the budget will be Monday night. The top two concerns from the public are elimination of the Parks position and two police officers. There is a lot of misinformation out there and Richard is still learning more about these issues.

*Nikki Matley (Thrivent Financial)* – Nikki attended the Farmer's Appreciation Lunch earlier this week at United Methodist. Only 6 farm families attended. The speakers provided support and resources for both producers and businesses that support producers. Thank you on behalf of the Monroe School District for supporting the referendum. The building facility study will be the next issue. The school has created a Cheesemaker Strong Taskforce to help meet the mental health needs of students. They want to spread the word that county mental health services are available for ALL residents, not just low income. Thrivent is doing a business succession planning class on December 4 at 2 pm and 6 pm. For more information, contact Nikki.

*John McNeil (Big Radio)* – Two new Spotlights on Green County have been running. One with Cara and April Fuhr of Bug Tussel regarding the grant and broadband coming to Green County communities. The other Spotlight encouraged people to attend the Celebration of Entrepreneurship. The Blackhawk Warriors play at Camp Randall today for the state championship. (UPDATE: THEY WON!!!) Lena is playing Winslow for a spot at the state championship in Illinois.

*April Fuhr (Village of Monticello)* – The referendum for the Village of Monticello passed. April announced she is the new Business Development Manager for Bug Tussel

Wireless for Green and Lafayette counties. The Monticello Chamber ribbon cutting for the Morning Mug will be December 4 at 11 am.

*Brian Wilson (Village of Belleville)* – Brian hired Kyle Knot as an Economic Development intern through May 2020. Kyle is a graduate student at Northern Illinois University (NIU) in the Administration program. He works 20 hours per week for Belleville. He helped the Chamber with the UFO parade and Beer Fest event. He is working on a Business Retention and Expansion team to do interviews.

The newest downtown tenant is Loganberry Llama coffee shop. They serve breakfast and lunch along with coffee. The Petals and Patches quilt shop is closing – a great opportunity for someone who wants to run a quilt shop business.

The old Family Fresh Pack building downtown has been purchased and the new owners are going to pack cheese there. They expect to hire 10 people in January and an additional 10 in the following months. The Bakers Woods plot has been approved for a housing development. The school has listed the Elementary site to sell it now that the expansion has been built. The Village of Belleville budget hearing is Monday. Bids are out for the new police department with expected completion next summer. Bids for the new library will be out in January with expected completion in January 2020. There was damage to the community park from flooding and 20 houses were damaged and are working with FEMA.

*Matt Urban (Blackhawk Technical College)* – October 4-5 was Advanced Manufacturing Day. There were more than 30 tours for students. Kuhn, Monroe Truck and Orchid were part of the tours. GCDC was one of the sponsors of the event. Southwest Wisconsin Workforce Development Board and Rock County are teaming up with BTC to offer summer internships. It is a 4 week program and BTC provides the coordination. SWWDB runs the payroll. Buses are picking up people at the Rock County Jail for training at BTC. On December 6 BTC will host an advisory committee for workforce. It is open to anyone, and invitations will go out. Workforce Advancement Training (WAT) grants will be discussed. BTC purchased land next to Central Campus for a driving training track. Bids are out again for the Ag Building on the Monroe Campus. They hope to break ground spring 2019. BTC is considering BTC's maximum impact for Green County. How can they align the facility and provide training and instruction to best meet the needs of people in Green County?

9. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be Thursday, December 20 at the historic Green County Courthouse in Monroe.
10. **Adjourn:** Motion by John Bernstein, second by Beth Luchsinger. Motion approved at 8:46 pm. Some committee members stayed for an excellent tour of the new Government Services building by Andrea Sweeney, Fiscal Supervisor for the Human Services Department.