

**Green County Development Corporation Board Notes**  
**December 20, 2018**  
**Historic County Courthouse, Monroe, WI**

1. **Attendance:** 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), Ron Schaaf (Bank of New Glarus/Sugar River Bank), Linda Kuhlman (Village of Brooklyn), Phil Rath (City of Monroe), David Mosher (Mosher & Associates), Cara Carper (Green County Development Corporation).
2. **Call to Order:** Past President Matt Urban called the meeting to order at 7:36 am.
3. **Welcome of Guests:** No guests today, but Linda Kuhlman attended as the Brooklyn Village Clerk/Treasurer. The Brooklyn Board has decided to rejoin GCDC as an investor.
4. **Approval of Agenda, Minutes (November 15, 2018):** Motion by John McNeil, second by Ron Schaaf. Motion approved.
5. **Approval of Financials (November/December 2018):** Motion by John Bernstein, second by Phil Rath. Motion approved.
6. **Events Update/Staff Update:** Cara reviewed her report. UniverCity presentations have been excellent and have provided very useful information for Green County communities. The Food & Beverage Boot Camp classes have filled and there are 9 businesses on the waiting list. Still no word on the 2019 Entrepreneurial grant application. (UPDATE: Green County will be awarded \$75,000 from WEDC for Entrepreneurial Development grant. This will allow us to keep Kristi Smith's 60 percent position and hire an additional 60 percent business consultant to help Brock Waterman cover all Prosperity Southwest counties.) Please mark your calendars for the GCDC Annual Meeting on Wednesday, April 24.
7. **Community Roundtable/Partner Reports/Board member Business for the Good of the Order:**

*John McNeil (Big Radio)* – John announced that Carrousel Farms purchased Kutter Harley in Monroe for storage and offices. Black Hawk Warriors won the State Championship for football. Listen for the radio broadcast of “A Christmas Carol” on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. John played the Spotlight on Green County with highlights of 2018.

*David Mosher (Mosher & Associates)* – David lauded the public/private partnership in New Glarus where a \$5,000 façade improvement grant for his office led to a remodel of the inside of the building and creating space to hire more people. Dave suggested everyone read The Power of Moments and create extraordinary moments in our lives and work. (Cara has a copy in the GCDC office if you'd like to borrow it.) The Turkey Trot

raised \$10,000 for scholarships. David also shared photos of his 300 square foot treehouse for his 8 grandkids.

*Ron Schaaf (Bank of New Glarus)* – Bank of New Glarus hired a fantastic new business development manager to work with businesses – Jessica Bystry. The bank has been working since October on a computer conversion, changing from a 20 year old system to state-of-the-art.

*Beth Luchsinger (Green County Board)* – Beth discussed a new multi-faceted opioid grant for Human Services, Health Department, law enforcement and Monroe Clinic. Green County will team up with Lafayette County for this grant. She is proud of what the county has to offer with for human services and health. The wind turbine issue has been elevated. There is a concern for health risks.

*Richard Thoman (AmericInn, County Board, Monroe City Council)* – Richard has done a lot of research on renewable energy and found it beneficial. Setbacks may help wind turbine issues.

The Green County radio systems are obsolete, so the Sheriff's Department will be upgrading the system. There are many radio dead zones in the county and a new system will correct many problems.

*Linda Kuhlman (Village of Brooklyn)* – Two businesses are in the business park – Caliber Custom Cabinetry and Capital City Culverts. Only 5.5 acres are left. A new playground was built at the elementary school. Brooklyn is working on a new infrastructure update and upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant to treat phosphorus.

*Craig Fuchs (Orchid International)* – Craig announced he has been elected to the Monroe Chamber of Commerce board. He is excited about Opportunity Zones and wondered if any were chosen in Green County. Phil Rath from the City of Monroe discussed the one Opportunity Zone in the county, located in Monroe by the high school.

*Phil Rath (City of Monroe)* – Tax Increment District (TID) 9 (called the Dolan Property) northeast of Walmart has 100 acres available with 30-50 acres for residential and the rest commercial/industrial. There has been interest in the land, but no solid offers yet. The Redevelopment Authority (RDA) is meeting twice a month to revitalize activities. The initial RDA district will overlap TID 7 downtown and offer programs to businesses and residents. City Council approved \$20,000 to help the process.

*Matt Urban (Blackhawk Technical College, BTC)* – BTC has new tools for businesses. In the past, trainings were offered by a technical college, not enough people signed up, and the class was cancelled. Or contracted training was set up with an individual company, but sometimes was expensive and offered little synergy. Now BTC offers Multiple Recipient Contracts to work with multiple companies to guarantee seats so classes are guaranteed to run. Classes are offered where, when and what you want. Each company just pays a share. On January 16<sup>th</sup> Green County companies will get together at BTC to discuss their training needs for the future.

*Bryan Gadow (Village of New Glarus)* – The Home of Our Own housing development project was approved. It is a two-phase development. The first phase is 40 units with 10 set aside for adults with special needs. Phase two will offer an additional 40 units. Bryan announced he is leaving his position in a couple weeks to be the City Administrator and Economic Development Director for the City of Monona. He will be greatly missed.

*Mike Sanders (Monroe Clinic)* – Monroe Clinic will open a new clinic in Durand, IL in late January. Good for Durand, but also good for Green County because specialty referrals come to Monroe. The 500<sup>th</sup> baby will be born in 2018. The highest number of babies born in one year at Monroe Clinic in many years. Half of all moms come from Illinois.

*John Bernstein (City of Brodhead)* – Kwik Trip opens today in Brodhead. There was initial concern about another convenience store, but John believes concern will quickly dissipate.

8. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be Thursday, December 17 at the historic Green County Courthouse in Monroe.
9. **Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 8:42 am.