

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

**MINUTES  
MAY 25, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Fairbanks North Star Borough Economic Development Commission was held via Zoom from the Mona Lisa Drexler Assembly Chambers, Juanita Helms Administration Center, 907 Terminal Street, Fairbanks, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 2:32 p.m. by Mayor Bryce Ward Chair.

**WORK SESSION**

A presentation from Jon Bittner, Executive Director of the Alaska Small Business Development Center, on the results of the COVID-19 Impact Survey Results. Question and answer period to follow.

**Mr. Bittner** addressed the commission and presented a very comprehensive slide show regarding the COVID-19 Impact Survey Results. A question and answer period followed.

**A. ROLL CALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Meeks, Matthew Copper, Abigail Riggs, Russell Talvi, Deb Hickok and Mayor Bryce Ward

MEMBERS ABSENT: Paul Robinson (excused) and Frank Tomaszewski

OTHERS PRESENT: Jon Bittner, AKSBDC; Brittany Smart, Assistant to the Mayor; Stephanie Pearson, Community Research Technician and Laura Melotte, FNSB Recording Clerk

**B. MESSAGES**

1. Communications to the Economic Development Commission

None

2. Citizen's Comments – limited to three (3) minutes

- a. Agenda items not scheduled for public hearing
- b. Items other than those appearing on the agenda

None

3. Disclosure & Statement of Conflict of Interest

None

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion to approve the agenda and consent agenda made by **Mr. Talvi**, seconded by **Mr. Meeks**. Carried without objection or roll call vote.

**D. \*MINUTES**

\*Minutes from April 27, 2021

\*CEDS Status Report

**E. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Interior Alaska COVID-19 Economic Impact and Recovery Plan

**a.** Review and discuss action items for implementation status and continued relevancy

**Ms. Smart** addressed the commission with regards to this topic. The Commission reviewed the document section by section and made suggestions for changes. No motions were made for any changes to the document.

**Ms. Smart** commented that she will take the suggestions made at this meeting and bring them back as action items at the next EDC meeting.

**b.** Review and discuss draft Real-Time Labor Market Data report

**Ms. Smart** commented that she is not prepared to present on this topic at this time. This item will be carried forward to the next meeting of the EDC for discussion.

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Ardor Status Update

**a.** HB 192

**Ms. Smart** gave an update on how HB 192 was able to be passed in such a short time frame.

**b.** Senate Labor & Commerce Presentation

**Ms. Smart** recapped the presentation which was presented to the Senate regarding this item in which she had four days to prepare.

2. ARPA funding for ARDORS

**Ms. Smart** spoke briefly about the ARPA funding which is available to ARDORS.

**G. EXCUSE FUTURE ABSENCES**

None noted.

**H. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS**

Chairperson's Comments

None

Commissioner's Comments

None

Communications to the Economic Development Commission

**Ms. Smart** thanked Ms. Hickok for her commitment to the Fairbanks community as she is retiring from Explore Fairbanks as their President and CEO.

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by **Mr. Meeks**, seconded by **Ms. Hickok**. Carried without objection or roll call vote.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:53 p.m.