

Aitkin County Board of Commissioners
Request for County Board Action/Agenda Item Cover Sheet



To: Chairperson, Aitkin County Board of Commissioners Date: 12/5/12
Via: Patrick Wussow, County Administrator
From: Ross Wagner, Economic Development & Forest Industry Coordinator
Title of Item: 2012 MAPCED/AMC Economic Development Award Plaque
Requested Meeting Date: December 11, 2012 Estimated Presentation Time: 5 Minutes
Presenter: Ross Wagner

Type of Action Requested (check all that apply)

- For info only, no action requested Approve under Routine Business
- For discussion only with possible future action Adopt Ordinance Revision
- Let/Award Bid or Quote (attach copy of basic bid/quote specs or summary of complex specs, each bid/quote received & bid/quote comparison)
- Approve/adopt proposal by motion Approve/adopt proposal by resolution (attach draft resolution)
- Authorize filling vacant staff position Approve under Consent Agenda
- Request to schedule public hearing or sale Other (please list) _____
- Request by member of the public to be heard
- Item should be addressed in closed session under MN Statute _____

Fiscal Impact (check all that apply)

- Is this item in the current approved budget? Yes No (attach explanation)
- What type of expenditure is this? Operating Capital Other (attach explanation)
- Revenue line account # that funds this item is: _____
- Expenditure line account # for this item is: _____

Staffing Impact (Any yes answer requires a review by Human Resources Manager before going to the board)

- Duties of a department employee(s) may be materially affected. Yes No
- Applicable job description(s) may require revision. Yes No
- Item may impact a bargaining unit agreement or county work policy. Yes No
- Item may change the department's authorized staffing level. Yes No



Supporting Attachment(s)

- Memorandum Summary of Item
- Copy of applicable county policy and/or ordinance (excerpts acceptable)
- Copy of applicable state/federal statute/regulation (excerpts acceptable)
- Copy of applicable contract and/or agreement
- Original bid spec or quote request (excluding complex construction projects)
- Bids/quotes received (excluding complex construction projects, provide comparison worksheet)
- Bid/quote comparison worksheet
- Draft County Board resolution
- Plat approval check-list and supporting documents
- Copy of previous minutes related to this issue
- Other supporting document(s) (please list)

Provide eleven (11) copies of supporting documentation NO LATER THAN Wednesday at 12:00 pm to make the Board's agenda for the following Tuesday. Items WILL NOT be placed on the Board agenda unless complete documentation is provided for mailing in the Board packets. (see reverse side for details)

Aitkin County Economic Development & Forest Industry Coordinator

Aitkin County Courthouse

Ross Wagner

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Aitkin, MN 56431

Phone: 218/927-7305

Fax: 218/927-7374

TO: Aitkin County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Ross Wagner, Economic Development & Forest Industry Coordinator

DATE: December 5, 2012

SUBJECT: AMC/MAPCED Plaque

As you are aware, we received our award for the 2012 Outstanding County Economic Development Award at the annual AMC Conference in St Cloud. I would like to present the Award to the Board for your review at the start of the Board meeting.

Thank you very much for all your support to allow me to work on projects such as the Hawkins Sawmill road upgrade. I feel very strongly that this will lead to Hawkins Sawmill continuing to employ people and purchase Aitkin County area timber for years to come.

From: "Pat Henderson" <PHenderson@ardc.org>

Date: December 5, 2012 12:24:17 PM CST

To: <don.niemi@co.aitkin.mn.us>, <brian.napstad@co.aitkin.mn.us>, <mark.wedel@co.aitkin.mn.us>, <lawesterlund@frontiernet.com>, <anne.marcotte@co.aitkin.mn.us>

Cc: <patrick.wussow@co.aitkin.mn.us>, <rwagner@co.aitkin.mn.us>, "Andy Hubley" <ahubley@ardc.org>, <jbergstad@ardc.org>, "Bob Palmquist" <bpalmquist@northspan.org>

Subject: Congratulations!

Congratulations to all for the Outstanding Economic Development Award that Aitkin County received at the recent AMC conference. ARDC wrote a letter of support for the Hawkins Sawmill TED grant so I was especially pleased to see that you received the award. Good work, Ross!

Pat Henderson

Executive Director

Arrowhead Regional Development Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 6, 2012

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Becky Pizinger, Communications Coordinator
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E-mail: pizinger@mncounties.org

AITKIN COUNTY RECEIVES 2012 OUTSTANDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORT AWARD

(St. Paul, MN)— The Minnesota Association of Professional County Economic Developers (MAPCED) selected **Aitkin County's Hawkins Sawmill Road Upgrade** to receive the 2012 Outstanding Economic Development Effort Award. MAPCED President Gail Levenson, Executive Director of the Cass County Economic Development Corporation, presented Aitkin County representatives with the award during the Association of Minnesota Counties' (AMC) Annual Conference on December 3 in St. Cloud.

The purpose of the award is to recognize and celebrate successful economic development ventures and partnerships that fulfill the MAPCED mission of fostering economic growth expanding tax base and enhancing quality of life in Minnesota counties.

Hawkins Sawmill is located in the southwest corner of Aitkin County bordering the northern border of Mille Lacs County. The challenges facing the wood products industry are well documented and Hawkins is no different in feeling the pinch of the economy. However, Hawkins Sawmill has a solid reputation for quality work producing quality lumber from logs purchased mainly from area forests. Hawkins Sawmill is also known as being an excellent employer and was able to avoid layoffs during the great recession.

In addition to avoiding layoffs, Hawkins was able to keep its customers and now is in a position to expand and add employees. This is the type of business both Aitkin and Mille Lacs Counties like to grow and prosper. So when Hawkins Sawmill had an issue and a "bottleneck" to grow in not having all weather access, Aitkin and Mille Lacs Counties decided to work together and solve the issue. Construction is underway on Mille Lacs County Road 132 to build the roadbed and paving, bringing it to all weather status in 2013.

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Editors: Photo attached

Caption: MAPCED President Gail Levenson, Executive Director of the Cass County Economic Development Corporation, presented Aitkin County representatives with the award on December 3 in St. Cloud.