Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dan Koukol at.

Roll Call
Committee Members Present: Chairman Dan Koukol, Lynn Cullick, Scott Gryder, Matt Prochaska
Committee Members Absent: Judy Gilmour
Staff Present: Andrez Beltran, Economic Development and Special Projects Coordinator; Jeff Wilkins, County Administrator
Members of the Public: Robert Dearborn, Owner of Bridge Street Inc.; Yanos Hagos, CEO and Ernest Johnson, CMO, Civilian Force Arms

Approval of Agenda – Mr. Gryder made a motion to approve the agenda. It was seconded by Ms. Cullick Approved 4-0.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – Ms. Cullick made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the March 27, 2015 meeting. Seconded by Mr. Gryder. Approved 4-0.

New Business
Growing Our Regional Economy – Next Meeting scheduled Jul 9, and hosted by Lake County.
Mr. Beltran updated the Committee on the progress of developing a Foreign Direct Investment in the region. A strategy is being built from the ground up in conjunction with MBA students from University of Chicago Harris School of Business. Mr. Beltran informed the Committee he spoke to the leader of the students on Tuesday, May 19 as part of the project. A big theme from all the counties was increased collaboration.

Old Business
Revolving Fund Loans Update
Mr. Beltran informed the Committee that there was an applicant for a Revolving Fund Loan. Mr. Robert Dearborn, owner of Bridge Street Inc., and soon operator of Countryside Café located in the old Pizza Hut building in Sandwich, applied for a loan of $80,000 to be paid back over seven years at an interest rate of 2.1%. Mr. Beltran informed that the equity on the property was more than sufficient to cover the loan.

Mr. Dearborn was asked to the podium to introduce himself to the Committee. He was previously the owner of the Bridge Street Café for over twenty years in Yorkville. He stated that he will be running the back of the restaurant while his wife will run the front. Opening date is tentatively sometime in August.

Staff gave a positive recommendation to the Committee. Chairman Koukol asked for a motion to send to the County Board. Ms. Cullick made the motion; Mr. Gryder seconded. Chairman Koukol called for a roll call vote. Approved 4-0.
Chairman Koukol asked Mr. Hagos and Mr. Johnson to introduce themselves. Mr. Hagos is the owner of Civilian Force Arms. He currently part owner of two Dunkin Donuts as well. He started making his product in 2011 as a side business. He and his partner Mr. Johnson incorporated in 2014. Since then they have had a steady growth of sales, including ten pieces of equipment to Yorkville Police Department. Mr. Hagos stated that their current impediment to growth is lack of employees. His application for a loan of $90,000 is to obtain and train employees. He is looking to add six to seven full time positions.

The Committee asked Mr. Hagos and Johnson details about their inventory, business plan, and location. Mr. Johnson and Hagos stated their inventory was worth approximately $200,000, that they are moving to creating their own parts, and that they paid their two year lease on their location up front. They also are pre-awarded for a federal government contract.

The Committee discussed the options of the inventory being used as collateral without any real estate as a fall back. The Committee added a few stipulations: personal guarantees, a minimum stock worth of $100,000 during the life of the loan, and pay off of the loan with execution of the federal contract that the loan would be secure. The term off the loan would also be five years with an interest rate of 2.9%

(At 9:33 am Mr. Gryder stepped out of the meeting.)

Ms. Cullick made a motion to send the proposed loan of $90,000 at 2.9% interest for five years to the County Board. Mr. Prochaska seconded it. Chairman Koukol called for a roll call vote. Approved 3-0.

Kendall County Job & Resource Fair – June 19, 2015, 9:30AM – 1PM, Plano Campus

Mr. Beltran updated the Committee on the planning for the Jun 19 job fair. On May 12 there was a planning meeting where job seeker numbers, companies registered, and timing of the fair was discussed. (Mr. Gryder returned at 9:43 am)

Planning 2015 Kendall Economic Development Alliance Legislative Business Forum – White Tail Ridge reserved for September 23

Mr. Wilkins stated that the County was inviting all eight of the legislators. Mr. Beltran informed the Committee that six of those legislators had confirmed.

Update Countywide Industrial Market Study: Target Industry, Workforce, Sustainability & Transportation Infrastructure

Mr. Wilkins informed the Committee that staff had a conference call with CMAP about the scope of the document and had received a draft scope. Mr. Wilkins stated they had forwarded it on to KEDA members. Mr. Beltran stated the CMAP wanted a resolution for support. Chairman Koukol asked for a motion to move that motion to the Board. Mr. Gryder made the motion. Approved 4-0.

Coordinated Responses to Business Retention & Expansion Survey

Mr. Beltran stated that the survey instrument had been fine tuned into the current and final form. He also stated that it was now available digitally which would hopefully increase responses.
Finally, he stated that he was compiling manufacturers and companies from various sources and is looking to make contact with them in some manner soon.

*Workforce Training Loans with WCC Update*

Mr. Wilkins stated when speaking with Gary Kecskes that no companies had yet taken Waubonsee up on the program. Chairman Koukol added that it this loan was a small template to decrease the time to process.

*Metro Chicago Exports Update*

Mr. Beltran updated the progress on the Metro Chicago Exports. He also stated that their micro-loan grant for those ready to export or expand their exports. Mr. Gryder asked if this would help for bigger companies. Mr. Beltran stated that it most likely would not as it was more of a stepping stone program.

*Chicago Metro Metals Consortium*

Mr. Beltran stated they are holding matchmaking meetings for metal manufacturers around the collar counties. He stated that they are looking for more and he would be reaching out in the coming weeks.

*Chairman’s Report*

Chairman Koukol stated that Oswego is starting their own Economic Development Commission and is currently looking for members to apply. Mr. Wilkins explained the structure of the Commission. Chairman Koukol he was going to apply for the position of a local taxing body representative.

Chairman Koukol also stated a business in Oswego, Firehouse Pizza, had asked for a Revolving Fund Application. Chairman Koukol stated that the Village of Oswego owned the building and currently had a loan through them. They were looking purchase the building and pay the Village of Oswego in full. The building would be collateral on the loan. The Committee discussed the specifics of the loan. The Committee resolved to continue looking into the loan.

Chairman Koukol asked Mr. Wilkins about the current status of the Metra extensions. Mr. Wilkins noted that it was unlikely to happen though a study was being conducted. Mr. Gryder stated that he was at a CMAP meeting where the focus was on reinvesting in current infrastructure rather than expansion as it was nearing the end of its lifetime use.

Chairman Koukol asked for an update on the status of the Yorkville Economic Development Corporation. Mr. Wilkins stated that the plan had been to phase back Lynn Dubajic, the Directors, time. However, membership was down and the City of Yorkville was uncomfortable about offering a position as the revenue was not there. As such it was going to be dissolved by August. Yorkville would continue to contract with Ms. Dubajic as a consultant.

**Public Comment** – None

**Executive Committee** - None

**Adjournment**
With no further business to discuss, Mr. Gryder moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cullick. There being no objection, the Economic Development Committee at 10:31 a.m., adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrez P. Beltran
Economic Development and Special Projects Coordinator