

LYON COUNTY

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

Requested Board Date: 9/15/2020	Item: Economic Development
Originating Department: Administration	Presenter: Commissioners Ritter and Anderson

Board Action Requested:

Discussion on various economic development options for Lyon County.

Background:

Lyon County has been actively discussion economic development options for the past year. Recent discussions with the cities in Lyon County and the Marshall Area Chamber of Commerce has brought this topic to a turning point requiring direction from the county as to which path to take regarding economic development in the county. Options which could be considered include:

Contracting with individuals or entities for specific projects such as grant writing.

Collaboration with the City of Marshall's EDA Department.

Funding only such as a revolving loan fund.

Hiring an EDA director to run a county program.

Attached are the state statutes that govern the creation of a county economic development authority.

Supporting Documents:

SKMBT_C45220091011190.pdf

Comments:

469.1082 COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OR HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POWERS.

Subdivision 1. **Authority to create.** A county may form a county economic development authority or grant a housing and redevelopment authority the powers specified in subdivision 4, clause (2), if it receives a recommendation to do so from a committee formed under subdivision 2. An economic development authority established under this section has all the powers and rights of an authority under sections 469.090 to 469.1081, except the authority granted under section 469.094 if so limited under subdivision 4. This section is in addition to any other authority to create a county economic development authority or service provider.

Nothing in this section shall alter or impair any grant of powers, or any other authority granted to a community development agency, a county housing and redevelopment authority, or any county as provided in section 383D.41; Laws 1974, chapter 473, as amended; or Laws 1980, chapter 482, as amended. Any county that has granted economic development powers to a community development agency or a county housing and redevelopment authority under any of these provisions may not form a county economic development authority or grant a housing and redevelopment authority the powers specified in subdivision 4, clause (2).

Subd. 2. **Local committees.** Upon notice to all local government units and development agencies within the county, a county may adopt a resolution to create a committee to recommend options for a county economic development service provider.

The committee shall consist of no fewer than 11 and no more than 15 members appointed by the county board. At least one city official, at least one housing and redevelopment official, and at least one township official from the county to be served by the county economic service provider shall be included on the committee. Members may also represent school districts, political subdivisions that currently provide services under sections 469.001 to 469.047 and 469.090 to 469.1081, nonprofit or for-profit housing and economic development organizations, business, and labor organizations located within the county. Political subdivision representatives must be selected by their local governments and must constitute at least 50 percent of the total committee membership. The county may appoint no more than two county commissioners. The committee shall select a chair at its initial meeting.

Subd. 3. **Committee report.** The committee shall issue its report within 90 days of its initial meeting. The committee may request one 60-day extension from the county board. The report must contain the committee's recommendation for the preferred organizational option for a county economic development service provider, including the distance from the boundary of the city that may be controlled by each affected city in subdivision 5. The distance may not exceed two miles from the city boundary. The report must contain written findings on issues considered by the committee including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) identification of the current level of economic development, housing, and community development programs and services provided by existing agencies, any existing gaps in programs and services, and the capacity and ability of those agencies to expand their activities; and

(2) the recommended organizational option for providing needed economic development, housing, and community development services in the most efficient, effective manner.

Subd. 4. **Organizational options.** The committee may only recommend:

(1) establishment of a county economic development authority to operate under sections 469.090 to 469.1081, except that the county shall not have the powers of section 469.094 without the consent of an