

**Vergas EDA/HRA  
Vergas EDA/HRA  
Government Services Center & Zoom Id 267-094-2170 password 56587  
2:00 PM on Wednesday, September 4, 2024**

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Agenda Additions and Deletions**

**3. Status of Recommendations to City Council**

- A. Bylaws
- B. Bookmobile

**4. Minutes**

August 7, 2024

**5. Financial Update**

2024 Income and Expenses Update

**6. New Business**

A. Ian Carlstrom, West Central MN SBDC

Value Statement (attached) is a short summary of what we've been up to since the beginning of 2023, featuring a few highlights, overview of events/workshops, client successes & measurable outcomes, and more. Here's our website for more information too - <https://westcentralmnsbdc.com/>

Business Builders Workshops – We collaborate to produce these FREE monthly virtual workshops on various topics for small business owners across MN and ND [https://und.edu/dakotasvboc/business\\_builders\\_workshops.html](https://und.edu/dakotasvboc/business_builders_workshops.html) please promote these to your local businesses, they can get recordings of past workshops too! There are more “resources” on our website, and we're working to build out more on-demand trainings and other resources as well.

Tailored Workshops & other Special Initiatives – as a Federal grant funded program, we submit proposals for the funds that we receive which ultimately commit us to delivering x-amount of 1-on-1 time, x-number of workshops, serving x-number of individuals, everything very detailed – we effectively promise how we'll spend every dollar of our funds a year in advance. Local support provides the budget and flexibility needed to respond to community requests and deliver tailored workshops for example. (Since we provide 1-on-1 technical assistance as requested, when we receive workshop requests, our local partners are instrumental in ensuring we reach the right audience and achieve strong participation.)

1-on-1 confidential no-cost consulting – this is really the core deliverable of our program. Our program serves every county of every state, plus US territories, serving a million entrepreneurs per year nationally. Here in our region, we have 13 (part time, contracted) professional business consultants who live and work throughout our 9-county region, they provide individualized technical assistance both in general and specialized areas (many different words for this such as coaching/mentoring, advising) and we're also very well connected with other govt, public and private resources as well.

Supporting Vergas-area entrepreneurs – we aim to support your local entrepreneurs directly and be as visible as possible, some towns for example want workshops, some want “open office hours” with a consultant, some want us to partner on certain chamber events, you might even want to share some SBDC info and resources on your website... it's my goal to maintain a relationship Vergas that is right-sized and ongoing in serving the small businesses.

Looking forward to sharing more with you all on September 4th and answering any questions.

**7. Old Business**

- A. CEDA Update - Jordan Grossman
- B. Zoning Map
- C. Vergas HRA lots of Eva and Diane