

Waseca County Fall Business Summit

Fall 2016

Wednesday, October 26, 2016

8:30- am – 12:45 pm

Conference Center at the Public Safety Building, 303 S. State Street, Waseca, Minnesota

Our Economic Climate and Prospects for Growth

Co-Sponsored: Waseca County, City of Waseca

B.E.S.T. (Business and Entrepreneurial Support Team) of Waseca Co.

Principal outcomes of this summit::

- *A better understanding of the economic climate in which we do business.*
- *Identification of one or more opportunities to be positive about the business climate.*
- *Development of the strategies in which attendees find common interest and make preliminary commitment for action.*

Our goal today is to enhance the potential to build on our strengths. This county has a proud heritage of innovation, entrepreneurship, environmental stewardship, agriculture, manufacturing, technology, human and public service, health care and education. The cities of Waseca, Janesville, Waldorf and New Richland, and the county's twelve townships share the values of local governance and self-determination. Non-profit organizations, churches, foundations and economic development entities add immeasurably to our potential to provide homes for our families and build the potential for the future our children deserve.

We, in a sense, are celebrating our own vitality and optimism. We are not overlooking the reality of the devastating impact of major rains in September from which so many will be in recovery mode for months if not years. We thank Waseca County Emergency Management and the work of volunteers and staff in each municipality who along with support from so many outside groups and agencies are moving forward. But this may be the best time to really take a new look at how we want to be different.

There will be a call to action. Plan to lead.

PROGRAM

8:30 am

Registration

9:00 am

Jill Stagman, EMCEE

Pantheon Computers (Waseca)

Welcome

Introductions and Purposes

Plan for the day

Jim Gibson

President, B.E.S.T. of Waseca County

9:10 am

Update: Water

Where we are on storm damage and recovery in the county and the municipalities?

Nancy Lageson

Waseca County Emergency Management Director

Danny Lenz

Waseca City Manager

9:30 am

Economic Climate

**Region Nine Perspectives on Waseca
and Adjoining Counties**

Being Introduced by **Daren Arndt**, Member Waseca City Council and
Representative to the Board of R9

Nicole Griensewic Mickelson

Executive Director, Region Nine Development Commission

10:00 am

Break

10:15 am

New Businesses

Panel I –

Roger Ashland
Moderator

**We are new to the area.
What we like and why we came.**

Ken Feglar
General Manager, Bomgaars

Jacob Dougherty
Waseca County Auto Sales

Brooke Olson
General Manager
Bridgewater at Janesville (Assisted Living)

10:45 am

Business Retention

Panel II –

Brandon McCabe
Moderator

**We have been here a while.
What we like and why we stay.**

Dave Lameyer,
Diversified Credit union

Bob Burns
Boss Supply
Janesville

Frank Shipley
Birdseye

Kevin Clemons
Suburban Furniture

11:15 am

Economic Development

Organizations and Authorities

Panel III -

Jim Gibson

Moderator

**We want to foster economic health,
job growth and betterment.....
and here is what we are doing now.**

Russ Weir

Waseca Economic Development Authority

Perry Berg

Waseca Development Corp.

Mark Leiferman

Waseca Co. Economic Development Authority

Wayne Billings

City Of New Richland

Brandon McCabe

City of Janesville

12 Noon

Local Option Sales Tax -

**How will this work? How long? Role of the local vote
and the actions needed by the Minnesota Legislature.**

Danny Lenz

City Manager, Waseca

12:15 pm

**Pick up your box lunch. Use this time for informal
discussions. Think about:**

1} Spring Business Summit

2) How can we, individually and collectively make a difference? An experiment in community.

Visioning project?

12:30 pm

Where do we want to be in 20 years?

Program Concludes

12:45 pm

Collecting ideas. Evaluation.

Consider these topics possibly to be folded into the economic development authorities segment.

E	Entrepreneurial Support	B. E.S.T. of Waseca County Entrepreneurial Support Team Launches a Signature Program	Entrepreneurial Support Team Forrest Izuno, Gary Worke, Elizabeth Beery, Roger Ashland, Gary Sandholm, Brandon McCabe
H	What about Housing?	Results of the Housing Study in Waseca and what we will need to do to resolve this 'pinch point' in Waseca's health and future.	Resource Person: Danny Lenz
C	Marketing our communities.	Starting with what our community has to offer or should consider. Building on Findings of the Waseca Area Foundation study	Resource Person Karen Buum
J	Workforce.	Improving our workforce and fostering new business development Discussion	Leadership to be identified



New Richland • Waldorf • Janesville • Waseca
WASECA COUNTY
 B.E.S.T. OF WASECA COUNTY

A 501 (c)(3) Not for Profit Corporation for the betterment of our community.
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