

**Growth Fund Committee Minutes**  
**City Hall – Council Chambers**  
**Grand Forks, ND 58203**  
**November 17, 2025 – 4:30 p.m.**

1. **Roll Call:** Members Present – Tricia Berg, Mike Fridolfs, Rebecca Osowski, Jonathan Holth.
2. **Minutes: Meeting of October 27, 2025:**

*Berg moved to approve minutes as is, second by Holth. Motion carried unanimously.*

3. **Accelerate Loan Authorization to Pursue Collections: Aerial Robotics**

Conlon informed committee members that Aerial Robotics received a \$250,000 accelerate loan back in July 2022. The terms of the loan mirrored the Bank of ND (BND) LIFT Program. The maturity date of this loan is October 2027. Staff received a status update in 2023 that company was facing some challenges. Staff was informed by CEO Schamuhn that they were facing substantial challenges with certain shareholders and would be freezing Aerial Robotics for the time being to preserve the company as is. Shortly after, Schamuhn reached out to staff and stated that the company was moving forward. Staff recently reached out for an update and received an autoreply of Aerial Robotics being out of business. Staff tried other methods to reach out. Staff is recommending the City Attorney further review the status of Aerial Robotics to ensure they are not operating, and if they are in default, initiate collection.

Osowski confirmed that the City is behind BND for the security position on the loan. Holth commented that due diligence is important as their website is up and running and advertising for jobs. Holth also noted that they are in default in multiple sections of the loan agreement.

*Osowski moved to approve the request, second by Berg. Motion carried unanimously.*

4. **Accelerate Loan Authorization to Pursue Collections: Thread**

Conlon informed committee members that Thread received a \$500,000 accelerate loan in June 2020. The terms of the loan mirrored the Bank of ND (BND). In June 2025, the JDA approved an extension allowing partial interest-only payment. CEO Riedy raised concerns in October 2025 regarding the continued operation of Thread. Thread has since then terminated their lease at The HIVE. The JDA is in the third position for this loan as ND Development Fund (NDDF) and BND are in first and second security positions. City administration is working with BND and NDDF to develop a process to determine the value of available company assets.

Mr. Gaustad informed committee members that the lease has been voluntarily terminated by agreement but there are still assets within the lease premises. Gaustad has been in communication with the attorney's representing BND and NDDF as to how they will proceed to move those items out of the space so it can be leased. There will be an effort to try and inventory those items first.

*Osowski moved to approve the request, second by Berg. Motion carried unanimously.*

5. **Information Only: Past Due Loans Update**

Henningsgard informed committee members of loans that are past due: ND Coffee Roastery, S Olson Holdings, KOTH Investments, Integrity Fundraisers, and Thread. KOTH made a payment of \$1,500 and Integrity Fundraisers made a payment of \$500. A representative from ND Coffee Roastery and S Olson Holdings have communicated with staff and will be making a payment.

## 6. Adjournment

*Motion by Osowski to adjourn. Voting Aye: All. Meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m.*

Submitted by:

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Anna Henningsgard  
Community Development

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Mike Fridolfs  
Chair