

Meetings Set to Identify Legislative Issues



*Last March, Governor Jim Doyle (center) hosted part of the citizen advocates from United St. Croix Valley in his Madison conference room
(Photo: Courtesy of Kelly Berens, Governor's Communication Office)*

The economic development corporations from Polk, St. Croix, and Pierce counties will conduct three open house meetings in late September to identify relevant issues for its second annual lobbying event in Madison next February.

The meetings are set for:

Tuesday, September 26 at 7:00 PM in the County Board Room of the Polk County Government Center, 100 Polk County Plaza (Balsam Lake);

Wednesday, September 27, at 7:00 PM at CVTC-River Falls (Room 120), 500 South Wasson Lane; and

Thursday, September 28 at 7:00 PM in St. Croix Room 101 of the Cashman Conference Center, WITC New Richmond, 1019 South Knowles Avenue.

Business leaders and area residents are invited to participate in the open houses. Legislative ideas collected at the meetings will be pared down to four or five issues. They will be presented to legislators, cabinet secretaries, and the governor in Madison on February 13-14, 2007.

Last March, the three EDCs led 40 citizen advocates to Madison in the first organized effort for the benefit of the St. Croix Valley. The 3-county event, called United St. Croix Valley Legislative Days, is modeled after similar lobbying initiatives across the state, including Superior Days (Northwest Wisconsin), the Valley Rally (Chippewa Valley), and Oktoberfest in the Capitol (La Crosse area).

“The border county region of Polk, St. Croix, and Pierce is one of the fastest growing in state,” stated Dan Reeves, president of Polk County EDC. “This growth creates many issues that need to be conveyed to a wide audience of state officials,” added Greg Ewig, president of St. Croix EDC. “We can choose to travel to Madison separately, but it is far more effective working together under one banner,” said Trudy Popenhagen, president of Pierce County EDC.

For addition information on the open houses or the lobby event, please contact:

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