CHAPTER 225

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CREDIT CORPORATIONS

225.01 Incorporators. Five or more natural persons of the age of 18 years or more may act as incorporators by signing, acknowledging, and filing articles of incorporation for such corporation.

History: 1971 c. 213 s. 5; 1981 c. 337.

225.02 Purposes. Business development credit corporations may be organized under this chapter to promote, encourage and through the cooperative efforts of the institutions and corporations which are members thereof, develop and advance the business prosperity and economy of the state to encourage new industries and to rehabilitate existing industries in the state; to promote and stimulate the expansion of Wisconsin business ventures which tend to increase existing industries in the state; to promote and stimulate the economy of the state to encourage new industries and to rehabilitate existing industries in the state; to promote and stimulate the expansion of Wisconsin business ventures which tend to increase existing industries in the state; to promote and stimulate the economy of the state to encourage new industries and to rehabilitate existing industries in the state.

History: 1979 c. 102 s. 236 (3); 1991 a. 221.

225.03 Capital stock. At least 25 percent of the capital stock authorized in the articles of incorporation shall be paid into the treasury of the corporation in cash before the corporation shall be authorized to transact any business other than such as relates to its organization. At least a majority of the common stock shall at all times be held by residents of this state or by persons, firms or corporations engaged in doing business therein. Common stock shall at all times be held by stockholder members who have their residences or principal places of business in not less than 36 counties in this state.

History: 2009 a. 177.

225.04 Directors. The corporate powers of any such corporation shall be exercised by a board of directors. The number of directors and their term of office shall be determined in a manner prescribed in the bylaws. At no time shall there be less than 5 directors. The initial board of directors shall consist of the incorporators and they shall serve until the first annual meeting. The first annual meeting shall occur at a date to be fixed by the board of directors as soon as reasonably possible after a minimum of 25 percent of the capital stock of the corporation is paid into its treasury and a minimum of 10 stockholder members of the corporation have qualified as provided in s. 225.05; and such annual meeting and subsequent annual meetings shall be called and the directors shall be elected in the manner provided in the bylaws.

History: 2009 a. 177.

225.05 Members; limitation and apportionment of loans by members; withdrawal. There shall be 2 classes of members in the corporation with voting rights specified in the articles of incorporation.

(a) Each nonstockholder member shall establish a line of credit not otherwise readily available therefor; and in furtherance of such purposes and in addition to the powers conferred by the general laws relating to business corporations, any such corporation shall, subject to the restrictions and limitations herein contained, have the following powers:

(1) To borrow money on secured or unsecured notes from any bank, savings bank, savings and loan association, trust company or insurer which is a nonstockholder member of the corporation and from other nonmember persons, firms or corporations; and to pledge bonds, notes and other securities as collateral therefor.

(2) To make secured or unsecured loans; but it is not the intention hereof to take from the lending institutions within the state any loans or commitments desired by such institutions generally in the ordinary course of their business.

(3) To establish and regulate the terms and conditions of any such loans and the charges for interest or service connected therewith.

(4) To purchase, hold, lease and otherwise acquire and to convey such real and personal estate as it may acquire in the satisfaction of debts, or pursuant to the terms and conditions of loans, or which it acquires in the foreclosure of mortgages thereon, or upon judgments for debt or in settlements to secure debts.

(5) To promote the establishment of local industrial development corporations in the various communities of the state, to enter into agreements with them, and to cooperate with, assist and otherwise encourage such local foundations.

(6) To participate with any duly authorized federal lending agency in the making of loans.

History: 1979 c. 102 s. 236 (3); 1991 a. 221.

225.06 Finance. At all times be held by stockholder members who have their residences or principal places of business in not less than 36 counties in this state.

History: 2009 a. 177.

225.07 Loans. The corporate powers of any such corporation shall be exercised by a board of directors. The number of directors and their term of office shall be determined in a manner prescribed in the bylaws. At no time shall there be less than 5 directors. The initial board of directors shall consist of the incorporators and they shall serve until the first annual meeting. The first annual meeting shall occur at a date to be fixed by the board of directors as soon as reasonably possible after a minimum of 25 percent of the capital stock of the corporation is paid into its treasury and a minimum of 10 stockholder members of the corporation have qualified as provided in s. 225.05; and such annual meeting and subsequent annual meetings shall be called and the directors shall be elected in the manner provided in the bylaws.

History: 2009 a. 177.

225.08 Application of chapter 180. Nonstockholder members do not assume any liability for the debts of the corporation.

(f) Upon dissolution of a corporation organized under this chapter, obligations due the nonstockholder members are to be paid in full before any payments are made to the stockholder members.

History: 1979 c. 102 s. 236 (4); 1991 a. 221.
225.06 **Finance.** Any such corporation shall set apart as a surplus not less than 10 percent of its net earnings each year until such surplus, with any unimpaired surplus paid in, shall amount to one-half of the capital stock. The surplus shall be kept to secure against losses and contingencies, and whenever it becomes impaired it shall be reimbursed in the manner provided for its accumulation.  
*History: 2009 a. 177.*

225.07 **Loans.** The corporation shall lend money only when credit is not elsewhere readily available. Before granting any loan, the board of directors or a committee thereof shall endeavor, so far as is reasonably possible, to ascertain that the first opportunity to grant such loan has been given to lending institutions which may desire such loans generally in the course of their business.

225.08 **Application of chapter 180.** The provisions of ch. 180 shall apply to corporations incorporated under this chapter, insofar as they may be applicable and not inconsistent with this chapter.

225.09 **Legal investments.** Notwithstanding any other statute, the notes or other interest-bearing obligations of any corporation organized under this chapter, issued in accordance with this chapter and the articles of incorporation and bylaws of the corporation shall be legal investments for the banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations and trust companies who become members of the corporation.  
*History: 1979 c. 279; 1991 a. 221.*