
MICHIGAN ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Executive Committee Minutes

January 19, 2021

10 am to 12 pm

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

Members Present & Location of Virtual Attendance:

Jeff Noel,
Benton Charter Township, Berrien County, MI

Phil Shaltz,
Flint, Genesee County, MI

Kyle Caldwell,
Cannon Township, Kent County, MI

Chris MacInnes,
Whistler, BC, Canada

Dave Meador,
Bloomfield Hills, Oakland County, MI

April Clobes,
East Lansing, Clinton County, MI

Scott Newman-Bale,
Traverse City, Grand Traverse County, MI

Krista Flynn,
Buford County, SC

Bob McMahan,
Jackson County, NC

Fritz Erickson,
Marquette, Marquette County, MI

Tom Lutz, Warren,
Macomb County, MI

Awenate Cobbina,
Detroit, Wayne County, MI

Mike McLauchlan,
Grosse Pointe, Wayne County, MI

Ryan Waddington,
Webster Township Washtenaw County, MI

Bobby Hopewell,
Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo County, MI

Fay Beydoun,
Farmington Hills, Oakland County, MI

Beth Ardisana,
Dearborn, Wayne County, MI

Members Absent:

Sheldon Neeley

Bill Pink

Staff Present:

Amiee Evans

Mark Burton

Amanda Bright McClanahan

Steve Bakkal

Christin Armstrong

Linda Ascitutto

Lynne Feldpausch

Greg Bird

Doug Kuiper

Josh Hundt

Brad Heffner

Jill Trepkoski

Michele Wildman

John Groen

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I. Call to order

Mr. Cobbina called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. He requested that Ms. Armstrong provide any necessary communications. There were none. A roll call was performed to determine attendance and a quorum was declared present. The meeting was held virtually via Microsoft Teams due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

II. Public Comment

Mr. Cobbina invited any public comment, there was none.

III. Chairman's Report

- a. Mr. Cobbina asked if there were any questions, changes, or corrections regarding the November 10, 2020 minutes. There were none. *Mr. Noel moved to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2020 meeting and Ms. Flynn supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 15 aye votes, 0 nay votes, and 1 abstention.*
- b. Mr. Cobbina provided a brief update on the CEO search process. The search committee has met with Korn Ferry on a bi-weekly basis since the execution of the agreement. Over the course of November, Korn Ferry has gathered feedback from all key stakeholders. Since those interviews they have identified several characteristics for the MEDC CEO including economic development experience, passion for the state of Michigan, experience working with different industries and regions, working with several boards and reporting structure, leading an organization, demonstrated experience in creating relationships, and the ability to operate in a political environment. The position description was posted on December 1. Expectation is there is a large candidate pool that the search committee will begin reviewing in the coming weeks. Mr. Meador commented that he believed the MEDC currently has strong bipartisan support in the legislature and the organization needs a candidate who can navigate a divided government and gain strong support from legislators.

IV. CEO Update

Mr. Burton provided an update on the organizations COVID-19 response to date as well as several other updates from the organization. Mr. Greg Bird provided an update on new member legislative education and advocacy. He noted that the organization continues to advocate for the Good Jobs for Michigan incentive program. Mr. Josh Hundt provided an update on the signature initiatives that are currently being developed in concert with the strategic plan including talent expansion, Industry 4.0 Leadership, and broadband strategy development. Ms. Michele Wildman provided updates that were recently made to the Community Revitalization Program guidelines and changes to the Redevelopment Ready Communities program. She noted that changes to the Brownfield Tax Increment Financing guidelines and implementation of

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the new State Historic Tax Credit. Mr. Doug Kuiper provided an update on the Pure Michigan travel campaign and the relaunch of the paid travel campaign for fiscal year 2021. Ms. Lynne Feldpausch provided an update on all the administrative services within the organization.

At 10:50 am, Ms. Beth Ardisana joined the meeting.

At 11:00 am, Dr. Bob McMahan left the meeting.

V. Finance Subcommittee

Ms. Ardisana reported that the subcommittee continues to monitor the budget and continues to review sources of revenue. The subcommittee will have a presentation on sources of revenue at a future meeting. Ms. Ardisana also noted that the Executive Committee needed to adopt a budget timeline as required under the Michigan Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act.

Approval Budget Timeline Schedule

Ms. MacInnes moved to approve the Resolution; Mr. Newman-Bale supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 14 aye votes, 0 nay votes, and 2 abstentions.

- VI.** Mr. Cobbina asked if there was any additional discussion for the Executive Committee. There was none.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.