



1015 Short Drive, Suite 2 * Prudenville, MI 48651 * (989) 366-8660

**Roscommon County Economic Development Corporation
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
September 24, 2020**

Attending: Brenda Bachelder, Ed Bergeron, Katherine Methner, Theresa Ekdom, Bob Schneider, Al Cambridge, Neil Belanger, Mike Briggs, Jim Raschke

Absent: Emily Barber, Phil Bendily, Marc Milburn, Kathleen Fox, Pam Kincaid

Guests: Cyle Gillman, Jane Fitzpatrick and Jodi Valentino

- I. Call to Order (ACT) – The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Theresa Ekdom
- II. Pledge of Allegiance (ACT) –
- III. Agenda Changes (DIS) – There were not any changes to the agenda
- IV. Introduction of Guests (INF) – Brenda Bachelder introduced Cyle Gillman, Jodi Valentino and Jane Fitzpatrick
- V. Approval of August 27, 2020 Meeting Minutes (ACT) – Katherine Methner motioned to approve, Ed Bergeron supported. All supported.
- VI. Treasurer’s Report (INF) – Jodi Valentino fielded questions regarding the treasurers report. Brenda Bachelder will email the board and ask them for input on what they would like to see in the monthly report. The report was reviewed and filed for future reference.
- VII. Executive Director’s Report (INF) – Brenda Bachelder presented the report.
- VIII. Old Business
 - A. By Law Review Update (INF) – Theresa Ekdom gave a quick update that the by-law review committee (Ed Bergeron, Bob Schneider, Neal Belanger, Theresa Ekdom) have reviewed and noted proposed changes to the EDC by-laws. The bylaws will be sent out to the board for their review. Discussion and adoption will be on the agenda for October.
 - B. EMCOG CEDS Update (INF) – Jane Fitzpatrick gave an update on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy that EMCOG has been working on for the 14 county region. EMCOG will be sending their report to EDA for approval.
 - C. Board Vacancies and recruitment (DIS) – Brenda Bachelder noted that there are two vacant positions on the EDC; however, there are several board members that have missed numerous meetings. Board members will need to be contacted to determine their level of commitment and availability.



1015 Short Drive, Suite 2 * Prudenville, MI 48651 * (989) 366-8660

- D. Business Update (DIS) – Discussed two new restaurants that will be coming to Prudenville soon. Also noted that Gordmans last day will be 9/27. Seven employees will be affected by the closure.

IX. New Business

- A. EDA/BRA Grant Update (INF) – Katherine Methner gave up an update on the EDA Brownfield Assessment Grant webinar that Ed Bergeron and herself attended. At this time it was determined that the BRA is not prepared to apply for funding.
- B. Fund Raising Campaign (DIS) – Jim Raschke gave an update that Mid-Michigan Health would be willing to support a county-wide broadband assessment by matching up to \$25,000 if matching funds were raised by the EDC to pay for the assessment. Jim noted that Spectrum is in the process of doing a broadband study of our area.

- X. Board Member Reports (INF) – The board agrees that the broadband study needs to be a priority especially if some funding is available. USDA will be contacted.

- XI. Guest Comments (INF) – None

- XII. Agenda items for upcoming meeting (DIS) – Approval of by-laws, treasurers report, broadband assessment

Meeting adjourned at 9:05