



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

**Roscommon County Economic Development Corporation
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
8 a.m. December 2, 2021**

Members attending: Shawn Petrie, Neil Belanger, Marc Milburn, Bob Schnieder, Wendy Engle, Al Cambridge, Theresa Ekdorn, Katherine Methner, Vijay Kumar, Ed Bergeron, Mike Briggs, Jim Raschke, Pam Kincaid

Staff: Brenda Bachelder

Guests: Dan Scow, Village of Roscommon, Rich Castle of Consumers Energy, Vicki Seltz Barnes of Houghton Lake Area Tourism Bureau

Meeting called to Order at 8:01 a.m. by Katherine

Pledge of Allegiance said

Agenda Changes – none

Introduction of Guests – see above

Motion to accept October 28, 2021 Meeting Minutes by Marc, Seconded by Neil. Motion carried

Treasurer's Report – Brenda checked with Jodi to make sure the \$1000 donation goes into a fund that rolls over from year to year. **Al moved to accept treasurers report and file. Theresa second. Motion carried.**

Executive Director's Report given by Brenda. See attached. Also:

Strategic planning is completed. Draft has been sent. It needs to be proofed.

ARP Katherine met with Jodi V and signed the documents.

Did a presentation to the HL Rotary. Many members interested in either a small committee or board.

Mercantile Bank was sent a request for donation. Nothing has been returned.

Microplan agreements – Brenda met with Rebecca on those. There was not an end date on those loans. They've had a year and a half to get them paid. Letters sent to the recipients with their amount to pay in full by Dec. 31.

Most are on track to be paid.

Old Business

A. American Rescue Plan Programs – Katherine

Documents are signed and we are good to go. Funding coming for 2022, 23 and 24.

Broadband – the grant request applied for has not been announced yet – postponed until December. Still hoping that we do receive it.

We will have to start forming committees for the grants we received. Dreams for Sale; Grant program; FIT Program and Streetscape

FIT Program: can't get on the list until 2023. Ed gave a short description of the program for the guests.

Community stakeholders forum suggested for second quarter of 2022.

\$630,000 received overall by the EDC

B. EDC Strategic Planning Sessions/Next Steps

Rough draft given by the plan administrators. Used a SWAT Analysis to establish our goals. Talked about needing more volunteers. Adding ad-hoc members to committees.

#1 priority – to create an EDC plan. We are looking out at least 5 years. After 5 years we can re-evaluate.



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- C. 2022 Meeting Schedule & Format – Discussion on holding EDC meetings bimonthly, then the committee meetings the other months. Perhaps bring in some experts in to talk about EDC. Brenda will still send her report monthly. Board comments include wanting the ability to meet more often if decisions are needed. Would like to make sure we have viable subcommittees first. Maybe look at 8 times a year, look at when most participation from the board.
- Watch the amount of staff overhead we will need. Part time EDC to contract with Mich Works!. That contract expires in April. We will have to look at what to do in April, renew with Mich. Works or other options that have been looked at.
- It was decided to set up the yearly schedule keeping it the same as we have been (10 meetings/year) and work towards getting committees. Brenda will work up a schedule. Meetings to be the 4th Thursday of each month, and early Dec rather than November meeting.

New Business

Houghton Lake Chamber of Commerce Mini Grant Request **Marc moved to accept the grant request. Al seconded. Motion approved.**

Board Member Comments – Discussion on covid and vaccines. Open meetings Act – the ability to meet and vote via zoom expires in January. The larger conference room at the County building available if needed to meet in person. Explore next door (COA) to a larger room, then the county building if needed. COOR has a room available also if needed.

Guest Comments - Vicki – glad to be here. Thanked the board for the grants.

Rich – covers 8 counties. He sits on a number of county EDC boards. Consumers Energy is supportive to Economic development. Involved in Roscommon United Way, and the area.

Dan – happy to be here. Working with the Village for the community readiness plan.

Mike – w/EDC we have the Executive Board and then board members. We might want to look at a couple of different levels or partnerships, Not officially a board member but a contact.

Agenda items for the next meeting - Will keep strategic plan, ARP \$, and our schedule of meetings. Anything else get to Brenda.

Next meeting January 27.