

# PROPOSED MICHIGAN FILM OFFICE ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

August 27, 2024

Wilson Talent Center

611 Hagadorn Road, Mason, MI 48854

&

Microsoft Teams Open Virtual Meeting

## 1. Call to Order/Welcome from the Chairman

The meeting of the Michigan Film Office Advisory Council (MFOAC) was called to order at 1:04 p.m. by Chairman Bill Ludwig. The following Council members were in attendance: Bill Ludwig, Nikki Adams, Dan Lemieux, Eric Kuiper, Brian Winn, Dori DePree, Rick Hert, Tim Pietryga, and Selam Ghirmai.

Mr. Ludwig welcomed everyone and thanked the council members for their attendance. He thanks Nikki Adams for inviting the Council to her New Media class at the Wilson Talent Center.

## 2. Adopt Agenda

There was a motion to approve the Agenda, which was seconded; motion passed unanimously.

## 3. Approval of Minutes from November 9, 2023 meeting

There was a motion to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2023 MFOAC meeting; which was seconded; motion passed unanimously.

## 4. Introductions

Nikki Adams discusses her role as an instructor for New Media at Wilson Talent Center and students introduce themselves to the Council.

## 5. Director's Report – Selam Ghirmai

### a. Legislative - Michigan Multimedia Jobs Act

- i. [House Bill 4907](#) and [House Bill 4908](#), introduced in July by Representative Jason Hoskins and Representative John Roth, respectively
  1. Referred to second reading
- ii. [Senate Bill 438](#) and [Senate Bill 439](#), introduced in June by Senator Dayna Polehanki
- iii. [Summary](#) of legislation by Michigan Film Industry Association

### b. Industry News

- i. Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA) – video game performers went on strike over artificial intelligence protections on July 26.
  1. Selam reported on concerns from the industry that “unchecked use of AI could provide game makers with a means to displace them — by training an AI to replicate an actor’s voice, or to create a digital replica of their likeness without consent.”
  2. Based on article by Sarah Parvini with Associated Press, Selam discussed:
    - a. Who is covered under the contract?
    - b. Which game companies are involved?
    - c. What are performers asking for?

**c. Film Office speaking engagement**

- i. Film Office has been invited speak at next tourism industry meeting hosted by Kent County Hospitality on Thursday, September 19 in Grand Rapids, Michigan to provide update from Film Office and state of the industry.
- ii. Selam met a representative from this group at [Tourism Industry Coalition of Michigan \(TICOM\)](#) meeting hosted last December.

**d. Future Advisory Council meeting dates for 2024**

- i. Next meeting (tentative): November 7 or 8 in Grand Rapids

**6. Presentation by Capital City Film Festival**

- a. Samantha Le (Secretary of the Board) and Jason Gabriel (Director of Programming) present
- b. They announce that their board has approved an internship with one of Nikki Adams New Media students. This is a first-ever collaboration between the Festival and Wilson Talent Center.

**7. Public Comments**

Questions from students to Capital City Film Festival about their event and how students can engage.

**8. Old Business**

There were no items discussed under Old Business.

**9. New Business**

There were no items discussed under New Business.

**10. Adjournment**

There being no further business, there was a motion to adjourn the meeting, that was seconded; motion passed unanimously.