
MICHIGAN ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Executive Committee Minutes

March 16, 2021

10 am to 12 pm

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

Members Present & Location of Virtual Attendance:

Jeff Noel, Benton Charter Township, Berrien County, MI	Fay Beydoun, Farmington Hills, MI
Dave Meador, Bloomfield Hills, Oakland County, MI	Chris MacInnes, Thompsonville, MI
Sheldon Neeley Flint, MI	April Clobes, East Lansing, Clinton County, MI
Scott Newman-Bale, Traverse City, Grand Traverse County, MI	Krista Flynn, Ada, MI
Beth Ardisana, Sedona, Arizona	Fritz Erickson, Marquette, Marquette County, MI
Tom Lutz, Detroit, MI	Awenate Cobbina, Detroit, Wayne County, MI
Mike McLaughlan, Grosse Pointe Woods, Wayne County, MI	Ryan Waddington, Webster Township, MI
Bobby Hopewell, Lansing, Ingham County, MI	Bill Pink, Grand Rapids, MI

Members Absent:

Kyle Caldwell Phil Shaltz	Bob McMahan
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Staff Present:

Amiee Evans	Jill Trepkoski	Amanda Bright McClanahan
Steve Bakkal	Christin Armstrong	Linda Asciutto
Lynne Feldpausch	Greg Bird	
Josh Hundt	Brad Heffner	
Michele Wildman	Doug Kuiper	

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I. Call to order

Mr. Cobbina called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. He requested that Ms. Armstrong provide any necessary communications. Ms. Armstrong noted that she would be distributing a resolution for the appointment of an interim CEO. 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 January 19, 2021 minutes. There were none. *Ms. Flynn moved to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2021 meeting and Mr. Newman-Bale supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 15 aye votes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.*
- b. Mr. Cobbina provided a brief update on the CEO search process. He noted that Mr. Mark Burton accepted a position with another organization and is no longer serving as CEO as of March 12, Mr. Burton carried the organization through a difficult time. He thanked Mr. Burton for his service throughout the past year. He also reported on the CEO search process. He noted that the search committee has narrowed down the pool of candidates, held interviews, present the personnel and compensation subcommittee the final candidate recommendations for consideration. The personnel and compensation subcommittee has been briefed on the process to date.

Ms. Fay Beydoun joined the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

c. Appointment of interim CEO

Mr. Cobbina reported that due to the vacancy that exists in the Chief Executive Officer role and that the Executive Committee continues to pursue the national search process, that the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson will jointly provide direction, support, and oversight over the employees and operations of the organization. Mr. D. Jeffrey Noel will serve as Chief Executive Officer, legally, on an interim basis effective March 16, 2021. Mr Noel will be compensated one dollar. *Mr. Hopewell moved to approve the Resolution to appoint D. Jeffrey Noel as the Chief Executive Officer of the MEDC and Mr. Neeley supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 15 aye votes, 0 nay votes, and one abstention. The Resolution was adopted.*

IV. Personnel & Compensation Subcommittee

Mr. Noel reported that the subcommittee has been briefed on all activities related to the CEO search process and will continue to consider the candidates for the CEO. The goal of the Committee is to move to a resolution in a timely manner.

V. Finance Subcommittee

Ms. Ardisana reported that there is continued work on the budget process. There will be additional information coming forward in future meetings. She mentioned there are continued discussions on alternative sources of revenue. Ms. Trepkoski provided an update on the FY21 state budget and provided that funding levels are remaining consistent for the organization within the Governor's fiscal year 2022 budget recommendation.

- VI.** Mr. Cobbina asked if there was any additional discussion for the Executive Committee. Mr. Cobbina noted that Mr. Caldwell sent a note requesting an update on the organization's work in entrepreneurship. Mr. Cobbina requested that MEDC staff follow up with Mr. Caldwell on his request. Additionally, the Committee requested an update on the diversity, equity, and inclusion activities within the organization.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.