



Executive Committee Minutes

September 25, 2024

Hilton Garden Inn, Lansing West
633 N. Canal Rd. Lansing MI 48917
or via Zoom

Members Present:

Beth Ardisana	Mike McLauchlan
Rosalynn Bliss	Bob McMahan
Awenate Cobbina	Sheldon Neeley
Sarah Gonzales	Santa Ono
Fadwa Hammoud	Bob Sutherland
Bobby Hopewell	Gina Jacquart Thorsen
Tom Lutz	Renee Tomina

Members Absent:

Krista Flynn	Brian Rich
LaJune Montgomery Tabron	Carla Walker-Miller
Bill Pink	

Staff Present:

Christin Armstrong	Michelle Grinnell
Steve Bakkal	Brad Heffner
Lavonne Blonde	Tupac Hunter
Aileen Bovan	Quentin Messer
Amiee Evans	Jen Nelson
Lynne Feldpausch	Jill Trepkoski

I. Call to order

Mr. Cobbina called the meeting to order at 9:40 am. He requested that Ms. Armstrong provide any necessary communications. There was one communication distributed to Executive Committee Members on September 24th via email. A roll call was performed to determine attendance. A quorum was present. The meeting was held at Hilton Garden Inn West Lansing, 633 N. Canal Rd., Lansing MI 48917.

II. Public Comment on FY25 Budget

Mr. Cobbina invited public comment on the FY25 Budget. There was no public comment.

III. Public Comment

Mr. Cobbins invited public comment. Ms. Blonde facilitated and public comment was had.



IV. Chairman's Report

Mr. Cobbina introduced and welcomed new members Sarah Gonzales and Renee Tomina and reintroduced Mayor Bliss for those that may have missed her introduction in July. Mr. Cobbina also provided an update on recent subcommittee appointments.

Mr. Cobbina asked if there were any questions, changes, or corrections to the July 16, 2024, minutes. There were none. *Sheldon Neeley moved to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2024, meeting and Beth Ardisana supported the motion. A vote was taken with 14 aye votes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.*

V. CEO Budget Presentation

Mr. Messer thanked the committee members for their leadership and continued service. He then introduced Jill Trepkoski who presented the FY25 Proposed Budget and FY26 Preliminary Budget. Ms. Ardisana added on behalf of the Finance Subcommittee, they've had an opportunity to review, in an ongoing process, to be sure this aligns to the areas we intend to focus on as well as the level of income we expect. Jill has done a great job, and the subcommittee recommends for approval. *Santa Ono thanked Jill for her tremendous work and moved to approve the FY25 Spending Plan and Bobby Hopewell supported the motion. A vote was taken with 14 aye votes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.*

Bobby Hopewell departs the meeting

VI. Personnel & Compensation Subcommittee Report

Mr. Cobbina requested Mr. McLauchlan provide an update on behalf of the Personnel & Compensation Subcommittee. Mr. McLauchlan welcomed Mayor Rosalynn Bliss to the subcommittee, she was able to join the September 17th meeting in which they met to formulate a consensus recommendation for cost of living and changes to the employee performance scorecard process. Ms. Feldpausch will provide additional details. Benefit renewals were received but will need further consideration, we will move this action item to the November meeting. Finally, with the approval of the corporate budget, the variable pay recommendation will be considered at the November meeting as well to ensure year-end scorecard data is finalized. Mr. McLauchlan asked Ms. Feldpausch to walk through the recommendations, which she did in detail. *After discussion, Beth Ardisana moved to approve the FY25 COLA increase and Tom Lutz supported the motion. A vote was taken with 13 ayes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.*

Bobby Hopewell rejoins the meeting

Ms. Feldpausch then presented information on Change Management Project, Performance Management and Compensation Plan, as it relates to our corporate employees to internally align our strategies with Governor Whitmer's Make It In



Michigan pillars (People, Project, Places). Mr. McLaughlan thanked Ms. Feldpausch and her team for their hard work on this, we think it's very thoughtful and request approval. *Sheldon Neeley moved to approve the performance management and compensation plan redesign and Rosalynn Bliss supported the motion. A vote was taken with 14 ayes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.*

VII. Audit and Governance Subcommittee Report

Mr. Cobbina request Mr. Lutz provide an update on behalf of the Audit and Governance Subcommittee. Mr. Lutz advised the FY2024 financial audit of the MEDC/MSF has begun and is expected to run through January of 2025 with the OAG releasing their opinion on the financial statements by the end of January with a published report by February or March. OAG continues work on the report for the Michigan Community Revitalization Program performance audit and we anticipate that it will be issued sometime in October at which time the subcommittee will meet to discuss the results.

VIII. Strategic Planning Subcommittee Report

Mr. Cobbina request Mr. Bakkal, on behalf of Dr. Pink, provide a Strategic Planning subcommittee update. Mr. Bakkal indicated the subcommittee reviewed the proposed budget presented today as well as the draft FY25 focus area targets which they hope to finalize and present for adoption at the November meeting.

IX. CEO Report

Mr. Messer again thanked the committee members for their continued service and advised if any of the members receive media or other inquiries, please direct them to Mr. Messer. He will handle as appropriate. Mr. Messer provided a legislative updated highlighting reorganization changes to the Grow MI Together Council, MACC and SHPO. Mr. Messer, with assistance from Aileen Bovan, provided clarifying definitions of diversity related to our small business work as requested at the July meeting.

X. Open Discussion

Mayor Hopewell commented on the Personnel and Compensation subcommittee report that its truly linking the objectives to the work of the individuals. Mayor Hopewell, echoed by Mayor Rosalynn Bliss, indicated there are a lot of outputs compared to outcomes in performance management. We need to discuss how we are ensuring outcomes as it related to the strategic plan, how are we meeting our goals, how are we looking at metrics and tying those together with performance.

Dr. Ono addressed the committee, happy to be selected to serve on this committee. He is the current Chair of the University Research Corridor (URC) in which U of M, MSU, and WSU participate. URC has their own strategic planning process and Dr. Ono reported that one of the responsibilities of the research universities is to be an economic spark plug and alignment with MEDC is critical. As we move forward with MEDC's strategic



MICHIGAN ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

plan, URC will use it as a guide so they can be a positive force in the State's economic Development.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:24 am.