



MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2012

10 a.m.—1 p.m.

MSU Medical School, Secchia Center
15 Michigan St. NE, Grand Rapids

Members present: Mary Lou Benecke
John W. Brown
Robert S. Collier
Stephen Forrest
Paul Hillegonds
Chris MacInnes
Jeff Metts
Greg Northrup
Doug Rothwell
Anmar Sarafa
Marilyn Schlack
Dayne Walling

Members absent: David Armstrong
Lizabeth Ardisana
Stephen D'Arcy
Kirk Lewis
Jeffrey Noel
John Rakolta, Jr.

Call in: Christopher Rizik
David Sowerby

MEDC staff present: Michael Finney, Douglas Smith, Minesh Mody, Jennifer Nelson, Carsten Hohnke, Mandy Rossman, Lynne Feldpausch

Call to order

Doug Rothwell called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. The meeting was held at the MSU Medical School, Secchia Center; 15 Michigan St. NE, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Public comment

Mr. Rothwell asked if anyone in attendance would like to provide public comment. No one responded.

Chairman report

Mr. Rothwell thanked Mr. Northrup for hosting the committee in Grand Rapids at the Medical School. He also asked the three new members, Paul Hillegonds, Anmar Sarafa, and David Sowerby, to introduce themselves to the committee.

A motion was made, after no comments were stated, to approve the notes from the February 15 meeting (no quorum) and the minutes from the December 6 meeting. First: Greg Northup; Second: Chris MacInnes. Yays—all. Nays—none. Passed unanimously.

A motion was made, after no comments were stated, to approve the Flex Benefit Plan. First: Chris MacInnes; Second: Stephen Forrest. Yays—all. Nays—none. Passed unanimously.

Presentations

Carsten Hohnke gave a presentation on the monthly scorecard data; noted were 34,000 potential jobs in the new Michigan Business Development and Community Revitalization program pipeline as well as \$4 billion in investment. Mr. Rizik asked how this compares to previous years under the MEGA program; Mr. Hohnke indicated he would provide that data to the committee. Mr. Walling requested the pipeline in core cities, such as Flint to be provided. Mr. Hohnke noted the report would be amended going forward with this information.

Josh Hundt provided a case study presentation on the new Michigan Business Development and Community Revitalization program as requested from the committee. Mr. Hundt outlined two specific projects slated for MSF approval and emphasized the program is working to fill in gaps of funding for companies along with other MEDC services such as talent acquisition, Pure Michigan Business Connect and others.

CEO report

Mr. Mike Finney provided details on the governor's investment mission to Europe. Some of the most important issues addressed by companies include the talent pool in Michigan, the cost of doing business in the state, and the quality of life. In addition, Mr. Finney outlined some new talent programs including a veterans focus being folded into the successful Shifting Gears program as well as the Community Ventures program which will address the structurally unemployed in the cities with the highest crime rates.

Mr. Finney also stated the Michigan State Fairgrounds site has been enveloped by the Land Bank and they are working to redevelop the properties into mixed use including residential, commercial and retail spaces.

Subcommittee updates

Mr. Carsten Hohnke provided a brief update on the Path to Top 10 Unemployment for the Strategic Planning subcommittee.

Mr. Chris Rizik provided a brief update on the budget.

Ms. Feldpausch gave a presentation, provided by Crowe Horwath, on the compensation study they completed for the MEDC.

Ms. MacInnes provided the update for the Audit and Governance subcommittee. She requested the entire committee approve the recommendation of audit acceptance at the yearly corporation board meeting; because a quorum was no longer available, action on this is pending.

Final comments

A presentation by the MSU Medical School and The Right Place was provided with lunch for members following the business meeting.

The meeting and presentation adjourned at approximately 1 p.m.

Jennifer R.V. Nelson, Secretary

June 19, 2012