



**MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

**January 29, 2013**

**10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**300 N. Washington Square, Lansing 48913**

**Members present:** Chris MacInnes  
D. Jeffrey Noel (Vice Chair)  
David Sowerby  
Doug Rothwell (Chair)  
John Brown  
John Rakolta  
Lizabeth Ardisana  
Marilyn Schlack  
Mary Lou Benecke  
Paul Hillegonds  
Robert Collier  
Stephen D’Arcy

**Members absent:** Christopher Rizik  
David Armstrong  
Dayne Walling  
Greg Northrup  
Jeff Metts  
Kirk Lewis  
Stephen Forrest

**Member calling in:** Anmar Sarafa

**MEDC Staff Present:** Michael Finney, Steve Hilfinger, Jennifer Nelson, Minesh Mody, Doug Smith, Amy Cell, Leslie Hornung, Lynne Feldpausch, Carsten Hohnke, Martin Dober, Alice Florida

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Doug Rothwell at 10:09 a.m.



**Public Comment:**

Jim Casha, 2582 Woodstock, Detroit MI 48203, spoke regarding the disposition by the Land Bank Authority of the land known as the Michigan State Fairgrounds. A copy of his statements was provided to each of the members.

**Chairman's Report:**

It was moved by Chris MacInnes, seconded by Marilyn Schlack, to accept the minutes of the November 13, 2012 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

A number of Executive Committee members will be attending the Governor's Economic Summit scheduled on March 18 and 19 in Detroit. It was consequently moved by Chris MacInnes, seconded by David Sowerby, to locate the March 19 Executive Committee meeting in Detroit following the close of the Summit. The motion passed unanimously. The March 19 Executive Committee meeting will thus be conducted at 1:30pm at Cobo Center.

**CEO Report:**

Michael Finney discussed recent investments by companies in Michigan and also discussed the Economic Summit.

Leslie Hornung, Senior Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations, reported upon the new strategy for Marketing Michigan including major advertisements in print and digital media, the use of various social media, involvement of a new public relations firm and revision of the MEDC website. Discussion was held regarding use of the Pure Michigan brand in both tourism and business advertising.

Steve Hilfinger, the new MEDC Chief Operating Officer, was introduced by Mr. Finney.

**Toda America:**

Committee members had received documentation supporting the use of FY2013 contingency funds to complete incentives to this company. After deliberation, it was moved by Lizabeth Ardisana, supported by Stephen D'Arcy, to approve **Resolution 2013-1** which provides for support of the investment. Motion passed unanimously.

**Pure Michigan Focus:**

A discussion was led by Carsten Hohnke, Vice President, Strategy, Policy and Corporate Projects, regarding the MEDC focus on job creation through business investment, community vitality, talent enhancement and State branding.



An economic overview and forecast summary was presented by Mr. Hohnke using documents in the record. A major takeaway reflected the growth of the 60+ population indicating probable growth in the health care sector. The documentation mirrors the national trend toward modest positive growth in the private sector, in particular manufacturing, health care and professional services, with substantial decrease in public sector jobs.

**Finance Subcommittee**

Lizabeth Ardisana presented the committee report indicating a positive fund balance for 2012.

**Audit and Governance Subcommittee:**

Stephen D’Arcy presented the committee report.

The subcommittee also reviewed revisions to the Executive Committee Code of Conduct and Ethics which had been recommended by the MEDC legal staff. The revisions include the requirement for all Committee members to sign a certification on an annual basis.

After review and amendment, Chris MacInnes moved, seconded by Jeff Noel, to approve **Resolution 2013-2** adopting the revised MEDC Executive Committee Code of Conduct and Ethics. Motion passed unanimously.

**Closed Session:**

Mary Lou Benecke moved, seconded by Stephen D’Arcy, to approve **Resolution 2013-3** authorizing closed session in order to consider a personnel matter. Motion passed unanimously.

Staff and members of the public were excused.

The Executive Committee returned to public session at 11:55 a.m. At this time, Stephen D’Arcy moved, seconded by Chris MacInnes, to approve **Resolution 2013-4** amending the agreement between the MEDC and the CEO to increase the salary of the CEO by 3 percent effective January 1, 2013. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.