

**MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND  
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES  
November 13, 2025**

**Member Present**

Quentin L. Messer, Jr.

**Members Joined Remotely**

Britany L. Affolter-Caine

Susan Corbin

Wesley Eklund

Rachael Eubanks

Dimitrius Hutcherson

Michael B. Kapp (on behalf of Director Wieferich, designation attached)

Lynda Rossi

Susan Tellier

Randy Thelen

**Absent**

Dan Meyering

Leon Richardson

**I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

Mr. Messer called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. The meeting was held in person in the Lake Michigan Conference Room at the MEDC headquarters building in Lansing.

Mr. Messer introduced Ms. Davenport, MSF Administrator, who conducted the attendance roll call.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Davenport explained the process for members of the public to participate. Public comment was had.

*Dr. Britany Affolter Caine joined the meeting virtually at 9:05 a.m.*

**III. COMMUNICATIONS**

Ms. Davenport stated that there are no communications to report this month.

**IV. ADMINISTRATIVE**

**Resolution 2025-115 FY2026 MSF Annual Allocation of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Jobs Trust Fund Appropriations**

Hannah Rethmetal, Interim Chief Financial Officer and Managing Director of Strategic Financial Planning, supported by MEDC staff, provided the Board with information regarding the requested action. The request involves consideration of a resolution to approve the MSF annual allocation of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Jobs Trust Fund Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2026.

Quentin L. Messer, Jr. motioned for the approval of the MSF FY2026 21<sup>st</sup> Century Jobs Trust Fund Appropriations. Lynda Rossi seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 9 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: Dr. Britany Affolter-Caine, Susan Corbin, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (on behalf of Director Wieferich, designation attached), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Lynda Rossi, Susan Tellier; Nays: None; Recused: None.

*Randy Thelen joined the meeting virtually at 9:23 a.m.*

## V. MARKET THE STATE

### **Resolutions 2025-116; 2025-117; 2025-118 Travel Marketing Contract Approvals**

Kelly Wolgamott, Vice President of Pure Michigan, provided the Board with information regarding the requested action. The request involves the consideration of three resolutions to approve Travel Marketing Representation in Germany, Austria and Switzerland to TravelMarketing Romberg GmbH; Travel Marketing Representation in the United Kingdom, Ireland and Scotland to Cellet Marketing and Public Relations LTD; and a Travel Public Relations Contract to FINN Partners, Inc.

Dimitrius Hutcherson motioned for the approval of the Travel Marketing Contract to TravelMarketing Romberg GmbH. Quentin L. Messer, Jr. seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 10 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: Dr. Britany Affolter-Caine, Susan Corbin, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (on behalf of Director Wieferich, designation attached), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Lynda Rossi, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen; Nays: None; Recused: None.

Dimitrius Hutcherson motioned for the approval of the Travel Marketing Contract to Cellet Marketing and Public Relations LTD. Quentin L. Messer, Jr. seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 10 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: Dr. Britany Affolter-Caine, Susan Corbin, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (on behalf of Director Wieferich, designation attached), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Lynda Rossi, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen; Nays: None; Recused: None.

Michael B. Kapp motioned for the approval of the Travel Public Relations Contract to FINN Partners, Inc. Quentin L. Messer, Jr. seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 10 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: Dr. Britany Affolter-Caine, Susan Corbin, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (on behalf of Director Wieferich, designation attached), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Lynda Rossi, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen; Nays: None; Recused: None.

*Randy Thelen, recused, left the meeting at 9:26 a.m.*

*Dr. Britany Affolter-Caine, recused, left the meeting at 9:26 a.m.*

## **VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **Resolution 2025-119, Approval of Consent Agenda Items**

Mr. Messer asked if there were any questions from Board Members regarding items under the Consent Agenda. There being none, Susan Corbin motioned for approval of the following:

- a. Proposed October 28, 2025, Meeting Minutes
- b. FY2026 Small Business Funding Allocations **2025-120**
- c. FY2026 Entrepreneurship & Innovation Funding Allocations **2025-121; 2025-122; 2025-123; 2025-124; 2025-125; 2025-126; 2025-127; 2025-128; 2025-129; 2025-130**
- d. Business Marketing Contract: Lambert **2025-131**
- e. Seasonal Travel Guide RFP Award **2025-132**
- f. Travel Marketing & Advertising Campaign Contract Amendment: MMGY Global, LLC **2025-133**

Susan Corbin motioned for the approval of Resolution 2025-119 to approve the Consent Agenda. Quentin L. Messer, Jr. seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 8 ayes; 0 nays; 2 recused.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: Susan Corbin, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (on behalf of Director Wieferich, designation attached), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Lynda Rossi, Susan Tellier; Nays: None; Recused: Dr. Britany Affolter-Caine; Randy Thelen.

Mr. Messer adjourned the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

November 10, 2025

MSF Fund Manager  
MEDC  
300 N. Washington Square  
Lansing, Michigan

Dear Fund Manager,

This is to advise that I am recusing myself from voting and excuse myself during the discussion of the following items on the Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Agenda of November 13, 2025.

- FY26 Funding Allocation – Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center \$3,050,000

The reason for my recusal is to avoid the appearance of a conflict with these items.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Thelen", written in a cursive style.

Randy Thelen



November 12, 2025

MSF Fund Manager  
MEDC  
300 N. Washington Square  
Lansing, Michigan

Dear Fund Manager,

This is to advise that I am recusing myself from voting and excuse myself during the discussion of the Consent Agenda because of one item that presents a potential conflict of interest during the Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting on Thursday, November 13, 2025.

- MTRAC within the E&I budget

Many thanks –

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Britany Affolter-Caine".

Britany Affolter-Caine  
Executive Director  
Research Universities for Michigan (RU4M)



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.  
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

Ms. Rhonda Bishop  
Board Relations Liaison  
Michigan Strategic Fund Office  
300 N. Washington Square  
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Bishop:

I hereby confirm and ratify my designation of Michael B. Kapp, Administrator, Michigan Department of Transportation, as the person authorized and empowered to act in my stead for Michigan Strategic Fund meetings that I am unable to attend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Wieferich", written over the printed name.

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.  
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp  
Executive File