



Executive Committee Minutes

May 22, 2024

Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N Washington Square Lansing MI 48913
Or Virtually via Zoom

Members Present & Virtual Attendance:

Beth Ardisana	Sheldon Neeley
Awenate Cobbina	Santa Ono
April Clobes	Brian Rich
Krista Flynn	Bob Sutherland
Fadwa Hammoud	Gina Jacquart Thorsen
Tom Lutz	Tony Tomczak
Mike McLauchlan	Beverly Walker-Griffea
Bob McMahan	Carla Walker-Miller
LaJune Montgomery-Tabron	

Members Absent:

Kyle Caldwell
Bobby Hopewell
Bill Pink

Staff Present:

Christin Armstrong	Lynne Feldpausch
Steve Bakkal	Ian McCorvie
Lavonne Blonde	Quentin Messer
Amiee Evans	Jill Trepkoski

I. Call to order

Mr. Cobbina called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. He requested that Ms. Blonde provide any necessary communications. There were no communications. A roll call was performed to determine attendance. A quorum was present. The meeting was held at the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, 300 N. Washington Sq., Lansing, MI 48913. Members of the Executive Committee, MEDC staff, and the general public could also participate virtually via Zoom.

II. Public Comment

Mr. Cobbins invited public comment. There was no public comment.

III. Chairman's Report



Mr. Cobbina asked if there were any questions, changes, or corrections to the March 19, 2024 minutes. There were none. *Krista Flynn moved to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2024, meeting and Bob McMahan supported the motion. A vote was taken with 15 aye votes, 0 nay votes, 2 abstain. The motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Cobbina welcomed, and introduced, new members, Fadwa Hammoud, Bob Sutherland, and Carla Walker-Miller. Mr. Cobbina also congratulated Dr. Beverly Walker-Griffea on her upcoming retirement and thanked her for her service.

Mr. Cobbina advised that while we are gathering new member information for subcommittee appointments, he would like to offer current members to also submit their subcommittee preferences, to Amiee Evans or Lavonne Blonde, if you would like an opportunity to serve on a different subcommittee.

IV. Personnel & Compensation Subcommittee Report

Mr. Cobbina requested that Ms. Flynn and Ms. Feldpausch provide an update on behalf of the Personnel & Compensation Subcommittee. Ms. Flynn provided an update on the CEO evaluation process, which is now complete. Ms. Flynn also advised that with the recent reorganization, the divisional goals are no longer applicable, and we will be waiving these goals for FY24. Employees will still be held accountable for organizational and individual goals as well as individual competencies. Finally, with the focus on continuous improvement, we will be utilizing a third-party vendor to evaluate, and develop recommendations, on our current compensation practices and policies as well as our employee review process for corporate staff.

V. CEO Report

Mr. Messer thanked the committee members for their leadership and continued service, welcomed the new board members and acknowledged the reappointments of April Clobes, Krista Flynn, Bobby Hopewell, Tom Lutz, Mayor Sheldon Neeley and Tony Tomczak. Mr. Messer provided an update on the recent reorganization as well as key positions filled within the Michigan Office of Defense and Aerospace Innovation. He also gave an overview of the collaboration with Make it in Michigan strategy and Grow Michigan Together Council.

Resolution Authorizing Closed Session

Mr. Cobbina noted that Mr. Messer requested a closed session to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute. *Krista. Flynn moved to authorize the closed session and Bob McMahan supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 17 aye votes and 0 nay votes. The resolution was passed unanimously.*

Closed Session began at 10:58 am and ended at 11:45 am.



VI. Open Discussion

Mr. Cobbina mentioned recent news reports about current and former MEDC's Executive Committee Members and their business or institutions interactions with Legislature and MEDC. With discussing specifics, he reminded committee members that while this is a volunteer position, everyone signs a conflict-of-interest policy and asked that, as professionals, we go about and beyond to avoid the appearance of real or perceived conflicts of interest. Christin Armstrong provided a brief overview of the policy. Mr. Cobbina opened the floor for any additional open discussion. There was no additional open discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:51am.