

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
August 27, 2024

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)

Dan Meyering

Leon Richardson

Charles P. Rothstein

Susan Tellier

Randy Thelen

Cindy Warner

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mr. Messer called the meeting to order at 9:00 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 Board Liaison, who conducted the attendance roll call.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Cindy Warner joined the meeting remotely at 9:02 a.m.

Susan Tellier joined the meeting remotely at 9:03 a.m.

Leon Richardson joined the meeting remotely at 9:06 a.m.

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

III. COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Davenport stated that one communication was shared with the MSF Board via email on Friday, August 23rd.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution 2024-125, 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, Wesley Eklund motioned for the approval of the following:

- a. Proposed July 23, 2024, Meeting Minutes
- b. CDBG Public Gathering Spaces: Calumet Grant Amendment **2024-126**

Wesley Eklund motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-125 to approve the consent agenda. Susan Corbin seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 13 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Susan Corbin, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (on behalf of Director Wieferich, designation attached), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None.

V. DEVELOP ATTRACTIVE PLACES

a. Resolution 2024-127 Grand Rapids Amphitheater and Soccer Stadium Mixed-Use

Project. Mackenzie Miller, Senior Community Development Manager, supported by Kara Wood of Grand Action Foundation 2.0, and Jessica Solis with the City of Grand Rapids, provided the Board with information regarding the requested action. This action involves the consideration of a resolution to approve a Transformational Brownfield Plan incentive package in the aggregate amount of \$252,357,792 for Grand Action Foundation 2.0 and the City of Grand Rapids Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

Following discussion, Susan Tellier motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-127 for the Transformational Brownfield Plan. Randy Thelen seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 13 ayes, 0 nays, 0 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Susan Corbin, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (on behalf of Director Wieferich, designation attached), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None.

Britany L. Affolter-Caine left the meeting at 9:29 a.m. due to connection issues. Britany L. AffolterCaine rejoined the meeting remotely at 9:35 a.m.

b. Resolution 2024-128 The Downs Redevelopment Project Brownfield Act 381 Work Plan.

Dominic Romano, Senior Community Development Manager, supported by Seth Herkowitz of Hunter Pasteur, and George Lahanas of the City of Northville, provided the Board with information regarding the requested action. This action involves the consideration of a resolution to approve a Brownfield Act 381 Work Plan for eligible eligible activities capped at \$2,083,563, utilizing the current state to local capture ratio, for the City of Northville Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

Following discussion, Quentin L. Messer, Jr. motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-128 for the Brownfield Act 381 Work Plan. Susan Corbin seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 13 ayes, 0 nays, 0 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Susan Corbin, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (on behalf of Director Wieferich, designation attached), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None.

Randy Thelen, recused, left the meeting at 9:42 a.m.

VI. ATTRACT, RETAIN, AND GROW BUSINESS

a. Resolution 2024-129 Northland Corporation Michigan Business Development Program Grant. Sam Sedlecky, Senior Business Development Manager, supported by Brittney Mizer, Business Development Project Manager, Joe Flickinger and Andy Doberstein of Northland Corporation, and Jakob Bigard of The Right Place, provided the Board with information regarding this action. This action involves the consideration of a resolution to approve a Michigan Business Development Program Grant in the amount of \$1,280,000 for Northland Corporation.

Charles P. Rothstein motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-129 to approve the Michigan Business Development Program Grant. Quentin L. Messer, Jr. seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 12 ayes, 0 nays, 1 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Susan Corbin, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (on behalf of Director Wieferich, designation attached), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: Randy Thelen.

VII. INFORMATIONAL

Mr. Messer noted that the meeting packet included the Michigan Strategic Fund Delegation of Authority Report from July 1, 2024, to July 31, 2024. There were no questions regarding the report.

Mr. Messer adjourned the meeting at 9:52 a.m.



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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 "Bradley C. Wieferich".

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

August 26, 2024

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 item on the Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Agenda of August 27, 2024.

- Northland Corporation

The reason for my recusal is to avoid the appearance of a conflict with this item.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Thelen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Randy Thelen

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: degross.derek@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Derek DeGross
<degross.derek@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2024 10:52 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine. The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only \$750,000 would fund copper, while more than \$49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.
2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.
3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.
4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.
5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C2faa9bf28d604edd025808dcbd39cbec%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638593303146485125%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoIMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IjE1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C60000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=D0BZadEt0DS8NbjubKbBh%2BMvbiAManrpdMEnSP LP%2B%2FM%3D&reserved=0>

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Derek DeGross
985 Marjorie St Hammond, WI 54015-9639
degross.derek@gmail.com