

**Eastern U.P. Regional Planning & Development Commission
Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 24, 2018
SmartZone; 2345 Meridian; Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

Members Present

Brad Neumann, MSU Extension (Video),	Colleen Duflo, Luce Co. Private
Diane Patrick, Mackinac Co.	Gary Reid, Clark Twp.-Mack. Co.
Jeff Holt, Minority Rep.	Jim Hill, Mackinac Co.
Jim Moore, Kinross Charter	John Waltman, Luce Co.
Kimberly Muller, LSSU	Richard Timmer, Chip. Co. Private

Partners

Chris Olson, Chippewa County EDC

Staff:

Jeff Hagan	Alicia Williams	Ellen Benoit	Kim Wilcox
Nathan Coon			

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Chairman John Waltman.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment addressed at this meeting.

AGENDA APPROVAL

R. Timmer moved to approve the agenda as presented. G. Reid supported. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **July 25, 2018 Board Minutes**

R. Timmer moved to approve the July 25, 2018, EUPRPDC Board minutes as presented.
J. Holt supported. Motion passed.

- **September 5, 2018 Executive Committee Minutes**

The September 5, 2018, Executive Committee minutes were approved as submitted following a motion by J. Holt and support by R. Timmer.

CONSENT AGENDA

R. Timmer moved to approve the consent agenda items which included the Financial Report, Program Updates, and the Director's Report. G. Reid supported. Motion passed.

It was noted that the agency's billable rate was recently adjusted to help offset some costs associated with local projects. J. Hagan indicated that the agency could consider creating contracts for local projects with a set follow-up timeline upon completion of plans to balance expenses.

NEW BUSINESS--Board Member Updates

J. Holt indicated that as funding for the Soo Locks has recently been approved, the EDC will be planning a summit in Spring 2019 for potential contractors and subcontractors with a focus on requirements of obtaining federal contracts.

G. Reid indicated that the Maple Sawmill has recently suspended their expansion plans at this time due to the recent tariffs.

R. Timmer described a recent bill that has recently been introduced in the Senate which would release weight limits for natural gas trucks which are currently in place in the spring. The need to repeal this bill was discussed as it would be hazardous to the current road conditions.

C. Olsen mentioned that the CCEDC will be applying for an EDA Grant for funding for a consultant to focus on the infrastructure of its current assets.

He also indicated that he was pleased with the recent drone footage of the industrial park and plans to upload the material on their website.

Dr. Muller provided an update of Lake Superior State University and mentioned that the University is considering an "Internship Fair" to promote the internship program as internships are beneficial to organizations as well as students.

B. Neumann described recent trainings provided by MSU Extension including ballot proposal education and land division reviews. Future trainings include zoning board of appeals and county commissioner training.

OLD BUSINESS

It was noted that the EUPRPDC Procurement Policy will be presented for approval to the Executive Committee in December.

The RPI application has been submitted and should have a response by early December.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.