

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

**Wednesday, January 27, 2021; 11:00 a.m.
Virtual Zoom Meeting**

Members Present

Allison Watkins—Newberry Village	Bill Henry, Luce Co.
Brad Neumann, MSU Extension	Dean Reid, Mackinac, Private
Don McLean, Chippewa Co.	Jim Moore, Kinross Charter
Joe Dobrowolski, Chip. Co. Private	Kelly Freeman, Sault Ste. Marie
Kimberly Muller, LSSU	Mark Clymer, Clark Twp.-Mack. Co.
Mike Patrick, Mackinac Co.	

Guests

Erik Baron
Hunter Nostrant

Partners

Chris Olson, Chippewa County EDC

Staff:

Jeff Hagan	Katrina Harcourt	Kim Wilcox	Nathan Coon
------------	------------------	------------	-------------

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment addressed at this meeting.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was noted that there were additional items to be included in the agenda: Introduction of new staff and new board members and an additional outgoing board member recognition. D. McLean moved to approve the agenda with the additional items noted. K. Freeman supported. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 28, 2020 Board Minutes

D. McLean moved to approve the October 28, 2020 EUPRPDC Board minutes as presented. B. Neumann supported. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 14, 2020 Executive Committee Minutes

D. Reid moved to approve the December 14, 2020 Executive Committee minutes as presented. D. McLean supported. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

D. McLean moved to approve the consent agenda items which included the Financial Report and Program Updates. A. Watkins supported. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION

Don McLean

CEO Hagan presented a Resolution of Recognition to Board Member Don McLean expressing appreciation for his service as a Board Member for the past 12 years. His many contributions were noted with best wishes for his retirement. K. Freeman moved to approve the Resolution of Recognition of Extraordinary Service and Leadership for Board Member Don McLean. D. Reid supported and the resolution was declared adopted.

A Watkins	B. Henry	B. Neumann	D. Reid	J. Moore
J. Dobrowolski	K. Freeman	K. Muller	M. Clymer	M. Patrick

Colleen Duflo

CEO Hagan also recognized outgoing Board Member Colleen Duflo for her years of service as a Board Member representing the private sector in Luce County.

NEW STAFF AND BOARD MEMBERS INTRODUCTIONS

CEO Hagan introduced new staff member, Katrina Harcourt, who was recently hired to fill the Planner I position. Katrina is a recent graduate from Florida Atlantic University and is currently residing in Jacksonville, Florida. At this time, she is working remotely and intends to relocate to the Region in the near future.

Introductions were also made for new Board Members—Erik Baron and Hunter Nostrant. Erik Baron, as the newly elected Chippewa County Commissioner, will be representing Chippewa County. Hunter Nostrant, CEO of Helen Newberry Joy Hospital, will be representing Luce County, Private Sector.

NEW BUSINESS

Director’s Report

CEO Hagan provided an update of the programs highlighted in the Director’s Report which was included in the meeting packet. K. Freeman moved to approve the Director’s Report as submitted. D. McLean supported. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Cell Phone Policy Amendment

CEO Hagan recommended an amendment to the Cell Phone Policy to include a \$25/month reimbursement for part-time employees. The current policy allows for a \$50/month reimbursement for full-time employees and would like to include a reimbursement for part-time employees for cell phone usage especially while working remotely. M. Patrick moved to approve the amendment to the Cell Phone Policy to include a \$25/month reimbursement for part-time employees. K. Freeman supported. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Resolution: P.A. 152--2021

This P. A. 152 Resolution approves the exemption of employees paying 20% of their health insurance premiums. The EUPRPDC can be exempt as the health insurance premiums fall below the maximum threshold. Public Act 152 allows for an annual extension with a 2/3 vote of the Commission. D. McLean moved to approve the 2021 P.A. 152 Resolution. M. Patrick supported. The resolution was declared adopted.

A Watkins-Yes	B. Henry-Yes	B. Neumann-Yes	D. Reid-Yes	D. McLean-Yes
J. Moore-Yes	J. Dobrowolski-Yes	K. Freeman-Yes	K. Muller-Yes	M. Clymer-Yes
M. Patrick-Yes				

Conflict of Interest

The Conflict-of-Interest Policy requires board members and alternates to sign the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form annually. Members are asked to review the policy, complete the disclosure form, and return the form to Kim Wilcox (kwilcox@eup-planning.org) at the EUPRPDC office.

2021 Meeting Dates

Members reviewed the proposed 2021 Meeting Schedule for the Commission and Executive Committee:

Commission: January 27, April 21, July 21, & October 27
Location & Time TBD—Anticipate virtual meetings until possible to meet in person

Executive Committee: March 12, June 11, September 10 and December 10
Location TBD; Time: 11:00 a.m.

Board Member Updates

D. McLean expressed appreciation of Regional Planning and Board Members for all their efforts that have been accomplished during his tenure as a Board Member. He noted the development of the GIS Department as well as the increase in economic development efforts throughout the Region.

B. Neumann indicated that a Zoning Administrator Program will be starting next week. He also noted that the Basic Citizen Planner training will be available online in April.

K. Freeman mentioned there are three new marijuana shops opening in Sault Ste. Marie and possibly two additional shops opening in the future.

A Watkins noted that the Village of Newberry is beginning to codify their ordinances.

J. Dobrowolski mentioned that Superior Fabrication recently hired a new CEO and a new Vice President of Sales.

D. Reid indicated that MEA has applied for a \$70,000 BIA grant for Sault Ste. Tribe of Chippewa Indians to administer funds for an Opportunity Zone in St. Ignace.

K. Muller mentioned that face-to-face instruction at Lake Superior State University continues this semester.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m. following a motion by K. Freeman and support by M. Patrick.