

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

**Wednesday, April 27, 2022; 9:00 a.m.  
Smart Zone; Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

**Members Present**

Allison Watkins—Newberry Village  
Darcy Long, City of St. Ignace  
Jeff Holt, Minority Rep.  
Kelly Freeman, Sault Ste. Marie  
Mike Patrick, Mackinac Co.

Brad Neumann, MSU Extension  
Dean Reid, Mackinac, Private  
Jim Moore, Kinross Charter  
Kimberly Muller, LSSU  
Richard Timmer, Chip. Co. Private

**Partners**

Chris Olson, Chippewa County EDC

**Staff:**

Jeff Hagan  
Mariah Goos

Ellen Benoit  
Mary Ann Heidemann

Katrina Harcourt  
Nathan Coon

Kim Wilcox

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by M. Patrick.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment addressed at this meeting.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

R. Timmer moved to approve the agenda as presented. J. Moore supported. Motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 26, 2022, Board Minutes**

Upon review of the January 26, 2022, Board meeting minutes, it was noted that clarification of D. Reid’s Board Update should be added to indicate that MEA is considering the State Land Bank options rather than utilizing a County Land Bank as a county land bank is currently not available. K. Freeman moved to approve the January 26, 2022, Board meeting minutes with the additional information. D. Reid supported. Motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 11, 2022, Executive Committee Minutes**

D. Reid moved to approve the March 11, 2022, Executive Committee minutes as presented. R. Timmer supported. Motion passed.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

R. Timmer moved to approve the consent agenda items which included the Financial Report and Program Updates. A. Watkins supported. Motion passed.

**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. R. Timmer moved to approve the Director’s Report as submitted. D. Long supported. Motion passed.

**Resolution—CEDS Annual Performance Report--2022**

CEO Hagan provided a PowerPoint presentation of the 2022 CEDS Annual Performance Report. This report is an update of the 2020 5-Year Plan describing the goals, objectives, and demographics and is available for review on the EUP Regional Planning website. The Regional Economic Development Advisory Collaborative (REDAC) reviewed the Report at their meeting on April 13. As this report requires approval of the EUPRPDC Board, R. Timmer moved to approve the resolution for the adoption of the 2022 EUP Performance Report and continued designation of the EUP as an economic district. J. Moore supported. The motion passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.

A. Watkins-Yes	B. Neumann-Yes	D. Long-Yes	D. Reid-Yes	J. Holt-Yes
J. Moore-Yes	K. Freeman-Yes	K. Muller-Yes	M. Patrick-Yes	R. Timmer-Yes

**Resolution—EDA Partnership Planning--2022**

A resolution authorizing the application to the Economic Development Administration for a continuation of a Partnership Planning Assistance Grant was reviewed. This grant totals \$210,000 with a match of \$140,000 for the period of July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025. The resolution also designates CEO J. Hagan as the signatory and grant recipient to implement the EDA Partnership Award. K. Freeman moved to approve the 2022 EDA Partnership Planning Resolution. J. Moore supported. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

A. Watkins-Yes	B. Neumann-Yes	D. Long-Yes	D. Reid-Yes	J. Holt-Yes
J. Moore-Yes	K. Freeman-Yes	K. Muller-Yes	M. Patrick-Yes	R. Timmer-Yes

**Resolution—Michigan Arts & Culture Council (MACC)—FY 2023**

The FY2023 Michigan Arts & Culture Council (MACC) resolution approving the application to the MACC Re-Granting Services Program was reviewed. This resolution authorizes EUP Regional Planning to administer the contracts for the MACC Minigrant, Professional and Organizational Development Program, and School Supplies & Equipment and Bus Trek Grants for Fiscal Year 2023. J. Moore moved to approve the MACC Program Resolution as presented. R. Timmer supported. The motion passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.

A. Watkins-Yes	B. Neumann-Yes	D. Long-Yes	D. Reid-Yes	J. Holt-Yes
J. Moore-Yes	K. Freeman-Yes	K. Muller-Yes	M. Patrick-Yes	R. Timmer-Yes

**Board Member Updates**

Allison Watkins: Noted that the Village of Newberry recently contracted with GFL for garbage pickup which includes curbside recycling. Also, the village is considering collaborating with MEDC on a CDBG grant for housing.

Brad Neumann: Provided links for upcoming events:

- Planning & Zoning for Solar Energy Systems – <https://events.anr.msu.edu/pzsolar>
- Capital Asset Management and Planning – <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/fiscally-ready-communities-capital-asset-management-and-planning>
- Managing Internal Controls – <https://events.anr.msu.edu/internalcontrols>
- From Exclusive to Inclusive: The evolving single-family zone – <https://events.anr.msu.edu/ExclusivetoInclusive062122>
- Opening Doors to Attainable Housing – <https://events.anr.msu.edu/OpeningDoorsJuly20> or <https://events.anr.msu.edu/OpeningDoorsJuly21>

Richard Timmer: Suggested that a review of the Board Bylaws be considered, especially pertaining to the policy of removing board members from the Board. This item will be added to the next Executive Committee meeting agenda.

Jim Moore: Described the construction of temporary housing for employees of the lock construction site as well as line 5 pipeline. Also mentioned the new digester the Township has up and running, funded by an EGLE grant, looking for food waste and oils from large scale producers that needs to be disposed of.

Darcy Long: Indicated that the City of St. Ignace is working with MDOT on determining improvements to Ferry Lane.

Dean Reid: Mentioned that MEA is assisting with a tribal community on a project for a tribal fish processing facility in Epoufette.

Jeff Holt: Described recent Building Trades events hosted at the SmartZone—a Job Fair which was well attended with over 50 applications and an event the next day for students with a hands-on educational component.

Mike Patrick: Provided an update of possible utilization of ARPA funds.

**Old Business**

The next Commission meeting is scheduled to be held on July 27, 2022.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m. following a motion by R. Timmer and support by J. Holt.