

Van Buren County Economic Development Corporation

March 1, 2021 | 1 p.m.
Location: Zoom Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Roll Call

Member	Term Expires	Present/Absent
Randall Peat, Chair	BOC Appointed	Present
Tom Stanek, Vice Chair	2/13/2027	Present
Rodney Dragicevich, Board Member	2/13/2026	Present
Carrie Troyer, Board Member	3/13/2024	Present
Ken Ratzlaff, Board Member	2/13/2024	Absent
Jim Warner, Board Member	2/13/2022	Present
Mike Toth, Board Member	2/13/2022	Present
Jeff Hannan, Finance Chair	2/13/2024	Present
Zachary Morris, Secretary	2/13/2024	Present
Paul Schincariol, Board of Commissioners Representative	BOC Appointed	Absent

Others in attendance:

- *John Faul, Van Buren County Administrator*
- *Kurt Doroh, Van Buren County Commissioner*
- *Mike Chappell, Van Buren County Commissioner*
- *Sarah Snoeyink, Economic Development Coordinator*

Call to Order

Randall Peat, chair of the board, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

Tom Stanek moved to approve the agenda. Rodney Dragicevich supported the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 1, 2021 Meeting

Tom Stanek moved to approve the February 1, 2021 meeting minutes as amended. Rodney Dragicevich supported the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Review & Approval of Invoices

Rodney Dragicevich moved to approve the invoices. Tom Stanek supported the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. Discussion regarding the Antero project schedule followed.

Open Issues

Van Buren County Economic Development Review

Zach Morris provided an update on several ongoing projects including a USDA grant application for site development studies and three newly announce economic development projects in Van Buren County. Jeff Hannan asked that the Economic Development Dashboard be updated to include goals for 2020-21. Mr. Morris said the report would be updated accordingly. Discussion regarding forthcoming economic development projects followed.

Review Financial Reports

The January 2021 financial reports were discussed; February reports were not available at the time of meeting. Sarah Snoeyink provided an update on the Revolving Loan Fund balance and the most recent job retention loans.

Review County Strategic Fund Balance

Sarah Snoeyink shared that no funds have been allocated to the County Strategic fund balance yet and provided an update on steps being taken to secure funds.

Palisades Closure Update

Zach Morris shared that a draft of the EDA grant application had been revised and was in the process of being finalized. Randall Peat shared his thoughts regarding a report on best practices for powerplant and military base closings. Discussion followed regarding identifying a point person to lead efforts to mitigate the effects of the Palisades closure.

Other Business

MEDC Recognizing Market Van Buren as Partner

Zach Morris shared that the Michigan Economic Development Corporation had formally recognized Market Van Buren as partner in economic development, which is a significant milestone for Market Van Buren.

Adjournment

Jim Warner moved to adjourn the meeting. Tom Stanek supported the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting is April 5, 2021 at 1 p.m. The meeting will be held via Zoom.



Zach Morris, Secretary of the Board

4/5/2021

Date