

# Van Buren County Economic Development Corporation

August 8, 2022 | 1 p.m.

Location: Board of Commissioners Chambers

## Meeting Minutes

### Roll Call

| Member  | Term Expires  | Present/Absent |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| Tom Stanek, Chair                                       | 2/13/2027     | P              |
| Rodney Dragicevich, Vice Chair                          | 2/13/2026     | P              |
| Carrie Troyer, Treasurer                                | 3/13/2024     | P              |
| Zachary Morris, Secretary                               | 2/13/2024     | P              |
| Daywi Cook, Board Member                                | 2/13/2024     | A              |
| Jeff Hannan, Board Member                               | 2/13/2024     | P              |
| Randall Peat, Board of Commissioners Representative     | BOC Appointed | P              |
| Paul Schincariol, Board of Commissioners Representative | BOC Appointed | P              |
| Robert Smith, Board Member                              | 2/13/2028     | A              |
| Mike Toth, Board Member                                 | 2/13/2028     | P              |

Others in attendance:

- Sarah Snoeyink, Programs and Projects Manager at Market Van Buren
- Julia Wall, Economic Development Coordinator at Market Van Buren
- Kurt Doroh, Van Buren County Commissioner
- Don Hanson, Van Buren County Commissioner
- Tim Woodhams and Jeff Swenarton (Property Assessed Clean Energy Program)

### Call to Order

Tom Stanek, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

### Approval of Meeting Agenda

A request by Sarah Snoeyink was made to move the New Business Item (Property Assessed Clean Energy Program) to follow the Open Issue items. The board agreed to add this item to the agenda.

### Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Rodney Dragicevich moved to approve the July 11, 2022 meeting minutes. Mike Toth supported the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

### Open Issues

#### *Palisades Update*

Ms. Snoeyink gave an update about the decommissioning process for Palisades. Market Van Buren is in the process of hiring for an Economic Recovery Specialist. This position is funded for two years.

### *Broadband Update*

Ms. Snoeyink gave an update on broadband and the research completed by DCS Technologies. 31-64 million dollars are needed to fill the gap for broadband in Van Buren County. Randy Peat explained the managed versus unmanaged funds.

### *Property Assessed Clean Energy Program (PACE)*

Tim Woodhams gave a presentation regarding the Property Assessed Clean Energy Program. Discussion followed regarding next steps for the PACE program. Mr. Stanek recommended that the EDC Board take this information, review it and will be added to the next EDC board meeting. No decision was made to adopt this program yet.

### *Van Buren County Economic Development Review*

Zach Morris gave an update regarding the Economic Development in Van Buren County. He gave an example of Tri-Mation expanding their facility and expansion project.

### *Review Financial Reports*

Ms. Snoeyink gave an update about the improved communication with the county regarding bringing all of the businesses current, so no business will fall behind on their payment plan.

### *Loan Refinance Agreement*

Mr. Morris gave an update regarding the attorney reviewing loan agreement documents and anticipates the attorney will have a recommendation at the September meeting for the board.

### *RLF Management: Overview of Lessons Learned & Next Steps*

Ms. Snoeyink gave an update regarding the Lessons Learned & Next Steps Document for managing the RLF. Discussed followed among the board members and a major takeaway would be to start doing credit checks for businesses. Jeff Hannan said he would look more into the credit reporting process. Mr. Stanek also recommend using firm language throughout the document.

### *County Strategic Fund Update*

Ms. Snoeyink gave an update regarding the County Strategic Fund and said that the County Strategic Fund will be up to \$94,000 by the end of the month.

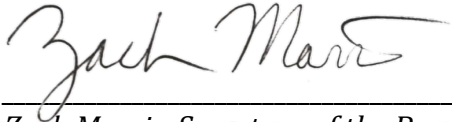
### *County Agreement with Market Van Buren Update*

Mr. Morris gave an update regarding the County agreement with Market Van Buren. The Van Buren County Commissioners moved to support the agreement by 6-1. It will move to the BOC meeting tomorrow.

## **VII. Adjournment**

Mr. Schincariol moved to adjourn the meeting at 2 p.m. Mr. Stanek supported the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2022 at 1 p.m.



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*Zach Morris, Secretary of the Board*

9-29-2022

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*Date*