



Economic Development Commission- Cass County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority

Officers: Leslie McClelland, Chair - Ron McAdam, Vice Chair -Roseann Marchetti, Secretary - Rick Russwurm, Treasurer,
Members-at-Large: - Kevin Anderson - Mark VanDusen - Sue Mikel - Edwin Johnson III -
David Kring - Jeff Nelson - Robert Parrish - Jeremiah Jones

Cass County Building 120 N. Broadway Kincheloe Room MEETING AGENDA September 22, 2021 – 8:30 a.m.

- I. Call to Order – *Chair Leslie McClelland***
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Approval of Agenda**
- IV. Introductions**
- V. Public Comments**
- VI. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. July 28, 2021 meeting**
- VII. Financial Report – *Treasurer Rick Russwurm***
- VIII. Business**
 - 1. Board of Commissioners decision to fund EDC**
 - 2. Path forward with Market Van Buren**
 - 3. Brownfield Authority**
 - 4. Land Bank Authority**
- IX. New Business**
- XI. Adjournment**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
MEETING MINUTES
KINCHELOE ROOM, CASS COUNTY BUILDING**

Date July 28, 2021,

Time: 8:30 am

Board Members present: Les McClelland X, Kevin Anderson __, Roseann Marchetti X, Rick Russwurm X, Ron McAdam X, Mark Van Dusen X, Sue Mikel X, Edwin Johnson __, David Kring X, Jeff Nelson X, Robert Parrish X and Jeremiah Jones X.

Chair Leslie McClelland called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

Also present: Administrator Jeff Carmen and Deputy Administrator Matt Newton.

Approval of the Agenda: Jeremiah Jones moved for approval of the agenda, seconded by Mark Van Dusen and motion carried.

Introductions of Visitors: Administrator Carmen introduced new Deputy Administrator Matt Newton who gave a brief bio.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes: Mark Van Dusen moved to approve the May 26, 2021 minutes, seconded by David Kring and motion carried.

Financial Report: Leslie McClelland moved to accept the financial report, seconded by Robert Parrish and motion carried.

New Business

1. Leslie McClelland and Rick Russwurm met with Zach Morris and they had a productive meeting. Leslie shared that it is expected that \$95,000.00 is in the county budget for EDC services from Kinexus, for Zach Morris and Mark O'Reilly. We can now move forward and integrate with Market Van Buren. Zach's executive board has cautiously approved the partnership. We will get two seats on the Market Van Buren Board for two years. After the two years are up, we will then have a 40% representation. Cass County's two MKVB members should be community influencers. They need to be bullish on the community, active decision makers. The EDC Board as well as the Appointments Committee need to begin to identify those candidates. Discussion followed regarding one of them sitting on the EDC Board. There is a separate EDC Board in Van Buren County and a county commissioner sits on the MKVB Board. On Friday, July 30th, the MKVB Board meets to decide to agree to the partnership. Then after two years the brand can be extended and Cass will be part of the brand. MKVB

meets quarterly, but the executive committee meets more often. It is Mark and Zach's job to connect with the townships. Mark O'Reilly may not be totally around. We will keep the EDC in place and meet quarterly to talk with businesses. Where does Brownfield fit in? Leslie would like to find a Brownfield expert to serve on the EDC Board. The Revolving Loan Fund is being phased out by the MEDC and MKVB is trying to defund its loan fund. If EDC had funding it could help a business venture to get a loan if a bank said no. Next meeting is August 25, 2021 and we will know if the partnership is on. A lengthy discussion followed.

There being no further business before the Board, Rick Russwurm moved to adjourn and after a second by Jeff Nelson, the meeting adjourned.

We attest the Board of Directors of the Cass County EDC has approved these minutes as the official minutes of the meeting recorded herein.

Leslie McClelland, Chair

Roseann Marchetti, Secretary

County of Cass
Fund 243 Economic Development Corp
Financial Report

Cash 10/1/2020	28,931.28
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Revenue:

Interest Income (Year-to-Date Total)	YTD	<u>2.22</u> <u>2.22</u>
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Expenditures:

Edwarsburg CofC - Annual Dues	(99.00)
Berrien/Cass/VanBuren Workforce Dev	<u>(25,000.00)</u> <u>(25,099.00)</u>

	Beginning Cash	28,931.28
	Revenues	2.22
	Expenses	<u>(25,099.00)</u> <u>3,834.50</u>
Ending Cash	8/31/2021	3,834.50