I-69 INTERNATIONAL TRADE CORRIDOR
Next Michigan Development Corporation

I-69 INTERNATIONAL TRADE CORRIDOR,
NEXT MICHIGAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Regular Meeting
June 8, 2021 9:00 a.m.
Bishop International Airport, Flint, MI

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 9:12 by Chairperson Dale Kerbyson

2. **Roll Call** –

Board members present-	*Absent -*
Genesee County	
Wendy-Jean Buhrer, City of Grand Blanc	Scott Bennett, Grand Blanc Twp.
Tracy Tucker, Flint Twp.	Tyler Rossmaessler, Flint/Gen.
Tanya Ketzler, Mundy Twp.	
Chad Young, Mundy Twp.	
Jason Nordberg, Genesee Co.	
Tracy Joseph, Genesee	
Lapeer County	
Kelly Martin – North Branch	Almont
Lenny Schneider – Lapeer County	
Quentin Bishop – Lapeer County	
Dale Kerbyson – City of Lapeer – Board Chair	
Shiawassee County	
Joe Sawyer, City of Corunna	
Troy Parmalee, Perry Twp.	
Justin Horvath – SEDP	
Cameron Horvath, City of Durand	
John Plowman, City of Perry	

3. **Approval of Agenda** –
Motion to approve the June 8, 2021 agenda made by Mr. Martin and supported by Mr. Plowman. No discussion, motion carried.

4. Meeting Minutes -
Moved by Ms. Tucker and supported by Ms. Ketzler to accept corrected minutes of the December 8, 2020 NMDC meeting. No discussion, motion carried.

5. **Treasurers Report –**

Financials -

Ms. Tucker reported a fund balance of $137,881.95. The 2020 budget of $40,016 was under budget as only $6,000 was utilized. It was moved by Mr. Schneider and supported by Mr. Martin to accept the financial report ending 12/31/2020 as presented by Ms. Tucker. Motion Carried.

Mr. Kerbyson mentioned that NMDC membership dues were waived in 2020 but are being collected for 2021. 2020 strategy will be revisited with Detroit Partnership to increase projects.

Bill Summary -

Motion to approve checks to Mid-America EDC ($1,000), Mattina, Kent & Gibbons, P.C. ($2100) and Lapeer Development Corporation ($302.21) was made by Mr. Plowman and supported by Ms. Ketzler. No discussion motion carried unanimously by Roll Call vote –

Ayes

Mr. Martin, Mr. Schneider, Mr. Young, Mr. Plowman, Mr. Sawyer, Mr. Parmalee, Mr. J. Horvath, Mr. Kerbyson, Ms. Tucker, Mr. Bishop, Mr. C. Horvath, Ms. Buhrer, Ms. Ketzler, Mr. Nordberg, Ms. Joseph

6. **2019 Audit Review –** Lorretta Deneweth, CPA, Mattina, Kent & Gibbons, P.C.
Discussion of 2019 joint Audit with NMDC and LDFA including Management Discussion Financial highlights and post-Audit letter.

Currently there is an agreement with Mattina, Kent & Gibbons, P.C. for providing an audit rather than review, which is a step down, due to lack of activity in 2020. There were questions posed with regard to the by-laws allowing less than an audit. If it was decided to waive full audit for 2020 Mattina, Kent & Gibbons would be willing to extend the existing contract to cover a change.
Motion to accept 2019 audit by Ms. Tucker, Mr. Martin support. No discussion, motion carried.

Next agenda will include discussion of annual audit vs. financial review.
Motion was made by Mr. Martin and supported Mr. Plowman to have NMDC attorney, Mr. Smertka advise having audit vs. qualified review for 2020 based on NMDC by-laws. No discussion, motion carried.

7. **Municipality Representative Appointment Form –** Form will be emailed to representatives, already filled out by LDC; form will also ask for alternate. Mr. Kerbyson commented on the need 13 members to be in attendance for a quorum. St. Claire county currently has no assigned member therefor attendance number may be less.

8. **Appointment of Jim Smertka as NMDC legal counsel.**
It was moved by Mr. Parmalee and supported by Ms. Ketzler to appoint Mr. Smertka as NMDC continuing legal counsel through 2022. No discussion, motion carried.

9. **2021 Budget** – Motion by Ms. Ketzler and supported by Mr. Parmalee to accept 2021 budget as presented. Discussion noted that budget can be amended as necessary.
Additional discussion included suggestions to get more engagement from board members. Following discussion, motion carried.

10. **Meeting Schedules 2021 and 2022**
Motion by Mr. Plowman supported by Mr. Nordberg to accept the 2021 and 2022 meeting schedules as presented. No discussion, motion carried.

11. **Insurance Renewal** – Mr. Martin moved, supported by Mr. Parmalee, to renew the insurance policy. No discussion, motion carried

12. **Conflict of Interest Disclosure** – Form will be sent out with new member appointment forms. This will be added to next agenda.

13. **Economic Development Partner Updates** –
Planning Commission Update – Mr. Nordberg
Reporting about management champions, integrated managements, audits of water systems, grant funding available.
Discussion included mitigation with SAW grant, noted that no phase 2 offered. Mr. Kerbyson noted infrastructure money and lead/water mitigation has to be researched. ARPA can be requested but difficult to find but loan forgiveness is built in up to 3mm.
Discussion of laws – in researching lead lines you much research in 4 places, making it cost prohibitive. Money is available, but there are issues getting information. Having a plan in place will make it easier to obtain funds as they become available.

Justin Nordberg – Oversaw sponsorship of Mid-America Economic Development Council 2020 Summer conference in Flint canceled; it became virtual event. Event will be back in Person next year. I-69 trade corridor was a sponsor; several NMDC members attended.

- FAST Act (Fixing America's Surface Transportation) legislation; 8 states, led by Texas, working to insure I-69 Corridor gets it fair share of funding. State reps signed on. NMDC provided letter of support to Secretary of Transportation.
- SEDP – Core areas, business, talent development. There are talent and supply chain issues.
- New county land bank working to facilitate development of commercial and residential building
- "Highroad" Rail Report proposal by Sandra Dearden will be sent to board – Sandra Dearden will be brought in to reengage with current board at a future meeting. It was mentioned that Lapeer is looking to add a railroad spur. Rail continues to grow in demand.
- Assembled over 2,000 acres in Durand for development

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Tracy Joseph

- Entry point study, Genesee County.

Jason Horvath

- MDOT I-69 – I-75 interchange to be reconfigured, funding not identified as yet.

Dan Casey –

- Foreign trade zone 210 reorganized (way to defer or eliminate tariffs) can be a significate reduction in import/tariff costs. Sarnia has 1st Canadian Foreign trade zone
- New and improved Blue Water Bridge Customs Plaza expansion moving forward. MDOT issuing bonds to help with financing. NMDC provided letter of support.
- Possible tax abatements for distribution center

Dale Kerbyson – City of Lapeer

- Mentioned that Lapeer Development Corporation still looking for director
- Many housing projects in Lapeer County. Received blight elimination grants to take down White High School.
- Updated board on Lapeer fire

Quentin Bishop – County of Lapeer

- ARPA funds – Calculating lost revenue. Eligible vs ineligible use of lost revenue – total loss can be reimbursed up to 1MM and becomes new balance for general construction costs

Lenny Schneider – Update on MAC

- Hold off on committed community planning and wait for legislation from state to try and provide matching funds to create a package for regions communities. ARP monies need to be obligated by 2024 and spent by 2026.
- RDOF – Rural Digital Opportunity fund – looking for match making opportunities

14. **Public Comment** (limited to 3 minutes per person)
    None

15. **Board Member Comment** -
    An upcoming Ribbon Cutting in Genesee was mentioned. Mr. Plowman mentioned that Shiawassee Co. was becoming the World Solar Farm Capital. Train mergers: It was reported that Canadian Pacific lost out on merger with Kansas City Southern when they were outbid by Canadian National.

16. Other - none

17. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 10:30

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Dale Kerbyson, Chairperson