

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

Date February 15, 2017

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Board Members present: Troy Clay X , Kevin Anderson X , Roseann Marchetti X , Rick Russwurm X , Eugene Wagner , Junior Oliver , James Finan , Johanna Timpson X , Eileen Toney X , Harry Shaffer and Karen Folks X .

Also present: Sue Mikel, Chemical Bank.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Kevin Anderson at 8:30 a.m.

The agenda was amended to add the Cass County EDC Workbook. Eileen Toney moved for the approval of the amended agenda and on a second by Rick Russwurm, motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Eileen Toney moved to approve the minutes of January 18, 2017. Seconded by Rick Russwurm and motion carried.

Financial Report: There is \$31, 463.54 in the treasury.

Eileen Toney moved to accept the treasurer's report and on a second by Dawn Bolock, the motion passed.

Operations Report: An automotive supplier continues to look for a large facility to house the business in Cassopolis, Dowagiac and Niles. There is a possibility of 200 to 400 jobs. Woodlands is pursuing the purchase of the Midwest energy building. Midwest Energy intends to create an industrial park on part of the property where the new Midwest Energy will be.

Old Business:

a. Strategic Plan

i. 501 © 3

Karen Folks reported on the progress of the 501 © 3 and 501 © 6 progress. The task force recommends a 501 © 6. Discussion followed. Karen made a motion for the EDC to take all actions necessary to establish a 501 ©6 and in addition to learn if the Cass County EDC under PA 338 of 1974 (as amended) has the power and authority to form or otherwise establish a 501 © 6 as a separate and legal entity. Seconded by Eileen Toney the motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

- a. Cannabis Discussion – Discussion followed and it was decided to have further discussion at the March meeting.
- b. Indeck Follow-up –Discussion followed and several members questioned why Cass County is not participating in any tax advantages since the plant is in Cass County. Barkley agreed to do some research to see how or why Cass County has been left out so far.
- c. Workbook - Roseann Marchetti asked how many members had a workbook and most members said it was out dated. Kevin suggested that the workbook be put on the agenda on a quarterly basis.

Adjournment –Meeting adjourned at 9:35 am.

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

Kevin Anderson, Vice Chair_____

Roseann Marchetti, Secretary_____