



CASS COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION & BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Minutes

Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 8:30 AM

Cass County Building
120 N. Broadway
Kincheloe Room
Cassopolis, MI 49031

The meeting was called to order by Chair Anderson at 8:30 am.

Roll Call:

Present: Kevin Anderson, Leslie McClelland, Rick Russwurm, Jeff Nelson, Hope Anderson, Samuel Barrera, Sheryl DeLuca, and Arrell Chapman

Absent: Lauren Thruston, Edwin Johnston, David Kring, Douglas Dallich Jr, and Alexis O'Flynn.

Also present representing Market VanBuren: Zach Morris and Katie Multhauf

McClelland requested that a Brownfield update be added to the agenda.

Several new members to the board were present and introductions were made.

Public Comments: None

Motion by Nelson, seconded by McClelland, to approve the Minutes of September 27, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Concerns were expressed regarding the timeliness of the previously scheduled meeting cancellation. Assurances were given by the chair that meeting notices would go out a week in advance of the meetings and DeLuca offered to assist in helping the chair meet this commitment so that county staff can post and distribute agendas in accordance with state law.

The financial report was given by Treasurer Russwurm who reported that the ending balance of available funds as of December 31, 2023 is \$2,649.85.

An in-depth discussion of the role of the EDC's administering the County Board's contract with Market Van Buren and establishing a performance matrix. An ad-hoc sub-

committee of Barrera, DeLuca, and Chapman will meet with Zach Morris to develop a draft that will be sent to the board members for review and comment. The target date for action on the performance matrix is the next meeting of the EDC.

Additional discussion focused on the need to strategically plan for the economic development needs of the county. These efforts would likely be supplemental to the work of Market Van Buren. McLelland will distribute copies of previous EDC strategic planning efforts.

McLelland shared an update of Brownfield actions taken over the past several months.

Motion by Chapman, seconded by Nelson to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 9:41 am.

Next Meeting- the fourth Wednesday of March which is March 27, 2024 at 8:30 a.m.

Kevin Anderson, Chair

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