



Next Michigan Development Corporation

I-69 INTERNATIONAL TRADE CORRIDOR, NEXT MICHIGAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Regular Meeting

April 12, 2022 - 9:00 a.m.

Bishop International Airport, Flint, MI

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 9:03 by Chairperson Dale Kerbyson

2. **Roll Call** –

*Board members present-*

Genesee County

Derek Bradshaw, Genesee County Metro Planning Commission

Wendy Jean-Buhrer, City of Grand Blanc

Tracey Tucker, Flint Township

Tanya Ketzler, Mundy Township

Chad Young, Mundy Township

Lapeer County

Richard Evans, Village of North Branch

Dale Kerbyson, City of Lapeer – Board Chair

Sam Moore, Lapeer Development Corporation

Lenny Schneider, Lapeer County

Shiawassee County

Troy Parmalee, Perry Township

St. Clair County

Jorja Baldwin, St. Clair County

Mike Booth, City of Marysville

*Staff present-*

Brent Jones, Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership

Jody Roethele, Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership

3. **Guest Speaker** –

a. Jennifer Shepard, Executive Director - Alliance for I-69 Texas

Jennifer provided information about the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act which will:

- Repair and rebuild our roads and bridges with a focus on climate change mitigation, resilience, equity, and safety for all users, including cyclists and pedestrians.
  - Michigan can expect to receive \$7.3 billion for federal-aid highway apportioned programs and over \$500,000 for bridge replacement and repairs over a five year period.
  - Bridge Investment Program - Competitive grant program for \$12.5 billion. This is a transformational amount of money.
- Improve healthy, sustainable transportation options for millions of Americans
- Help connect every American to reliable high-speed internet.
- Prepare more of our infrastructure for the impacts of climate change, cyber attacks, and extreme weather events.

- Deliver clean drinking water to every American and eliminate the nation's lead service lines and pipes.
- Improve our nation's airports.

Earmarks were reinstated last year for the first time in many years. House deadline is April 28 and Senate deadline is May 15. Funding from \$1 million to \$5 million.

b. **Sandra Dearden – Highroad Update**

Sandra provided an update on the Highroad project. Started initiating phone calls. Want to talk to industries, some existing and some expanded. Will send emails to individual economic developers to find out how many people they will meet with to determine how much time is needed in each location. Some funding opportunities are available for programs that are being worked on. Application is due May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Will look into opportunities to request extension. Governor wants to shut down pipeline. Propane companies want to bring propane from Canada by train. Land in Durand could be a fit. Will send email if there are any updates.

4. **Approval of Agenda –**

M/T Ketzler, S/T Tucker to approve the April 12, 2022 agenda as presented. No discussion, motion carried.

5. **Meeting Minutes –**

M/T Tucker, S/D Bradshaw to approve minutes of the of February 8, 2022 NMDC meeting. No discussion, motion carried.

6. **Treasurers Report –  
Financials –**

T Tucker reported a fund balance \$124,130.47. Highroad invoice to be paid. M/T Parmalee, S/T Ketzler to approve financials as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

7. **Public Comment – None**

8. **Action Items –**

- a. **Approval of New Executive Committee Representative, St. Clair County** – D Casey recommended R Fernandez be approved as the Executive Committee representative from St. Clair County with M Booth as Alternate. M/L Schneider, S/J Baldwin to approve the recommendation. Ally aye, motion carried.
- b. **Approval of New Website** – Would like to improve the sign at the airport with a QR code. The existing site has not been updated since 2018. A new sign agreement is in place and will go live any day. SEDP staff has done some research. WordGirl can do a basic buildout for \$1,500 and search engine optimization for an additional \$500. M/L Schneider, S/R Evans to approve new website buildout using WordGirl. Roll call vote. All ayes, motion carried.

9. **Discussion Items –**

- a. **Kevin Kilby Introduction** - Kevin Kilby is with McGraw Morris PC. He has been practicing since 2005. He has worked with several individuals on the NMDC/LDFA board. He has reviewed the interlocal agreement. Jody Roethle will provide additional requested documentation.

- b. **2020 and 2021 Audits** – The interlocal agreement requires an annual audit. NMDC/LDFA have a three-year audit agreement with Mattina, Kent & Gibbons, PC. They suggest doing one audit to cover both 2020 and 2021. Will move forward and provide requested documentation.

10. **Economic Development Partner Updates –**

**Dan Casey** – D Casey had questions about the LDFA capture for NMDC. He was directed to the Perry Township website for information. St. Clair has two projects in the pipeline. Five companies currently going through the process to join Tri-Share. Lost 37% of childcare during the pandemic. There are regulatory challenges launching new daycares. The licensing process is long.

**Brent Jones** – SEDP is working with the Shiawassee RESD on Tri-Share. The program is currently being built out. Funds will be paid in a three-way split. Employers, Employees and Grant funds will each contribute \$2/hour/child. State of Michigan has funded through the end of the year. There are currently five interested employers in the pipeline.

**Sam Moore** – Working with Community Foundation. Submitting a grant application to help streamline. A lot of industrial park speculation.

11. There was no other business. Meeting adjourned at 10:01.

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Dale Kerbyson, Chairperson