



**IRONWOOD**  
 MICHIGAN | *Find Your North*

**Proceedings of the Economic Development Corporation Meeting  
 Wednesday, March 2, 2022**

A Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) was held on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 10:00 A.M. in the Memorial Building Women’s Club Room.

1. Director Bergman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Recording of the Roll

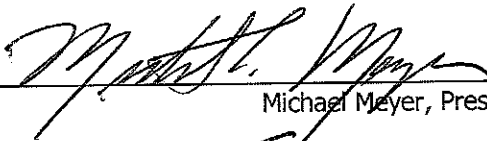
MEMBER	Present		EXCUSED	NOT EXCUSED
	YES	NO		
Thorsen, Gina	X			
Lemke, Joseph		X	X	
Korpela, Nancy	X			
Meyer, Michael	X			
Kim Corcoran	X			
Ruppe, Mark		X	X	
Schonberg, Bob		X	X	
Glen Ackerman-Behr	X			
Carolyn Libby	X			
<b>Quorum</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Quorum</b>	

Also Present: Community Development Director Tom Bergman and Community Development Assistant Tim Erickson

3. Approval of the February 2, 2022 Meeting Minutes:  
**Motion** by Corcoran to accept the meeting minutes. **Second** by Korpela. **Motion Carried 6 to 0.**
4. Approval of the Agenda.  
**Motion** by Corcoran to approve the amended Agenda. **Second** by Korpela. **Motion Carried 6 to 0.**

5. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding Items on the Agenda (Three-minute limit):  
None.
6. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding items not on the Agenda (Three-minute limit):
7. Items for Discussion and Consideration.
  - A. 2022 Goals (Review of 2021 Goals): Director Bergman presented the attached goal setting sheet and asked the EDC what they thought the role of the EDC was. Creating a mission and vision statement was proposed. The Corporation discussed aspects of what the EDC should focus on what the Corporation can legally or financially do. The need for the EDC to have a budget was discussed. Thorsen discussed the need for a regional economic development entity in the county. The Corporation discussed some new things that the EDC could focus on. Ackerman-Behr introduced potential goals: Survey local businesses to find out where they are at, access to information, ambassadors, focus for the region for recruitment, pipeline for businesses, identify resources of the region, survey people who wanted to start a business that couldn't, business interviews. Gathering data will help to determine goals. Corcoran asked to do a similar goal setting procedure as the City Commission.
  - B. Update on Downtown Development Plan and TIF Plan: The City is under contract with a consultant to complete the project.
  - C. Adult Use Marijuana Establishment License Application Update: Applicants are extending applications for the ones that haven't opened. The City Commission will be voting on potentially allowing 2 additional retail licenses. Ackerman-Behr asked for the Planning Commission minutes for the next meeting.
  - D. Zoning Ordinance Update and timeline: There will be an additional public hearing.
8. Other Business:
  - A. Michigan Jobs Training: Ackerman-Behr discussed a training program with the State of Michigan through the Community College. He will be giving a proposal to the State to make the program more successful for the Upper Peninsula. He is proposing a graduated wage scale starting at 125% and finishing at 175% over three years.  
  
**Motion** by Ackerman-Behr to have consensus to have a change to the way Michigan's New Jobs Training Program is administered to be beneficial to our region specifically relating to changing away from the 175% of minimum wage. **Second** by Thorsen.  
**Motion Carried 6 to 0.**
  - B. Steve Lehto addressed the Corporation with a new State grant for local businesses.
9. Next Meeting: April 6, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

10. Adjournment. **Motion** by Corcoran to adjourn at 10:58 a.m. **Second** by Ackerman-Behr. **Motion Carried 6 to 0.**

  
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Michael Meyer, President

  
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Tim Erickson, Community Development Assistant