



Charter Township of Meridian  
Meridian Economic Development Corporation  
Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864  
Thursday, March 6, 2025– Minutes -DRAFT

**Members**

**Present:** Treasurer Phil Deschaine, Dave Ledebuhr, Shawn Dunham, Nate Ide, Adam Carlson, Sai Turlapati, David Fosdick, Joy Hazard, and Trustee Kathy Sundland

**Members**

**Absent:** None

**Others**

**Present:** Township Manager Tim Dempsey, Economic Development Director Amber Clark, and Executive Assistant Michelle Prinz

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Vice Chair Fosdick called the meeting to order at 7:32am and read the mission statement.

2. **MISSION:** Set the standard in creating an entrepreneurial culture, be the example for revitalization of our business districts, and be the leaders in building sustainable public/private partnerships.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**MOTION BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER DUNHAM. MOTION PASSES 8-0.**

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes-Meeting January 9, 2025
- b. Development Projects

**MOTION BY MEMBER DUNHAM TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR. MOTION PASSES 8-0.**

5. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

6. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Façade Improvement Reimbursement Program

Director Clark presented the updated details regarding the Program. There was discussion of whether or not the PICA districts should be illegible for the Program. There was consensus to allow PICA district applicants and the only areas that will be excluded from the grant will be the CIA and DDA. \$10,000 was the agreed upon grant amount.

**MOTION BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR TO ADOPT THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO MAKE THE NECESSARY CHANGES FOR IMPLEMENTATION. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER FOSDICK. MOTION PASSES 8-0.**

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Authorized Signers

Chair Carlson stated this is just a logistical item to add the newly elected Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and new Township Manager as signers at Independent Bank.

**MOTION BY MEMBER FOSDICK TO ADOPT THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADAM CARLSON CHAIR, DAVID FOSDICK VICE-CHAIR, DAVE LEDEBUHR SECRETARY AND TOWNSHIP MANAGER TIMOTHY DEMPSEY, WITH POWER TO SIGN FOR CHECKS AND MAKE FINANCIAL DECISIONS RELATED TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BANK ACCOUNT. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR. MOTION PASSES 8-0.**

b. Authorization of CD Deposit

Director Clark suggested that the EDC consider allocating \$40,000 into a CD at Independent Bank. The CD auto renews every 30 days so there would be access to the funds every 30 days.

**MOTION BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR TO AUTHORIZE THE CREATION OF A SEPARATE EDC HIGH YEILD SAVINGS ACCOUNT IN A CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT FOR 30 DAY-AUTO RENEW AND AUTHORIZE TO MOVE \$40,000 TO THE ACCOUNT. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER FOSDICK. MOTION PASSES 8-0.**

9. REPORTS/OPEN DISCUSSION

a. Township Board Updates

Trustee Sundland reported the following:

- Established a Youth Commission
- Updated the Purchasing Policy
- Approved the Prosecuting Attorney's Contract
- Extended working hours for MDOT on the Grand River Bridge Project
- Discussed housing TIF for the Haslett Village Project
- Discussed a rezoning on Dobie Road

Treasurer Deschaine reported that the Community/Senior Center Task Force has been meeting and will be giving the Board a recommendation for the April meeting. The Board will be reviewing other local millage rates at the next meeting in preparation for a possible millage for the Community/Senior Center.

b. Township Manager Updates

Manager Dempsey introduced himself to the EDC. He stated he has been working on identifying the opportunities and challenges for the Township and getting to know everyone. He mentioned the Township is hiring for a variety of positions.

Introduction of new member Joy Hazard of Haslett.

12. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

13. NEXT MEETING DATE

- April 3, 2025 at 7:30am at the Township Municipal Building-Town Hall Room.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chair Carlson adjourned the meeting at 8:12am.