

Arenac County EDC

Meeting Minutes



Time: 8:30 AM

Location: Arenac County Building
Room 201

January 9, 2024

- I. Call to Order: 8:30am
 - II. Roll Call:
 - a. Present: Bob Balzer, Jennifer Pierson, Amanda Lauzon, Brad Mason, Julie Hazeltine, Abbie Golimbieski, Harold Woolhiser, Leona Daniels, Curt Hillman, Dale Wiltse, Dennis Whitney, Pat Killingbeck, Mike Stodolak, Deb Morgan, Dennis Stawowy, Heather Bauman
 - b. Absent: Kim Nelson
 - c. Guest: Mike Bowers, Bill Ernat, Sue Fortune
 - III. Pledge
 - IV. Approval of Minutes/Secretary's Report: Motion- Mike Stodolak, Approved- Curt Hillman
 - V. Treasurer's Report: Motion- Brad Mason, Approved- Mike Stodolak
 - VI. Director's Report
 - a. Central Michigan University Research Corporation- offering up to \$20,000 grant to small businesses in the Great Lakes Bay Region. Submissions due May 23, 2025.
 - b. Michigan Works presenting at the MTA conference January 16th.
 - c. Updating Business Contacts
 - d. Working with Michigan Works in the agriculture department- working on getting contacts of farmers to see if they need any assistance.
 - VII. Old Business:
 - a. Election for Offices
 - i. Renew Curt Hillman and Deb Morgan for 6-year term (2030): Motion- Mike Stodolak, Approved- Pat Killingbeck
 - ii. Renew Leona Daniels: Motion-Heather Bauman, Approved- Brad Mason
 - iii. Keeping Officers the same: Motion- Pat Killingbeck, Approved- Leona Daniels
 - b. SSRP Grant
 - VIII. Guest Speaker: Mike Bowers
 - a. Fifteen families were left without a home from the fire in Au Gres
 - b. The shelter was open for 30 hours to help those in need, American Red Cross opened for emergency services.
 - c. Modular home park in Standish has twenty empty lots, the owner is open to discuss investments
- Guest Speakers: Bill Ernat & Sue Fortune- East Michigan Council of Governments (EMCOG)
- a. One Hundred percent of Federal Roads are being rated for PASER, can request local roads

IX. Around the Table:

a. Heather: Christmas for kids went well. January 29th is the date the state has chosen to fill out a survey ('Point in Time') to see how many homeless we have in our area. Turn any info to Heather.

b. Dennis Whitney: Very happy with how Christmas went and the town events. Will be adding a large polar bear to The Depot for Christmas next year.

c. Dennis Stawowy: In 2025, M-76 (Standish to Sterling) will be asphalted with new gravel shoulders. Waiting for new equipment that was ordered in 2024, purchasing more equipment in 2025. Hiring a new truck driver.

d. Brad Mason: Working on water piping by the schools

e. Deb Morgan: Happy with all the traffic going through Au Gres

f. Harold: Rachael Vallad is a new commissioner. Fairgrounds going well, tiles are almost finished. Consumers have been there working on energy; steel has been ordered for the new event center.

X. Next Meeting: February 13th, 2025

XI. Adjourned: 11:04am

Respectfully Submitted

Abbie Golimbieski

MSUE