

Arenac County EDC

Meeting Minutes



Location: Arenac County Building

Room 201

Date: April 10th, 2025

- I. Call to Order: 8:31 am
- II. Roll Call:
 - a. Jennifer Pierson, Abbie Golimbieski, Amanda Lauzon, Leona Daniels, Brad Mason, Dennis Whitney, Bob Balzer, Dale Wiltse, Pat Killingbeck, Mike Stodolak, Harold Woolhiser, Austin Hazeltine
 - b. Absent: Kim Nelson, Julie Hazeltine, Curt Hillman, Deb Morgan
- III. Meeting Minute's/ Secretary's Report:
 - a. Approval of January, February and March Minutes - Motion: Brad Mason, Supported: Mike Stodolak
- IV. Treasurer's Report:
 - a. Approval to File- Motion: Mike Stodolak, Supported: Brad Mason
- V. Director's Report (attached) included in report:
 - a. County Hiring & Networking Event is scheduled for Thursday, May 8th, 2025, from 3-6pm at the Sunrise Resource Center. Mock Interviews will be taking place on April 29th at Standish-Sterling High School, there will be an afternoon session at Michigan Works! Office. MMTC & Going PRO Event will be April 18th 11am-1pm at the Tribal Center in Standish, Jennifer will be speaking about CyberSmart, Defense and Industry 4.0 Grants. The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is a non-profit, non-partisan membership organization serving economic developers-Region 5 is looking to do a collaboration sponsorship. Revolving loan: the check will be given to Dixon Five Enterprises on Monday, April 14th. MI Sites Bootcamp hosted by the MEDC will be doing a training program on how to best market and showcase our sites and community.
 - b. Approval of sending Jennifer to the Small Town & Rural Development Conference June 9th-11th at Crystal Mountain (\$275) -Motion: Mike Stodolak, Supported: Pat Killingbeck
- VI. Old Business:
 - a. At least two open board spots that need to be filled- board members reaching out to Bay-Arenac ISD (Mike Vieau, Renee Aumock).
 - b. SSRP Grant: Second round of funding has been approved, attached are guidelines for the grant
- VII. New Business/ Around the Table:
 - a. Dale Wiltse: Au Gres applied for housing grant. The Post Office will be moving into the Old McDonald's building. The campground expansion will be happening soon. The Lonesome Dove in Au Gres had their ribbon cutting.
 - b. Leona Daniels: Lots of uncertainty about what will happen with the ag markets. The storm up north impacted a lot of people; farmers have been donating money/ equipment to help other farmers. Damage to the maple trees from storms could take 3-5 years to produce maple syrup again.
 - c. Amanda Lauzon: Calm month, getting back into a normal routine after JD Vance came to visit the Bay City location.
 - d. Pat Killingbeck: Dawn Rentals in Au Gres are under construction. Happy to see the Lonesome Dove open, it is very nice.
 - e. Harold Woolhiser: Swine/Beef weigh-in is on Saturday. The electrician has been working at the fairgrounds. The frost law is off on Friday; there will be more progress happening. Consumers will be there tomorrow. Presented letter of support for Brightspeed/Broadband.

- f. Dennis Whitney: Loyalty Day Parade is April 26th at noon, line-up for parade is at 11:30am. Car Show is June 14th downtown Standish. Sold the Laundromat, need to be out by May 1st.
- g. Austin Hazeltine: Settlement processing with Treasurer's Office. The Building Department has a new software program; customers will be able to use online services. Excited about the new Master's Plan.
- h. Mike Stodolak: Spend four days in D.C. at the MBA (Michigan Banker Association). Mortgage rates are still going up and down.
- i. Brad Mason: Local vendor wanted marijuana in town, did not get approved. Hoping for warmer weather next week to open the golf course. 40-50 water shut off notices went out last month. The Credit Union in town will be breaking ground soon.
- j. Bob Balzer: 390,000 went without power from the storms, most had most back within 5 days.

VIII. Next Meeting: May 8th at 8:30am

IX. Meeting Adjourned: 10:11am

Respectfully Submitted,

Abbie Golimbieski

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