

Arenac County EDC

Meeting Minutes



Location: Arenac County Building
Room 201

Date: February 13th, 2025

- I. Call to Order: 8:34am
- II. Roll Call: No quorum. Informational meeting only.
 - a. Jennifer Pierson, Bob Balzer, Pat Killingbeck, Deb Morgan, Harold Woolhiser, Brad Mason, Abbie Golimbieski, Dale Wiltse, Dennis Whitney
 - b. Absent: Amanda Lauzon, Heather Bauman, Curt Hillman, Leona Daniels, Kim Nelson, Julie Hazeltine, Mike Stodolak
 - c. Guests: Kirk Olson, Dawn Hergott, Gadi Krasner
- III. Meeting Minute's/Secretary's Report: Meeting Minutes Accepted
- IV. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's Report Accepted
- V. Director's Report (attached) included in report:
 - a. Attended First Quarter MTA Meeting, Austin proposed the idea of collaborating with Iosco and Ogemaw counties. Develop Iosco had a good turnout they are eager to work with our county to help improve regions. Quest Site Solutions will be visiting Omer township properties in June. Michigan Works will be sending Jennifer to the Building Michigan Communities Event focused on education and networking for housing in Michigan. Region 5 did not receive the CDC grant for initiatives such as Coming Home Hiring Events, a Relocation Guide, childcare funding startup, but the second grant is pending for childcare and housing proposals. Katie Bouldin is the new youth coordinator at Standish- Sterling Central, focusing on Juniors and Seniors with school planning, job shadowing and work experiences. Submitted Fitness Five's Historic and Preservation Office application for USDA to review.
- VI. Guest Speaker: Kirk Olson
 - a. Working on promoting putting in a bike path in Au Gres (Santiago Rd to town), he would like some support from the EDC board. Has experience in grant writing and is willing to help out in the future if needed.
- VII. Old Business:
 - a. SSRP Grant: Quest Site assessing properties to promote growth, the money needs to be spent by October.
- VIII. New Business:
 - a. Working on Strategic Five-Year Plan
- IX. Around the Table:
 - a. Dawn Hergott: Arenac Conservation District is working on a material management plan for the city of Standish. They would like to see more recycling/composting in our area. Conservation District will be hosting a "Good Stewards" program focused on composting, nutrient management and native planting. The annual tree sale is going on now, the deadline to order is March 21st.
 - b. Harold Woolhiser: Working on the event center at the fairgrounds. The steel has arrived, consumers have been working on electricity. Engineer designed public auto system, there will be an independent speaker for horse area.
 - c. Brad Mason: Working on waste contract for recycling and the water lines throughout town. Allowing marijuana dispensaries in town is under consideration. There will be construction done to the road by the old Spartan Tire building this summer, hoping to hold off until after the 4th of July to prevent traffic.

- d. Dale Wiltse: The open date for the hotel in Au Gres is April 1st, the hotel has 30 rooms and will have a restaurant. The post office will be moving to the old McDonald's building. Working on campground expansion.
 - e. Bob Balzer: Power will be down in Au Gres the 28th of February for maintenance. Consumers Energy is accepting entries for "Put Your Town on the Map" competition for a chance to win a grant. Looking to support Sunrise Community Resource Center.
 - f. Pat Killingbeck: EMCOG hosting housing review workshop February 20th from 10am-3pm at SVSU.
 - g. Deb Morgan: Lonesome Dove Hotel is a beautiful facility; they would like more people to apply for extra staffing.
 - h. Dennis Whitney: The Chamber of Commerce has their next meeting on March 6th, will have coffee and donuts. The Car Show will be June 14th, and it will be hosted in Downtown Standish this year.
- X. Next Meeting: March 13th at 8:30am
- XI. Meeting Adjourned: 9:56 am

Respectfully Submitted,

Abbie Golimbieski

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