

Arenac County EDC

Meeting Minutes



Location: Arenac County Building
Room 201

Date: May 8th, 2025

- I. Call to Order: 8:32am
- II. Roll Call: Jennifer Pierson, Kim Nelson, Abbie Golimbieski, Curt Hillman, Amanda Lauzon, Dale Wiltse, Dennis Whitney, Bob Balzer, Julie Hazeltine, Pat Killingbeck, Brad Mason, Austin Hazeltine, Mike Stodolak
 - a. Guest: Mike Vieau, Kirk Olson
 - b. Absent: Leona Daniels, Deb Morgan, Harold Woolhiser
- III. Meeting Minute's/ Secretary's Report:
 - a. Approval of April Meeting Minutes: Motion- Pat Killingbeck, Supported- Mike Stodolak
- IV. Treasurer's Report:
 - a. Austin approved balance
- V. Director's Report (attached) included in report:
 - a. County Hiring & Networking Event today from 3-6pm at the Sunrise Resource Center. Attended MISites Bootcamp to learn requirements for Industrial Sites to be added into registry for the MEDC for future prospects. Attending the Building Michigan Communities Conference next week. Hoadley visits went well; Magline put on a wonderful presentation and tour of their facility. We have a manufacturer in Standish that will be looking to hire 16-30 new employees in the next couple of years due to expanding their company. Lil' Sprouts in Omer has added 4 new apprentices to their team. Young Professionals Kick Off is June 8th, this is a grant for Juniors and Seniors to get employed over the summertime, Michigan Works pays the wages so the businesses can focus on mentoring/training the youth.
- VI. Old Business/SSRP Grant:
 - a. Quest Site visit is changing to July due to the holiday
- VII. New Business:
 - a. Logo/Advertising: Looking at creating a new EDC logo for advertising. Jennifer received quotes from Tim and Keara Dixon. The board approved Jennifer to get quotes from other local businesses. Mike Vieau will talk with instructors from Bay-Arenac ISD to see if a Standish-Sterling student can make a design during their Graphic Design Class.
- VIII. Around the Table:
 - a. Curt Hillman: The Depot raised around \$5,000 during Give Local Day; this will go into an endowment to keep The Depot going. The concert Series will be happening at the Depot this summer. July 12th is the car show. Depot Days will be in October.
 - b. Dale Wiltse: The Taste of AuGres will be on June 4th; this event is part of the concert series. Jennifer is helping with applying for the MSHDA grant. AuGres City Council opposes the dome the AuGres schools want to build. The Memorial Day Parade will be on May 25th at 1:00 p.m.
 - c. Amanda Lauzon: Enrollment for Vantage Plastic employees is open
 - d. Bob Balzer: The last ice storm was the most expensive storm in history
 - e. Pat Killingbeck: Short term rentals are a big concern in our community; people have a hard time finding housing due to rentals.
 - f. Brad Mason: DDA put up new flag poles in down. Still working on Spartan Tire, soil being tested for pollution. Water extension by the High School will be worked on when school gets out. Dobson Drain Project by Spartan Tire will start work after the 4th of July to help with traffic.
 - g. Julie Hazeltine: Settlements are almost done
 - h. Kirk Olson: A lot of controversy with the dome in AuGres
 - i. Dennis Whitney: Loyalty Day Parade was great. Trying to partner with AuGres Chamber of Commerce. Mandy Hecht's position at Arenac Independent has been eliminated.

- i. Mike Vieau: Imagination Library raised \$8,000 at the Give Local Day event. Josh Little is the new Director for the Bay-Arenac Career Center.
 - j. Kim Nelson: The hospital is getting a facelift. Kickoff to Summer Health and Safety Day is June 5th at the Health Department building.
 - k. Mike Stodolak: Feels it is not a place for the EDC to jump into helping promote the dome in Au Gres.
- IX. Next Meeting: June 12th at 8:30am
- X. Meeting Adjourned: 9:56am

Respectfully Submitted,

Abbie Golimbieski
MSUE