

**City of Sault Ste. Marie  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting  
March 9, 2021 via Zoom**

**1. Call to Order & Introductions**

Chair McCoy called the meeting to order with the time being 12:05pm.

**2. Roll Call**

Members Present:	Tom Veum	Dr. Rachael McCoy	Tim Ellis
	Dan Dasho	Rob Landis	Kelley Bunker
	Gary Sharp		

Members Absent: Jim Devaprasad

Staff Present: Jeff Holt Tracey Laitinen

Others Present: Tony Haller, Chamber of Commerce  
Contractor – Project Birch

*It was moved by Bunker, supported by Landis to excuse those board members absent. The motion carried unanimously.*

**3. Agenda: Changes, Additions, or Deletions**

*It was moved by Sharp, supported by Landis to add J. Holt's annual review under item #10. The motion carried unanimously.*

**4. Matters presented by the Public – none at this time**

**5. Project Birch update**

Presentation was given as an update on the project in the Air Industrial Park (AIP). In order to move forward there are several challenges including, not only the cost of building prices, but lack of materials, as well as the city zoning map that allows for dispensaries and grow facilities in the AIP. Contractor is concerned about the initial purchase agreement as the development timelines are now out the window with the exorbitant cost of materials and lack of materials. They will continue to review the project in the upcoming weeks and do plan to proceed but the new offer will include Lots 21 and 22 so that no marijuana facilities can be built near the new development. Contractor has hired a consultant to work with MEDC on a state brownfield plan to remove the old runway. McCoy echoed similar sentiments regarding the lack of electrical supplies she encountered. The 100' allowance for marijuana facilities was discussed and the contractor is working with the Community Development Department at the City, facilities cannot be within 100' of a residential property line so their development would exclude any facilities from the AIP. The contractor was not concerned about the possibility of the Kmart property being in this zone at this time. The contractor has a standing meeting with the EDC every 2 weeks and will continue to make progress with an update at the next EDC meeting. Landis inquired about the zoning regulations for marijuana facilities near airports. Holt will follow up with Prein and Newhof.

**6. Approval of Minutes**

*It was moved by Dasho supported by Ellis to accept the February 9, 2021 EDC Board Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.*

**7. Approval of Financial Report: Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet & Check Detail**

Laitinen reviewed each fund YTD, Redevelopment, Essex, Incubator, and EDC Operations. Receivables are rent from BMCC at the Incubator that was just billed out. Snow removal and salting is coming in at less than projected this year. With EDC Operations, administration fee was able to be agreed upon for the 4<sup>th</sup> survival grants and that will be forthcoming.

It was moved by Ellis, supported by Veum to accept the financial report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**8. Director's Report**

Holt gave a verbal report to the board.

**9. Status Reports** – summaries of meetings were included. Holt updated the group on the upcoming expiration of the FBO contract for Sanderson Field as well as the potential LDFA redistricting meeting coming up at the end of April.

**10. Other Matters**

Dasho reported that it was time to do a performance evaluation on Holt and asked anyone wishing to participate to let him know.

**14. Next meeting is April 13, 2021** back to in person

**13. Adjournment**

It was moved by Bunker, supported by Ellis to adjourn the meeting at 12:48pm. The motion carried unanimously.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Dasho', written over a horizontal line.

Dan Dasho, Secretary