City of Sault Ste. Marie **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION** Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting June 13, 2017

Call to Order 1.

Vice Chair Bunker called the meeting to order with the time being 12:06 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present:

Dan Dasho

Tom Veum

Kelley Bunker

Dr. Rachael McCoy

Steve Glezen

Members Absent:

Gwen Worley Doug Welton Jim Devaprasad Bob Mattson

Staff Present:

Jeff Holt

Tracey Laitinen

Also Present:

Oliver Turner, City Manager

Jeff Hagan, EUP Regional Planning & Development

Tony Haller, SSM Chamber of Commerce Ray Bauer, City Commission Liaison Sharon Houghton, MIWorks-ISUpward

It was moved by Glezen, supported by McCoy to excuse those that were absent. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Agenda: Changes, Additions, or Deletions

Addition of Action Item - compensation after #8

4. Matters presented by the Public

Haller noted that the International Bridge Walk is coming up June 24th. Bike parade starts at 8:30am and the walk starts at the Norris Center at 9:30am. Identification is necessary. There will be 6 buses to catch back to the U.S. \$4/person or \$13/family.

Haller invited everyone to the Business After 5 event this Thursday at the Valley Camp from 5-7pm.

5. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Glezen, supported by McCoy to accept the May 9, 2017 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Approval of Financial Report & Check Detail

Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet and Check Detail were submitted. Holt reported on the annual walk through with FirePros and updating of necessary safety equipment at the airport, incubator and Smartzone as well as a recent vacuum purchase for the Smartzone.

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

7. Tracey's Annual Performance Evaluation

Holt distributed Laitinen's evaluation. Turner noted that the board could go into closed session if requested by the employee. Laitinen noted that was not necessary at this time. Bunker inquired on the ranking system and Turner noted that this evaluation format was designed to review strengths and development opportunities with more documentation, noting that Holt's evaluation for department heads served well for when multiple evaluators are giving input. Holt gave a positive recap of Laitinen's performance supported with comments from the board.

It was moved by McCoy, supported by Veum to accept Laitinen's annual evaluation as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Jeff's Annual Performance Evaluation

Holt distributed his performance evaluation to the board. Bunker noted that Welton, Worley and Turner had collaborated on the summary. Turner noted that Holt had done very well on the evaluation, highlighting that when Laitinen and Holt came to the EDC there was significant transition and how the EDC has been elevated in the last 18 months. Holt noted he will formulate goals and objectives for the July board meeting. Bauer gave input that in his 12 years as liaison to the EDC he has seen recent improvement in tangible and intangible ways with the increased teamwork. Bunker noted that transparency and communication have greatly improved. McCoy recalled trying to gather EDC information back when she was thinking about becoming an EDC board member and noted there was nothing online about the organization and that is no longer an issue.

It was moved by Dasho, supported by McCoy to accept Holt's annual evaluation as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Compensation for EDC Staff

Holt distributed a memo for the board's review. McCoy inquired about City Commission approval of any wage increases to which Turner replied that the EDC submits an annual budget to the City Commission for approval. The Commission then approves and allocation and the EDC must function within those guidelines. McCoy noted that Laitinen has met and exceeded expectations. Glezen inquired about the process to which Turner explained that the budgets have been approved and the next step is to obtain EDC board approval for any wage modifications. Bunker noted that Welton has reviewed the compensation request and supports it.

It was moved by McCoy, supported by Dasho to accept the compensation increases as presented in the memo. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Events

Holt reported that the Manufacturing Excellence Summit is coming together. Laitinen reported on tentative speakers Dr. Reattoir from the EUPISD on the CTE millage, Sammie Lukaskiewicz from Talent & Economic Development and Chuck Hadden from MI Manufacturers Association. If you have ideas for the event please talk to Laitinen. Save the date cards will go out after July 1.

11. Goals/Projects

- a. No update/no meeting scheduled at this time
- b. Concierge Program is progressing well with the mailings and outreach. Holt reported on the recent sale of the weather station and the same buyer inquiring on the adjacent airport lot.

c. PFC Overlay construction came in under bid and is slated to start mid-August. Funding is supported 90% by MDOT AERO.

12. Director's Report

SIS is still interested in moving to the U.S. but are on hold with the uncertainty of steel prices and work visas.

Aeromed project is on hold at this time. Holt and Hagan are working on potential EDA funding for a hangar.

Project Dusty Rock was interested in the superfund site.

Meijer is reportedly doing well and had a 25% increase above what they had initially planned opening week.

Holt gave a handout on the new U.P. EDO group of private investors that have come together to form a new EDO. They are currently performing a director search. Holt noted that Jen Nelson is now the head of MEDC and supports the U.P. McCoy inquired on funding and if MEDC funds would be redirected to support this new endeavor. Hagan reported that it follows the Governor's idea of the Regional Prosperity Initiative and aligning to have 1 of each entity. UPEDA has come out in support of this new group as well.

Twin Saults City Commission meeting went well. Holt was able to give a brief presentation on the 2014 MOU and thanked Dasho for providing him information on the energy project in looking to connect Sault, Ontario and the Upper Peninsula. Holt focused his presentation on International Trade efforts, Manufacturing and the Transportation Logistics Strategy. Holt will be inviting members to attend our July ERA meeting.

A 3-year HVAC bid went out for Smartzone services. This is being handled by the clerk's office and we will award a bid at our July EDC board meeting.

Applications are still being accepted for the part time support staff position at the EDC. Please visit the employment tab on the City's website if you know anyone that is interested.

13. Other matters

McCoy inquired on the status of WMH and LSSU SIM LAB, and the "rumors" that WMH was going to purchase the old Ganzhorn building and move the LSSU SIM lab from the Smartzone to the new location. Turner noted that WMH CEO David Jahn did discuss this at the annual meeting, but that it might take some time. Holt reported that SIM's lease is up 12.31.17.

14. Adjournment

It was moved by Veum, supported by McCoy to adjourn the meeting at 1:12 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Dan Dasho, Secretary