



MINUTES
St. Clair County Board of Commissioners
Community and Economic Development Committee

Board of Commissioners' Room
County Administrative Office Building, 2nd Floor
200 Grand River Avenue
Port Huron, MI 48060

April 3, 2025 at 6:00 PM

1. Roll Call/Opening

Commissioner Fielitz called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

Present: Lisa Beedon, Joi Torello, Robert Fielitz, Dave Rushing, Dave Vandebossche and Steve Simasko

Absent: Kerry Ange

2. Additions/Deletions/Changes to the Agenda

Moved by Commissioner Rushing, supported by Commissioner Torello, to add I-69 Corridor Next Michigan Development Corporation as Item 7B. Carried - Voice Vote 6-0. Aye: Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Vandebossche, Commissioner Rushing
Nay: None

Moved by Commissioner Rushing, supported by Commissioner Torello, to accept the agenda as amended. Carried - Voice Vote 6-0 Ay: Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Vandeboscche, Commissioner Rushing Nay: None

3. Citizens to be Heard

None

4. Updates

A. SEMCOG Update

Amy O'Leary, Kevin Vettraino, and David Struck from SEMCOG gave an update on the services SEMCOG can provide.

The following are a few key points they touched on:

- Local Technical Assistance
- Data and Maps
- Public Engagement
- Policy and Advocacy
- Education and Networking

5. Conceptual Initiatives

A. Economic Development - Next Steps

The board made the decision to end their relationship with the Economic Development Alliance. Administrator Hepting discussed the next steps of the board would be to decide what role the board will play in economic development, and then define how to get there. Discussions have taken place about whether the board should get into a contract with MSU, SEMCOG offers services, or some have shown interest in reviving the Economic Development Corporation that was formed in 1978. Administrator Hepting provided the board with a memo that gave the board the steps for reviving the Economic Development Corporation. Discussion followed.

6. Old Business

None

7. New Business

A. Blue Water Chamber of Commerce Membership Renewal

Moved by Commissioner Rushing, supported by Commissioner Simasko, to forward to the Regular Board meeting the Blue Water Chamber of Commerce Membership Renewal. Carried - Voice Vote 6-0. Aye: Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Rushing Nay: None

B. I-69 Next Michigan Development Corporation Withdrawal

Moved by Commissioner Fielitz, supported by Commissioner Rushing, to forward to the Regular Board meeting the I-69 Next Michigan Development Corporation Withdrawal. Discussion followed. Carried - Voice Vote 6-0. Aye: Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Rushing Nay: None

8. Other Community and Economic Development Matters

None

9. Information Only

None

10. Receive and File Packets

Moved by Commissioner Rushing, supported by Commissioner Torello, to receive and file packets and all information received. Carried - Voice Vote 6-0. Aye: Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Rushing
Nay: None

11. Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner Rushing, supported by Commissioner Ange, to adjourn at 7:27 p.m. Carried - Voice Vote 6-0. Aye: Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Rushing
Nay: None

[MIN_SIGNATURES]