



MME Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
Friday, January 31st, 2020
Erie, Treetops Resort, Gaylord

John Shay, President, called the meeting to order at 11:47a.m.

I. Roll Call

Directors present:

John Shay, President; Deputy County Administrator; Ottawa County
Rebecca Fleury, President-Elect; City Manager; Battle Creek
Mike Cain, Vice President; City Manager; Boyne City
Lynn Markland, Past President; City Manager; Fenton
Victor Cardenas, Assistant City Manager; Novi
Scott Erbisch, Administrator; Marquette County
Juan Ganum, City Manager; Bridgman
Mike Hughes, City Manager; Sturgis
Elaine Leven, City Manager; Marine City
Melissa Marsh, City Manager; City of Madison Heights
Susan Montenegro, City Manager; Leslie
Dana Muscott, City Manager; Bay City
Cameron Van Wyngarden, Township Manager; Plainfield Charter Township
James Wickman, Township Manager; Hartland Township
Christian Wuerth, Village Manager; Milford

Also present:

Summer Minnick, Michigan Municipal League
Emily Kieliszewski, Michigan Municipal League
Heather Carmona, Nonprofit Spot
Alan Levy, Nonprofit Spot

II. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – December 13, 2019.

Motion to approve the December 13, 2019 minutes.

Motion by: Wickman

Seconded by: Wuerth

No discussion.

Motion carries.

B. Approval of November 2019 Financial Statement

Motion to approve the November 2019 financial statement.

Motion by: Wickman

Seconded by: Wuerth

No discussion.

Motion carries.

III. Discussion Items

A. Discussion of strategic plan survey and next steps

Nonprofit Spot reported on strategic plan process: conducted four focus groups during the conference with excellent participation. Out of the four focus groups, there were 41 participants, with over 300 ideas generated. Overall good information, and the feedback received will align with the member survey for a robust data set. The original intent was to have the strategic plan put together by Summer Workshop to be presented to the membership – there is clearly a desire from the membership to weigh in on this. Because only a third of the membership attends Summer Workshop, MME may move forward with an online platform to gather feedback. Volunteer burnout was also discussed – as the plan is implemented, Board should be mindful of who implements the action items. Now that the information gathering stage is completed, the next step is to formulate a plan. The Strategic Planning Committee will meet to discuss further after conference and start to prepare an agenda for an April board retreat/discussion to formulate how plan will take shape.

B. Individual vs MME advocacy

Recent discussion on listserv regarding the ICMA constitutional amendment ballot question. Some members were opposed and upset that ICMA took a position to favor these. The members asked MME to express the position as an organization that ICMA should be neutral regarding the ballot questions. John, Rebecca, Lynn, and Pat discussed and determined it is not MME's role to take a position: individual members are free to contact ICMA to express opinions and vote on the issue. Board discussed that the organization will review these types of situations on a case by case basis as they arise instead of developing a policy to always/never take a position. The state affiliation agreement that MME has with ICMA will also be forwarded to the Board for reference.

C. Retired elected officials

Discussion on retired member attending the conference. Consensus from the ethics survey and board discussions – not a good idea to have retired member attend if they are currently serving as an elected official.

Motion to have constitutional amendment language drafted to reflect ethics committee recommendation from July 2019 requiring members to waive membership if they hold elected office on the legislative body of another MME member.

Motion by: Wuerth
Seconded by: Montenegro

Discussion that perhaps this language should be more specific to any local unit of government. Wuerth amended original motion.

Motion to have constitutional amendment language drafted to reflect ethics committee recommendation from July 2019 requiring members to waive membership if they hold elected office on the legislative body of a city, village, township, or county.

Motion with amendment by: Wuerth
Seconded by: Montenegro
Motion carried.

IV. Comments by the Board

Fleury:

Thank you for your service, Lynn. Congrats, John. Bridgette didn't know she was terming off board until her name was called during annual business meeting. Maybe there's a better way to communicate that to members. Experience Committee does recognition and nominating committee. Since they notify nominated board members, they should also notify outgoing board members.

Cain:

Nice to be back at board level. Thanks for the nomination. Look forward to getting back up to speed.

Markland:

Thank you for everyone here and those that worked as committee chairs. Appreciate your support over the last year. Looking forward to serving with John – he will do a great job. Thank you also to Summer & Emily for their work – we could not do it without them.

Cardenas:

Thank you for recognizing me. I appreciate being on the Board and in the ICMA nomination.

Erbisch:

No comment.

Ganum:

Thanks for your service, Lynn. Congrats, John. I appreciate being appointed board liaison to the NextGen Committee - really enjoyed it.

Hughes:

No comment.

Leven:

Welcome to incoming members. Glad to have you.

Marsh:

Thank you for the nomination and appointment.

Montenegro:

Thanks for your service, Lynn. Look forward to working with everyone on the board.

Muscott:

no comment.

Van Wyngarden:

Great to see new faces at conference. Thank you, Lynn.

Wickman:

Thanks for nominating me. Happy to help. Historically, we've had a Board liaison to Ethics Committee. Will clarify.

Wuerth:

Welcome to new members. Thank you, Lynn. Thanks to James for all work with Ethics

Committee.

V. Closing Comments from the President

Lynn, thank you: outstanding year, and your assistance and work throughout the past year is appreciated. Let's really look at including board and membership throughout the strategic planning process and figure out a way to address issues of trust – this is a collaborative journey together. Honored for this privilege of serving our membership.

VI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:57p.m.