



MME Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
Thursday, April 16, 2020
Conference Call

John Shay, President, called the meeting to order at 12:31p.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
Victor Cardenas, Assistant City Manager; Novi
Scott Erbish, Administrator; Marquette County
Juan Ganum, City Manager; Bridgman
Mike Hughes, City Manager; Sturgis
Tim Klunder, City Manager; Zeeland
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:

Julius Suchy, Village Manager; Sparta
Summer Minnick, Michigan Municipal League
Emily Kieliszewski, Michigan Municipal League
Christina Nobbs, Michigan Municipal League

II. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – January 31, 2020

B. Approval of December 2019, January 2020, February 2020 Financial Statement

Motion to approve consent agenda with addition under discussion/action items: MME Fellowship Memorandum of Understanding.

Motion by: Cain

Seconded by: Erbish

No discussion.

Motion carries.

III. Discussion Items

A. RRC Survey next steps

Survey results included in agenda packet. Based on these, MEDC has developed three recommendations to discuss with the Board, including collaborating to facilitate more focus groups with MME members for more feedback on RRC Program improvements. Board discussion that MME should continue to have a role in improving the program, and will solicit members of varying demographics to participate on a subcommittee that will work with MEDC on this.

B. Proceeding with Summer Workshop

Board heard from Julius Suchy, Chair of the Professional Development Committee, regarding the status of the 2020 Summer Workshop. The Committee's recommendation at this time is to cancel Summer Workshop, and consider options for webinar-based development opportunities.

Motion to accept the Professional Development Committee's recommendation to cancel Summer Workshop.

Motion by: Cain

Seconded by: Fleury

No discussion.

Motion carries.

C. 2022 Winter Institute location recommendation

Professional Development Committee discussed options for 2022 Winter Institute locations, with emphasis on manager-led communities. With Summer Workshop 2020 in Frankenmuth canceled, MML staff can reach out to see if they may have availability to host MME for the 2023 Winter Institute.

Motion to approve Troy as the 2022 Winter Institute location.

Motion by: Wuerth

Seconded by: Cain

No discussion.

Motion carries.

D. Strategic Plan timeline

Strategic Planning Committee was scheduled to meet in early May for an all-day planning session to go over recent SWOT analysis and focus group results, with focus on developing objectives and begin developing foundational aspects of strategic plan. Initially, this strategic plan was to be presented at Summer Workshop, which is now canceled. The Committee feels this type of exercise is best done in person and recommends extending the timetable. This may move the finished product, and would mean a possible strategic plan presentation at 2021 Winter Institute.

E. MME Fellowship Memorandum of Understanding

The NextGen Committee is considering a shift to allow undergraduate students to participate in the Fellowship Program. Previously, undergraduates were considered, but the resulting applicant pool didn't quite meet the expectations set forth for the program. Board discussed universities that participate in our Fellowship Program – NextGen is in the process of filling in their list of participating universities with those that have not been included in the past (University of Michigan and Western Michigan University, for example).

Motion to approve NextGen Committee recommendations to open the MME Fellowship Program to undergraduate students

Motion by: Wuerth

Seconded by: Montenegro

Board discussed how to best target the Fellowship Program.

Amended motion to approve NextGen Committee recommendations to open the MME Fellowship Program to undergraduate students if insufficient applications are received.

Motion by: Wuerth

Seconded by: Montenegro

Motion carries.

IV. Committee Reports

A. NextGen Committee report – attached.

Shay reports the Board has been flexible with requiring committee reports amidst pandemic.

V. Comments by the Board

Fleury: none

Cain: Kudos to those thinking far ahead when rebranding, with MME being “ready for anything”.

Markland: none

Cardenas: none

Erbisch: none

Ganum: none

Hughes: Thank you for the conference call instead of Zoom.

Klunder: none

Leven: Thank you everyone who has provided feedback on the listserv, particularly related to lawn mowing. Our community has ordinances that require lawns be kept below a certain height – we will take stance with our attorney to allow contractors to do lawns.

Marsh: none

Montenegro: none

Muscott: none

Van Wyngarden: none

Wickman: I would prefer the next meeting be done via Zoom rather than conference call.

Wuerth: I'm hoping everyone is safe and well. I am impressed with the leadership from members and colleagues throughout the state during this time.

VI. Closing Comments from the President

I will make a concerted effort to visit all regional manager groups throughout the state during my term. I participated with the Middle of the Mitt group yesterday, with much discussion on COVID-19. Is there anything MME should be doing to help our members through this crisis? Cain suggested resources for managers to deal with increased stress during this time would be helpful. Board agreed to split up list of membership to reach out and check in personally with members. Minnick to follow up with the Board with a list of CAOs.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:35p.m.