



MME Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday, July 28th, 2020
Zoom Video Conference

John Shay, President, called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM.

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
Tim Klunder, City Manager; Zeeland
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:

Dan Gilmartin, Michigan Municipal League
Summer Minnick, Michigan Municipal League
Emily Kieliszewski, Michigan Municipal League

II. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes – April 16, 2020.
- B. Approval of March, April, and May 2020 Financial Statements

Motion to approve the consent agenda, including April 16, 2020 meeting minutes, and March, April, and May 2020 Financial Statements.

Motion by: Cain
Seconded by: Klunder
No discussion.
Motion carries.

III. Action Items

- A. MME Constitutional amendment recommended by the Ethics Committee
- B. See attachment. Wickman reports: the Board spoke on this briefly at Winter Institute. Majority of membership expressed discomfort with retired managers who were sitting

on legislative body of another member maintaining listserv access. Constitutional amendment proposed that addresses members running for office – those that run for office withdraw from membership.

Proposed amendment:

Article III Membership Eligibility

(a) Interpretation of the eligibility requirements in any membership category shall be made by the Board of Directors which shall establish a procedure for admission to membership. Persons who become members of the Corporation are to become such for purposes of advancing the profession and not for purpose of personal gain from marketing products or services to other members of the Corporation.

(b) Persons holding any elected office in any MME Michigan municipality shall be ineligible for any membership in the MME during the time of holding such office, and the membership shall automatically terminate and become void upon taking office.

(c) Members losing MME membership upon said election and taking office may be reinstated to MME membership upon the relinquishment of the elected office, by majority vote of all the members of the MME Board of Directors.

Board discussed the desire to add language that includes when a member may no longer be a candidate, and that the amendment should apply to persons running for/holding any elected office in any municipality employing an MME member.

Motion to put this amendment out to vote to membership with the above updates.

Motion by: Wuerth

Seconded by: Montenegro

Motion carries.

- C. MME Colloquium Speaker at MML Convention
MML presented options for speakers for MME's sponsored Colloquium at upcoming MML Virtual Convention.

Board discussed preference for La June Montgomery Tabron of the Kellogg Foundation – she is the only non-elected official on the proposed list of speakers.

Gilmartin reported that MME used to brainstorm their own speakers for the Colloquium, but the Board decided that it was easier for the League to present ideas to choose from.

If LaJune Montgomery Tabron is not available, MML events team will come back to the Board with alternative options.

Motion to selected LaJune Montgomery Tabron as MME Colloquium Speaker at

MML Virtual Conventon.
Motion by: Cain
Supported by: Cardenas
Motion carries.

D. MME breakout session/event topic

MML reports that a spot has been held on the MML Virtual Convention agenda for an MME breakout session.

Board discussed topic suggestions, including ICMA update and prefers not to use the session for networking. Shay to get input from Nonprofit Spot.

IV. Discussion Items

A. Strategic Plan update

Nonprofit Spot working with Strategic Planning Committee to update this. Efforts have been made to engage membership on this. Shay contacted MME members throughout the state with diversity of background/type of government/geographic location considered to recruit them to lead/participate in regional Zoom meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to evaluate draft goals/plan that we've developed through our completed surveys and focus groups. Nonprofit Spot to coordinate these meetings and will start in the coming weeks.

B. League role in municipal personnel matters

Discussion on involvement of MML's legal counsel in personnel matters. A member questioned the involvement of MML's legal counsel in his termination. Gilmartin clarified the role of MML's legal counsel in these type of matters: League is not in a position to recommend firing of a City Manager, or really anyone for that matter. Differences in charters, communities, etc. need to be resolved at city/village/township hall. The League's General Counsel did speak to someone from the community, but not the councilmember referenced – and very directly told the person to consult their own attorney. Communities are our members – not individuals. Our goal is to stay out of these types of conflicts in communities. If there's a way we can make that more clear to our members, the League would be happy to do that.

V. Comments by the Board

Fleury: none

Cain: none

Markland: none

Cardenas: Reminder that this year's ICMA conference is also virtual. Please sign up. Not sure what format to deliver, but they'll still have a few keynotes, breakouts, etc. I take office in September on the Board and will be liaison to MI, IN, and OH.

Erbisch: none

Ganum: Committee update on NextGen: there were some interviews with fellowship

candidates and there were three interviews. Two were for Wayland and Plymouth and both communities are setting up second interviews with candidates.

Hughes: none

Klunder: none

Marsh: none

Montenegro: great to see everyone.

Muscott: none

Van Wyngarden: none

Wickman: none

Wuerth: Congrats to Victor on the ICMA VP appointment – and congrats to James on his new position.

VI. Closing Comments from the President

We are putting together committee of members to provide input for the RRC program.

Nomination process for MME's Board: nominating committee solicits/recruits members to serve on the Board. Strategic planning process showed members asked for more transparency on how board members are selected. As we work to develop our strategic plan and how to respond to members, we are looking at the possibility of continuing to solicit and recruit via the Nominating Committee, while also putting something on the listserv notifying members that they may nominate other members to the Board (with criteria).

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:20p.m.