



**MME Board of Directors Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 1, 2024 - 12 p.m.
Governor's Room at Lansing Center & Zoom Video Conference**

President Christian Wuerth called the meeting to order at 11:54 a.m.

I. Convene and Roll Call

Directors present:

Christian Wuerth, President; Village Manager; Milford
Bridgette Gransden, President Elect; Administrator/Controller; Midland County
Melissa Marsh, Vice President; City Manager; Madison Heights
Michael Cain, Immediate Past President; City Manager; Boyne City
Vester Davis, City Manager; Springfield
Aaron Desentz, City Manager; Mt. Pleasant
Mitch Foster, City Manager; Ludington
Gordon Gallagher, Township Manager; Spring Lake Township
Nathan Henne, City Manager; Owosso
Brad Kaye, City Manager; Midland
Laura Lam, Chief Operating Officer; Kalamazoo
Sarah Moyer-Cale, City Manager; Hastings
Mark Rambo, Deputy Administrator; Kent County
Tom Tanghe, City Manager; Auburn Hills

Also present:

Matt Fulton, Midwest Regional Director; ICMA
Juan Ganum, Ethics Committee Chairperson; City Manager; Bridgman
Gregg Guetschow, Senior Advisor
Nicole Klepadlo, The Nonprofit Spot
Pat McGinnis, Advocacy Committee Chairperson; City Manager; Portage
Summer Minnick, Deputy Executive Director, Chief of Staff; MML
Margaret Mooney, Membership Associate; MML
Warren Rothe, Professional Development Committee Chairperson; Assistant
City Manager; Grosse Pointe Park

II. Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda.

Motion by: Bridgette Gransden

Seconded by: Tom Tanghe

Motion carried.

III. **Consent Agenda**

a. **Approval of November 2023 Financial Statement**

b. **Approval of December 7, 2023 minutes**

Motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion by: Tom Tanghe

Seconded by: Melissa Marsh

Motion carried.

IV. **ICMA Updates**

Matt Fulton provided an update on ICMA's upcoming programming, including regional meetings and the Local Government Reimagined Conference.

V. **Committee Updates**

Advocacy Committee

Chairperson Pat McGinnis updated the Board and asked for feedback regarding Lansing's potential election of a charter commission and how to appropriately promote the Council/Manager form of government. Christian suggested that MME should be prepared with the resources they would like to share in favor of communities adopting a Council/Manager structure but wait to act until called upon. Board comments also included the importance of advocacy efforts for this form of government overall in townships and counties as well.

Ethics Committee

Chairperson Juan Ganum reported that the committee has been in contact with Jessica Cowles at ICMA regarding options for implementing a formal process so that ethics concerns are brought to the membership in an organized manner for review and next steps.

Professional Development Committee

Chairperson Warren Rothe shared that he looks forward to another year as chair and thanked Christian and the Nonprofit Spot for their support appointing committee members and helping secure sponsorships, respectively.

Senior Advisors

Gregg Guetschow provided an update on the work of the Senior Advisors and shared their goals and priorities for the coming year.

DEI Committee

Laura Lam reported that the DEI Committee met last week and is currently working on a purpose statement for review by the Board at the next Board meeting in April as well as a few articles for the MME newsletter.

VI. Nonprofit Spot Update

Nicole Klepadlo provided an update on her work securing sponsorships for MME events, including both returning sponsors and new sponsor relationships. Committee members have also contributed to sponsor outreach by warmly communicating MME's mission and why they should be engaged. As a result of MME exceeding sponsorship goals, \$11,000 that was originally raised for the Winter Institute has already been set aside for the 2024 Summer Workshop in Marquette. Nicole also shared that each of the MME committees met four times in 2023 and are making steady progress on their goals. She looks forward to continuing this work in coordination with the Board and MML in 2024.

VII. MML Updates

Summer Minnick reminded the Board that Kelly Warren will be returning on February 9. She also reported that the Past Presidents Dinner went well but the sponsor may not have understood that a lot of the attendees are retired and therefore not potential customers. Christian also explained that MML's Kaitlyn Bloink and Sarah Martin are each going to take the lead on Winter Institute and Summer Workshop respectively to divide the responsibility based on the timing of their assigned MML events.

VIII. Old Business

None.

IX. New Business

a. Board Member & Committee Resources

Christian Wuerth reported that the committee matrix and other materials will be posted online.

b. Appointment of Ethics Committee members

Motion to appoint the Ethics Committee members for three year-terms as presented, including one member filling a vacancy for the remaining two years of their term.

Motion by: Michael Cain

Seconded by: Vester Davis

Motion carried.

c. MME Reception at ICMA Venue Confirmation

Motion to approve the MME reception venue for the ICMA conference as presented.

Motion by: Bridgette Gransden
Seconded by: Brad Kaye
Motion carried.

d. 2025 Conference Location Recommendations

Christian Wuerth explained that the Professional Development Committee has been working hard to meet the goal of booking conference locations two years in advance. Warren reported that the committee voted on Mt. Pleasant for the 2025 Summer Workshop and Bay City for the 2025 Winter Institute earlier this week for Board approval.

Motion to approve the 2025 conference location recommendations as presented.

Motion by: Aaron Desentz
Seconded by: Nathan Henne
Motion carried.

Christian Wuerth added that the Professional Development Committee is still seeking locations for the Summer Workshop in both 2026 and 2027 if anyone has suggestions.

X. Comments from the Board

Cain – Thank you for a great conference.

Davis – Thanks for the opportunity to be on the Board and for a great conference.

Desentz – Raised topics including the Board nominations process, campaigning to serve, visitors at Board meetings, and reviewing the staffing support contracts regularly. Suggested future conversations.

Henne – Shared that he is glad to be here.

Lam – Thank you for a great conference. Added that written agenda items for the topics mentioned during the Board comments could help advance these conversations.

Marsh – Shared that she is glad to be back on the Board.

Moyer-Cale – Perhaps Board nomination process can be a future discussion.

Rambo – Added that he values time and larger topics should be added to the meeting agenda ahead of time.

Tanghe – Raised the issue of MME Listserv access for assistant to the city managers and others in similar roles.

XI. Comments from the President

Christian Wuerth shared that it was great to see the students and recent graduates at the event this week and MME should continue to engage ICMA

student chapters for early career outreach as well as identify talent for job openings.

XII. Adjournment

President Christian Wuerth adjourned the meeting at 1:11 p.m.