



**MME Board of Directors Meeting  
DRAFT Minutes  
Friday, January 31, 2025 - 11:45 a.m.  
DoubleTree by Hilton Bay City - Riverfront  
Wheeler Room**

President Bridgette Gransden called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m.

I. **Convene and Roll Call**

Directors present:

Bridgette Gransden, President; Administrator/Controller; Midland County  
Katie Beemer, City Administrator; Fennville  
Precia Garland, City Manager; Ionia  
Nathan Henne, City Manager; Owosso  
Brad Kaye, Vice President; City Manager; Midland  
Melissa Marsh, President Elect; City Manager; Madison Heights  
Sarah Moyer-Cale, City Manager; Hastings  
Mark Rambo, Deputy Administrator; Kent County  
Jonathan Seyferth, City Manager; Muskegon  
Tom Tanghe, City Manager; Auburn Hills  
Patrick Waterman, Deputy City Manager; Wyoming  
Tim Wolff, Village Manager; Lake Isabella  
Christian Wuerth, Immediate Past President; Village Manager; Milford

Directors on Zoom:

Vester Davis, Manager in Transition  
Devin Olson, City Manager; Munising

Others present:

Kelly Warren, Secretary/Treasurer; Michigan Municipal League  
Darin Dood, Professional Development Committee Chairperson; Village  
Manager; Lakeview  
Matt Fulton, Midwest Regional Director; ICMA  
Juan Ganum, Ethics Committee Vice Chair; City Manager; Bridgman  
Nicole Klepadlo, The Nonprofit Spot (on Zoom)  
Ed Koryzno, MME Senior Advisor  
Margaret Mooney, Michigan Municipal League  
Cameron Van Wyngarden, Member Support Committee Chairperson;  
Township Manager; Plainfield Charter Township (on Zoom)

Dene Westbrook, Michigan Municipal League (on Zoom)  
Mark Wollenweber, MME Senior Advisor

**II. Introductions**

President Bridgette Grandsen asked everyone to go around the room and share something about themselves that others may not know.

**III. Approval of the Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda.

Motion by: Nathan Henne

Seconded by: Christian Wuerth

Motion carried.

**IV. Consent Agenda**

**a. Approval of October and November 2024 Financial Statements**

**b. Approval of December 5, 2024 Minutes**

**c. League Staff on the Listserv**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion by: Jonathan Seyferth

Seconded by: Tom Tanghe

Motion carried.

**V. ICMA Updates**

Matt Fulton thanked everyone for being so welcoming and shared that since last year's Winter Institute in Lansing was his first MME conference this was his second time around. He added that he is now starting to think about how to support all the state associations, especially as they engage in similar efforts like civics education in the classroom. He hopes to leverage relationships and opportunities across the associations in the Midwest region, including through quarterly meetings. In addition, Matt said that he would like to connect with Vester Davis to provide support while he is in transition, including resources ICMA has to offer.

**VI. Committee Updates**

**a. Advocacy Committee**

Katie Beemer reported that the last Advocacy Committee meeting was in November. Moving forward, they plan to collaborate with the Early Career Outreach Committee to maximize certain outreach efforts.

**b. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee**

Jonathan Seyferth reported that the last Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee meeting was about the session they put together for the Winter Institute. Following a conversation with Mark Washington during this week's

conference, the next task for the Committee will be to figure out terminology and language now that DEI is a “forbidden” thing.

**c. Early Career Outreach Committee**

None.

**d. Ethics Committee**

Updates will be discussed during the Executive Session.

**e. Experience Committee**

Tom Tanghe reported that the Experience Committee will be arranging visits to the award recipients’ council meetings to present the awards so that they may be recognized in front of their teams. The Committee may seek assistance in this effort from the Board and the Senior Advisors who may be available and nearby the recipients’ communities.

**f. Member Support Committee**

Cameron Van Wyngarden reported that the Member Support Committee has been working on updating the Manager in Transition guide to remove advice that is out of date. A subcommittee led this work over the past year, and it is nearly finished. He added that one area they are still working on and could use help with is updating the list of attorney recommendations who can support members with their contracts and advice if they are about to be in transition. Vester Davis thanked the Committee for their work on updating the document and looks forward to having the new version as a resource. Sarah Moyer-Cale shared that she could send the draft to Vester. Discussion included comments about the League’s participating Business Alliance Program (BAP) firms being a potential avenue for recommended attorneys, as well as consideration of a new employee assistance program for MME.

**g. Professional Development Committee**

Darin Dood reported that the Professional Development Committee typically meets every two weeks via Zoom and has a group of core members who have stayed on the Committee for a few years, which has helped with solidifying processes and establishing conference locations so that the focus can be on determining content. He added that if anyone has speaker recommendations to please let the Committee know.

**VII. Senior Advisors Updates**

Mark Wollenweber and Ed Koryzno reported that the Senior Advisors are discussing the creation of an endowment fund that could support MME members attending professional development programs. In addition, there has been discussion about adding a Senior Advisor with county management experience, as well as the potential of Rebecca Fleury becoming a Senior

Advisor. These ideas are with the goal in mind of providing well-rounded support through the Senior Advisors program as much as possible.

#### **VIII. Nonprofit Spot Updates**

##### **a. MME Listserv Replacement Software Review Summary**

##### **b. Update on Strategic Planning Reboot (May 9 Retreat)**

##### **c. Update and Volunteers Needed for Fund Development Strategy**

Nicole Klepadlo reported that the committee chairs had a kickoff meeting earlier this week and moving forward the committees will keep agendas and notes from their meetings to help track progress. She added that she is documenting Board policies and strategic plan matrix updates so that the committees (particularly the chairs) have access to all information that will be useful in their work. Nicole also reported that they have nearly narrowed it down to two software options to request more information from for potential Listserv replacement: WildApricot and MembershipWorks. In addition, the strategic planning reboot is now scheduled for May 9, 2025. Finally, Nicole shared that a few volunteers are needed to participate in a few upcoming fund development strategy meetings. If any Board members are interested, please let Brigette know.

#### **IX. MML Updates**

##### **a. Newly Elected Officials Training**

Kelly Warren shared that the League's final Newly Elected Officials training of the year will be held virtually on February 8, and the Elected Officials Academy (EOA) Summits are also coming up on February 21-22, which will be held virtually as well. There is still time to sign up for anyone whose elected officials would like to attend.

#### **X. Old Business**

##### **a. Listserv Follow Up - Nimble Communities**

President Bridgette Grandsen thanked Dene Westbrook for bringing additional information to her attention and clarified that a decision will not be made today. No further discussion.

#### **XI. New Business**

##### **a. Approval of 2025 MME Board Meeting Dates**

Motion to approve the 2025 MME Board of Directors.

Motion by: Nathan Henne

Seconded by: Christian Wuerth

Discussion clarified that the May 9 retreat will also be included in forthcoming calendar invites. Motion carried.

#### **XII. Comments from the Board**

Wuerth: Welcome to the new Board members.

Kaye: Same as Christian.

Moyer-Cale: Asked about the results of the member survey. Nicole Klepadlo shared that a recap of the results should go out early next week.

Tanghe: Shared that he was late to realize it was time for membership renewal this year and was concerned there was not a notice. He also added that the previous committee chairs weren't aware that they were coming off when they received an email that mentioned the new chairs.

**XIII. Comments from the President**

None.

**XIV. Executive Session**

Motion to go into Executive Session.

Motion by: Christian Wuerth

Seconded by: Tom Tanghe

Motion carried.

**XV. Adjournment**