



# IRONWOOD

MICHIGAN | *Find Your North*

## Proceedings of the Economic Development Corporation Meeting Wednesday, December 5, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) was held on Wednesday, December 5, 2018 at 10:00 A.M. in the Women’s Club Room, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood, Michigan.

1. Chair Wyssling called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Recording of the Roll

MEMBER	Present		EXCUSED	NOT EXCUSED
	YES	NO		
Thorsen, Gina		X	X	
Lemke, Joseph		X	X	
Korpela, Nancy	X			
Sclafani, Velda	X			
Ramme, Dave	X			
Ruppe, Mark	X			
Schonberg, Bob		X	X	
Wyssling, John	X			
Gary Burnett		X	X	
<b>Quorum</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Quorum</b>	

Also Present: Community Development Director Tom Bergman and Community Development Strategist Tim Erickson.

3. Approval of the November 7, 2018 Meeting Minutes:

**Motion** by Ramme to accept the November 7, 2018 meeting minutes. **Second** by Korpela.  
**Motion Carried 5 to 0.**

4. Approval of the Agenda

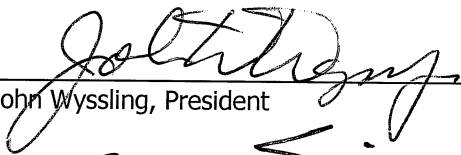
**Motion** by Ramme to accept the Agenda. **Second** by Ruppe. **Motion Carried 5 to 0.**

5. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding Items on the Agenda (Three-minute limit): None.
6. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding items not on the Agenda (Three-minute limit): None.
7. Items for Discussion and Consideration:
  - A. Approval of the 2019 meeting schedule (Jan. 9, Feb 6, Mar. 6, Apr. 3, May 1, June5, July 3, Aug 7, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Nov. 6, Dec. 4)
    - I. Director Bergman presented the meeting schedule.

Adjournment. **Motion** by Rupee to approve the meeting schedule. **Second** by Sclafani. **Motion Carried 5 to 0.**

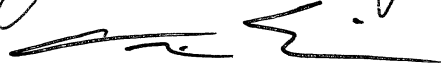
- B. Redevelopment Ready Communities – Potential strategies for redevelopment.
  - I. Update on certification. – Zoning ordinance revision and Recreational Marijuana.
    1. Director Bergman stated that the marijuana law will be considered in the zoning ordinance. The Corporation discussed the marijuana law. Director Bergman presented the attached presentation.
  - II. Update on Downtown Business changes.
    1. Wyssling talked about a new business in downtown. He talked about a new business owner for Brewsters. Director Bergman talked about creating a TIF district in the downtown to help attract new development and specifically a lodging facility.
- C. Comprehensive Plan Implementation Status of Priority Action Items:
  - I. Strategy 6.2(b) Implement Endowment Fund Program for Economic Development.
    1. Update on Economic Development Organization for Region.
      - a. Director Bergman said that he is waiting on the state for some answers. He brought up the new loan program that is being offered to Gogebic County.
    2. Update on Marketing Booklet and Business Assistance Booklet.
      - a. Erickson talked about the marketing booklet and the other marketing materials purpose in attracting business and talent to the region.
  - II. Strategy 6.3(g & h) Develop/Continue a Business Incubator and Entrepreneurial Support Spaces – Update on project with GCC and Invent@NMU. (Event in Bessemer for Loan Program).
    1. Director Bergman stated that the kiosk will be in Bessemer for a month, then Wakefield and then Ironwood. Korpela talked about Gogebic Community College utilizing their commercial kitchen. Korpela talked about doing a tech center and an industrial arts center in a couple locations in our community.
  - III. Strategy 6.4 Create internship/apprenticeship program with local business to market to colleges and trade schools.
    1. Discussion of Northern Initiatives Project with GCC (survey)

- a. Director Bergman talked about a survey from GCC that will be going out to businesses.
8. Other Business: Ramme talked about the new water facility in Marenisco. Ruppe talked about the White Pine mine starting to move forward. Director Bergman talked about Highland Copper and said that he works with them regularly.
9. Next Meeting: January 9, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.
10. Adjournment. **Motion** by Ruppe to adjourn at 11:08 a.m. **Second** by Korpela. **Motion Carried 6 to 0.**



---

John Wyssling, President



---

Tim Erickson, Community Development Assistant