



**Upper Peninsula Michigan Works!
County Commissioners
Executive Committee Meeting
December 5, 2019**

MINUTES

I. Call To Order

Board Chair Gerald Corkin calls the meeting to order at 1:57 P.M. Eastern.

II. Roll Call

Present:

Board Chair, Gerry Corkin, Marquette County; Jerry Doucette, Alger County; Patrick Johnson, Delta County; Joe Bonovetz, Gogebic County; Carl Nykanen, Ontonagon County; and Craig Reiter, Schoolcraft County

Excused:

Tim Aho, Iron County.

Michigan Works! Staff:

Bill Raymond, CEO, Michelle Viau, CFO and Tracy Roberts, Office Manager.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda was made by Commissioner Bonovetz (Gogebic County) and supported by Commissioner Doucette of Alger County; motion was approved unanimously.

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes was made by Commissioner Nykanen (Ontonagon County) and was seconded by Commissioner Corkin of Marquette County. Motion approved unanimously.



VI. Financial Report

- A. Grant Status and Overview.** CEO Raymond reviews grant status and provides updates. A four-month snapshot of finances was provided. He comments that pretty much all grants, and financial operations are running business as usual, with nothing of concern to report.
- B. Line Item Budget Report.** The line item budget will be a little impacted due to the recent reorganization at Upper Peninsula Michigan Works. GoingPro Talent Fund is not reflected in the budget, as the state level budget has not been approved; there is a chance that it will be brought up and addressed again after Jan 1st and something may get added back in.
- C. Voucher Review Report.** Motion was made to approve vouchers by Commissioner Corkin and supported by Commissioner Nykanen. Vouchers we approved unanimously.

VII. Old Business

A. Delta County AJC leased space. CEO Bill Raymond explains that in talking to the Interim County Administrator, the plans for the Michigan State Police to occupy the current leased space are currently on hold, and will be on hold for at least 2 more years, possibly longer. CEO Raymond reviews the bids that were received; only 2 are viable. Bill advises there is slight risk in that whenever they are ready to move the Michigan State Police in, the same bidders that we have now may not bid at that time. Commissioner Pat Johnson (Delta County) says that he would like to stay with the county if possible, however, he understands we may have to re-procure again in a few years. Commissioner Bonovetz says he also prefers to stay in the county building; he doesn't feel like the MSP will really come through to move in. There are also sometimes issues where they do not stay with space for very long. Commissioner Jerry Doucette (Alger County) goes along with the majority, stating that he would also like to see other bids come in before he makes a final decision. Craig Reiter, Commissioner for Schoolcraft County would like to stay where we're at – he's never a fan of moving. Bill Raymond again highlighted the one risk identified, which is that there is potential a few years down the road that we would have to re-procure all over again. The potential new space of the old Wells Fargo building is managed and owned by Beau Anderson who also owns our Menominee and Dickinson space and is very good to work with. Overall, the Commissioners feel strongly to stay in the space. A motion was made by Commissioner and Board Chair Gerry Corkin to work to procure an agreement with Delta County (3 years or more being desired) to stay in the current location. The motion is supported by Commissioner Carl Nykanen and is passed unanimously.



VIII. New Business

A. UPward Talent Council – Reorganization. CEO Raymond talks about the recent elimination of the COO and Director of Admin positions. The reorganization will add about \$218K back to the organization, as well as flattens the organization. The Director of Workforce services will take on more responsibility and organize things well and will report directly to Bill. Bill explains that he wants the organization to be less administratively top-heavy. A few other positions were rearranged to make things more efficient. Commissioner Corkin (Marquette County) requests to have a new org chart emailed out the board so they know who is doing what. CEO Raymond advises the board that the duties that the COO and Director of Administration were doing have been re-distributed. The Commissioners give compliments on the restructuring – sometimes department heads and leaders must make choices that are hard. Commissioner Nykanen comments that a revised flow chart will be nice – he also comments that if any of the board members have a concern about a particular department, they would want to know who the position is, but stresses that they should follow chain of command and contact CEO Raymond first with any concerns or issues. Commissioner Corkin asks about how the organization is performing across the region. Bill explains that the East is performing well, and Denise Hillier, although easing herself into retirement, is providing some support as we go through the transition. Bill also talked about having a strong Workforce Services Manager team of Jim Huff, Darren Widder, and a new hire, Tim Hyde. A Motion is made by Commissioner Bonovetz (Gogebic County) to accept for file and put discussion in minutes as presented. The motion is supported by Commissioner Nykanen and passes unanimously.

B. UPward Talent Council – Rebranding. CEO Raymond reviews some of the new materials from The Marketing Dept for the rebranding. He indicates that the new branding will be rolled out in Jan/Feb. Bill has received a lot of positive, favorable comments on the rebranding. The commissioners reviewed and liked the new branding and tag line: GET READY TO WIN

C. Proposed 2020 meeting schedule. A motion was made by Commissioner Corkin to accept the schedule as outlined, adding in that additional meetings of the Executive Council can be scheduled if necessary. The motion was supported by Commissioner Bonovetz (Gogebic County) and the motion passed unanimously.

IX. Reports

A. Chairman.

Board Chair Commissioner Gerry Corkin commented on great news for the counties that the Senate has passed the important pieces of legislature that counties were losing out on revenue and the main things affected in Michigan and U.P. He commented that a lot



of U.P. counties were set to lose a lot, especially the smaller counties, and so it was very good to see the Senate, House and Governor compromise and come to an agreement.

B. CEO.

CEO Raymond reviews highlights from the CEO report and speaks to the board about recent events and meetings he has been a part of. He attended the Northern Michigan Policy Conference and next week he'll be downstate at the Director's meeting. The annual NAWB – The Forum conference in DC is coming up in March – a few of the Workforce board members may attend.

IX. Communications

Motion to approve Communications was made by Commissioner Nykanen (Ontonagon County) and then supported by Commissioner Corkin. Motion approved unanimously.

X. Public Comment. None

Commissioner Nykanen (Ontonagon County) commented that he and Commissioner Bonovetz (Gogebic County) attended a meeting at the new Gogebic AJC, and they both thought it is a great co-location partnering with Community Action.

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Corkin adjourned the LEO meeting at 2:28 P.M. Eastern.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for February 6.