

**Upper Peninsula Michigan Works! County Commissioner Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, December 2, 2021**

**I. Call to Order, Gerald Corkin, Chair**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am ET by Board Chair Commissioner Gerald Corkin.

**II. Roll Call**

**Present:**

Board Chair, Gerald Corkin; Jerry Doucette, Alger County; Alan Kilar, Schoolcraft County; Carl Nykanen, Ontonagon County; Joe Bonovetz, Gogebic County; Tom Tikkanen, Houghton County; Gale Eilola, Baraga County; Joe Stevens, Dickinson County; Mark Stauber, Iron County; and Scott Shackleton, Chippewa County

**Excused:**

Phyllis French, Luce County; Bob DeMarois, Keweenaw County; Patrick Johnson, Delta County; Paul Krause, Mackinac County; and Bernie Lang, Menominee County

**UP Michigan Works! Staff:**

William Raymond, CEO; and Betsy Erkkila, Administrative Services Manager

**III. Public Comment**

None

**IV. Approval of Agenda**

A motion to approve the agenda of December 2, 2021, was made by Commissioner Nykanen and was supported by Commissioner Stauber. Motion passes.

**V. Approval of Minutes from October meeting**

A motion to approve the minutes from the October 8 LEO Board meeting was made by Commissioner Corkin and supported by Commissioner Bonovetz. All in favor, and no opposition. Motion passes.

**VI. Financial Report**

A motion to approve all financial reports and vouchers was made by Commissioner Nykanen and supported by Commissioner Stauber. All in favor, and no opposition. Motion passes.

**VII. Old Business**

**CEO Review and Raise**

It was reported that the LEO Executive Committee met on November 4 and reviewed the salary for CEO Raymond and made a salary recommendation of \$120,000 per year for the next 5 years. This would be retroactive to 10/1/2021. It was noted that they looked at different areas in the state of what CEOs were being paid and \$120,000 was a fair and reasonable salary. Commissioner Bonovetz opened it up for questions and comments. The LEO Executive Committee unanimously recommended to the full LEO Board a motion to approve CEO Raymond's salary of \$120,000 per year for the next 5 years effective October 1, 2021. Commissioner Bonovetz made the motion, it was supported by Commissioner Doucette, and there were no comments or opposition from the LEO Board members. Motion passes by the LEO Board to approve the \$120,000 salary for CEO Raymond retroactive to October 1.

## **VIII. New Business**

### **2022 Board Meeting Schedule**

Two meeting schedule options were discussed for 2022. The first option was chosen as the best option. The meeting schedule for 2022 will include four full Board meetings in February, May, August, and October and seven Executive Committee meetings in January, March, April, June, September, November, and December. It was noted that in the event there is little business to take care of the Executive committee meetings can be canceled as needed. A motion to approve the 2022 Board meeting schedule was made by Commissioner Corkin and supported by Commissioner Bonovetz. All were in favor. Motion passes.

## **VIII. Reports**

### **A. Chair**

Board Chair Corkin wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

### **B. CEO**

CEO Raymond discussed his CEO report. He noted we are amid the great resignation and there aren't a lot of job seekers seeking work. He noted Upper Peninsula Michigan Works! staff are doing great work. There was some discussion on UIA benefits, and the improper benefits paid out during the pandemic. There was a question on the CUPPAD report on pages 17-18 of CEO Raymond's report. The board asked for a full report on this, which CEO Raymond will send out after the meeting. A motion to accept CEO Raymond's report was made by Commissioner Stevens and supported by Commissioner Corkin. Motion passes.

## **IX. Communications**

A motion to accept for file was made by Commissioner Corkin and supported by Commissioner Nykanen. No comments and all were in favor. Motion passes.

## **X. Member updates**

None

## **XI. Next Meeting/Adjournment**

The next meeting will be held on January 6, 2022, of the LEO Executive Committee. The next LEO Board meeting will be held on February 3, 2022. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:30 am ET.