



Allegan County Economic Development
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June 7, 2023

Meeting at Perrigo; 490 Eastern Ave, Allegan, MI 49010
Held by Lakeshore Advantage

Board Meeting Minutes
Allegan County Economic Development Commission

Meeting was called to order at 2:02 PM by Jenifer Garcia.

Roll Call showed the following members:

PRESENT: Jenifer Garcia
 Stephanie Calhoun
 Michelle Krcatovich
 Mike VanDenBerg
 Rich Okoniewski
 Denise Siegel
 Joe Novakoski
 Michael Kiella
 Taylor Hatten
 Matt Smith
 Commissioner Jim Storey via phone

ABSENT: Nora Balgoyen

OTHERS: Katie DeGross: Lakeshore Advantage, Mandy Cooper: Lakeshore Advantage, Dan Wedge: Allegan County

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA – Jenifer Garcia would like to add a discussion item of chair to the ACEDC Board. A motion was made by Michael Kiella to accept the change to the agenda, seconded by Mike VanDenBerg. The motion carried.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO MINUTES – A motion was made by Michael Kiella to accept the minutes, seconded by Joe Novakoski. The motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

1. Lakeshore Advantage Update

- a. Projects: 7 projects, \$68.16M, new or retained 283 jobs. 28% in Allegan County. 18 projects in the pipeline with 173M in potential investment and 955 new or retained jobs. We are participating

in RAP 2.0 funding while partnering with the Right Place. 41 total projects have been submitted from our region. Western Allegan got flagged for Moderate Ozone Nonattainment. This will only effect a select few companies. There is a call with an environmental attorney on June 21 at 10am if anyone is interested in listening in.

- b. Lakeshore Advantage announced the Next Center. Building downtown Holland within the SmartZone, and moving our incubator, SURGE, to the first floor. It will have a learning lab to house other community members. Lakeshore Advantage headquarters will be on the second floor, and the third floor will house a business that is integrated or supports entrepreneurs.
- c. Upcoming events: August 3 is Developer Day. Rural Leadership Summit on July 31, led by Sarah Lucas: invite only.

Discussion Items

1. Downtown Allegan Infastructure & Streetscape Project/M-89 Roundabout

- a. All new underground infastructure is being done, extending sidewalk space. Creating a few different gathering and community spaces as a result of these infastructure projects. All infastructure and streetscape projects will be done end of 2023. M-DOT round about project to start April of 2024 and go until August.

2. ACEDC Chair Position:

- a. Jenifer Garcia would like to step down as chair of ACEDC. Jenifer will work with Dan Wedge and Lakeshore Advantage to share what the role responsibilities are.

3. Sector Updates:

- a. Michelle: made introduction to agri-business in Fennville to Lakeshore Advantage. Schaendorf is expanding their farm and production as the largest dairy farmer in Allegan County.
- b. Stephanie: housing assessment started about 6 weeks ago. Needs responses to survey from employers in order for this to be successful.
- c. Jim: discussion about solar fields and the impact on agri-business.
- d. Joe: huge delay in industrial electrical transformers – 160 weeks.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

NEXT MEETING - 2:00 PM on August 2_ at location TBD

ADJOURNMENT – With no further business we adjourned the meeting at 3:28pm.

Submitted by: Katie DeGross