

Van Buren County Economic Development Corporation

June 2, 2025 | 1 p.m.

Location: Board of Commissioners Chambers

Meeting Minutes

Roll Call

| Member | Term Expires | Present/Absent |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| Tom Stanek, Chair | 2/13/2027 | P |
| Rodney Dragicevich, Vice Chair | 2/13/2026 | P |
| Zachary Morris, Secretary | 2/13/2030 | P |
| Kurt Doroh, Board of Commissioners Representative | BOC Appointed | P |
| Randall Peat, Board of Commissioners Representative | BOC Appointed | P |
| Paul Schincariol, Board of Commissioners Representative | BOC Appointed | P |
| Stephanie Timmer, Board Member | 2/13/2028 | P |
| Mike Toth, Board Member | 2/13/2028 | P |

Others in attendance:

- Julia Wall, External Affairs Manager at Market One
- Katie Multhauf, Economic Development Manager at Market One
- Katie Vanderhulst, Community Development Director at Market One
- Lisa Ransler, Van Buren County Community Services Director

Call to Order

Tom Stanek, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Rodney Dragicevich moved to approve the meeting agenda. Kurt Doroh supported the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Mr. Dragicevich moved to approve the May 2025 meeting minutes. Mr. Doroh supported the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Open Issues

Van Buren County Economic Development Review

Ms. Mutlhauf gave a brief update on economic development. She has two projects that will be breaking ground within the next few months-they will be officially announced soon. Burnette Foods was awarded \$190,000 for the Food and Agriculture Investment Program for increased production capacity. She is visiting companies to promote and inform them

about the Value-Added program and the FITC program. Ms. Multhauf said that the MEDC is pre-qualifying our sites for attraction.

Palisades, Broadband Update

Mr. Morris said there are no major updates for Palisades and reopening is projected for this fall. Mr. Peat said Holtec Palisades is hiring over 800 contractors and around 560 employees for the reopening of Palisades.

Mr. Morris said there are no major updates regarding broadband. Progress with MEC and Comcast is going well, but Mercury Broadband's removal is causing delays for a few townships.

Financial Update

a. Revolving Loan Fund

Mr. Morris gave an update on the revolving loan fund. The loan closing for Jeremiah Smith Enterprises is almost complete.

RNS Packaging

Mr. Morris gave a brief update on work with the attorney on the RNS Packaging delinquency. Mr. Morris is continuing to work with the attorney and research a few items.

Mitaine

Mr. Morris announced that Mitaine made an April loan payment.

Loan Prospects

No major updates currently. We are currently working with the state on future goals. The board encouraged Mr. Morris to make sure our focus is still business development.

b. County Strategic Fund

No major updates at this time. The fund is still growing and we will continue to move money into it over from the Revolving Loan Fund every quarter.

Community Grant Development Update

Katie Vanderhulst gave an update on grants. She announced the success of our 5th Annual Municipal Summit and the emphasis on municipalities being prepared to apply for grants and having the tools and education on how to develop their plans into a strong grant application. Ms. Vanderhulst also shared that we had a great Township Supervisors meeting and several follow-up meetings that came from Market One's updates during that meeting. She is working with Lisa Ransler on the USDA Housing Preservation Grant. It will focus on rehabbing about 7 homes within the county. Ms. Vanderhulst and Ms. Ransler will be sharing more details soon to start marketing the grant. Discussion continued regarding

the best ways municipalities can prepare themselves for funding and sharing their ideas with the Market One team.

Additional Announcements/Public Comment

No comments at this time.

Adjournment

Mr. Doroh moved to adjourn the meeting and adjust the next meeting date to July 14. Mr. Peat supported the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 14, 2025 at 1 p.m.



Zach Morris, Secretary of the Board

8-2-2025

Date