



GLADSTONE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (EDC) REGULAR MEETING

Electric Department Conference Room
10 North 11th Street
February 18, 2025
12:00 PM

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

EDC Chair, Steve Tackman, called the meeting to order at 12:12 PM ET.

1. Roll Call

PRESENT	ABSENT
Dirk Manson	Gary Maynard
Jim Andersen	Steve DeLaire
Kevin Gendron	Steve O'Driscoll
Michael Nardi	Steve Soderman
Steven Tackman	

Others in Attendance: Eric Buckman, Patricia West, Ed LeGault

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

The January 31, 2025 Balance Sheet was distributed to the board as it was not included in the original agenda packet.

2. EDC Regular Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2024

Motion made by Gendron, seconded by Manson to approve the EDC Regular Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2024, with correction to the spelling of Jim Andersen's last name.

Voting Yea: Manson, Andersen, Gendron, Nardi, Tackman

MOTION CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. EDC Marketing Initiatives with Orange Cat Media

Patricia West provided an update to the EDC on marketing initiatives in collaboration with Orange Cat Media. Following the EDC's directive from this fall, the corporation reviewed a promotional video showcasing the industrial park, produced to support marketing efforts for available lots and attract new businesses. The video was well received, with the only suggested revision being the inclusion of rail access as a key marketing highlight.

Additionally, Gendron proposed capturing an overhead drone shot of the entire park to provide a comprehensive visual of the infrastructure and available lots. The board agreed this would be a valuable addition but determined it was not necessary to delay

the distribution of the current video. West will work with the media company to capture that image in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

4. 2025 Regular Meeting Schedule

Motion made by Manson, seconded by Nardi to approve the 2025 Regular Meeting Schedule as presented, with the understanding that meetings would be cancelled when there is no business.

Voting Yea: Manson, Andersen, Gendron, Nardi, Tackman

MOTION CARRIED.

5. 2025-2026 EDC Budget Proposal

Motion made by Andersen, Seconded by Gendron to recommend the proposed budget to the City Commission for approval.

Voting Yea: Manson, Andersen, Gendron, Nardi, Tackman

MOTION CARRIED.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager, Eric Buckman, provided updates on the status of the city's 2025/2026 Budget Process including updates on street and infrastructure funding, as well as the proposed expansion of Transition Assisted Living.

6. EDC Board Renewal | Gary Maynard (April 2025)

Manager Buckman indicated he would follow up with Gary Maynard to see if he is interested in renewing his position.

7. EDC Website Updates

West provided an overview of the recent updates made to the EDC webpage and encouraged the EDC to consider future updates to assist in the marketing of properties available.

8. Social District Exploration

West provided an overview of the social district initiative and the outcomes of the community survey.

DELTA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY REPORT

Ed LeGault provide updates on the following items:

- 2025 Delta Force Program
- City of Escanaba's marketing efforts
- Infrastructure Projects
- Outreach efforts on new legislation impacting earned sick time
- Recent census data and population trends
- State budget recommendations and congressional mass spending

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Nardi, seconded by Gendron to adjourn at 1:18 PM ET.

Voting Yea: Manson, Andersen, Gendron, Nardi, Tackman

MOTION CARRIED.