



To enhance the economy and improve the quality of life in Oscoda County.

**Wednesday, Feb 19, 2025**  
**EDC Meeting Official minutes**  
6:00 PM- Oscoda County Library

6:00 PM- Call to order, invocation of flag and roll call

**Members present-**Richard Castle, Ashley Morris, Deb Coulon, Christine Curley, Devin Layman, Duane Roddy, Al Chaney

**Members absent-** deGuzman

**Liaison present:** Ted Handrich

**EDC Director present:** N/A

**Members of the public present-** Lori Lewis Comins Twp Sup, Dee Marshall from Bell Title, Chris Southwell MI Works

**Agenda Approval:** Coulon added RLF Closed Session, Layman added discussion on social media post. Motion made by Chaney/Castle 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve with additions.

**Minutes Approval:** Correction to spelling of Curley in new business. Motion made by Roddy/Layman 2<sup>nd</sup> with correction.

**Public Comments:** N/A

**Old business-** RLF balance \$108,192.31, discussion on social media with need to better screen postings on FB, Loan Committee found value with call they had with Attorney regarding RLF program. Director interview was held January 22, 2025, Christina Southwell candidate for EDC Director was introduced and allowed to present her resume to board.

**Director's update-** N/A



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**New business-** Letter of Interest for Board opening received by Dee Marshall, Motion by Chaney/Roddy 2<sup>nd</sup> to add Dee Marshall to EDC Board to fill vacancy. Motion passes.

Board discussed Director candidate Southwell. Motion by Cheney/Roddy 2<sup>nd</sup> to bring Christina Southwell on as EDC Director and continue MI Works Partnership with start date of March 1, 2025. Roll Call Vote

Chaney-yes

Morris-yes

Coulon-yes

Layman-yes

Castle-yes

Curley-yes

Roddy-yes

Motion passes.

Business Promotion/Sponsorship: Castle presented the idea of a business sponsorship with possible mini grant fund utilizing social media for promoting business to allow businesses to apply for small grants funded by sponsorships.

1. How do we build fund? What does the sponsorship look like? What are benefits?
2. Developing the fund program. What is the criteria? How do we build interest in the community? How do we help jump start a small business?

Castle asked that board ponder and bring ideas to next meeting.

Discussion on possibility of hosting an Apex Workshop in fall and for new director to gauge interest when she starts visiting local business. Have Breana do a poll of FB.

Marshall asked how we are currently marketing the EDC to the community. She was not able to find the EDC or our posts on FB without digging for it. Is there another way to boost the posts?

Add Breana to agenda in March to discuss social media and marketing options.

**Liaison Report:** Survey from housing authority needs to be completed and returned. Handrich will send to Coulon to complete.

Coulon asked if the new resource officer has been hired and have they started.

Handrich stated Todd Easterday has been hired and is working both schools.



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Castle made motion to closed EDC meeting, Layman 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor.  
Chaney mad a motion to open Brownfield, Coulon 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor.

**Brownfield:** Members (Curley, Layman, Roddy, Southwell & Coulon) to attend Brownfield Workshop in Gaylord March 18<sup>th</sup>.

Roddy stated that Nick from Luzerne has a request for a new well, having issues with funding. Problem with previous cleanup.

Roddy attended a Brownfield/EGLE webinar- discussed 302 Brownfield sites, some being in Oscoda County.

Roddy will remain as LEPC officer. P-FOSS numbers are low and Big Creek Twp has been notified.

Chaney motion to close Brownfield, Castle 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Layman motion to go into closed session, Chaney 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Castle motion to close closed session, Chaney 2<sup>nd</sup>

Chaney motion to reopen EDC, Castle 2<sup>nd</sup>

Roddy motion to garnish wages on loan 11302022 if payment not received within the 10 days of Attorney letter, Layman 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Roll Call:

Curley - yes

Roddy - yes

Layman - yes

Castle - yes

Coulon - yes

Morris - yes

Chaney - yes

Motion passes.

Chaney motion to close EDC meeting, Roddy 2<sup>nd</sup>.