

Northeast Michigan Council of Governments

80 Livingston Blvd Suite U-108 | PO Box 457 | Gaylord, MI 49734 | Voice: 989.705.3730 | Fax: 989.705.3729 | nemcog.org

MEETING NOTICE

**NORTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Thursday, April 15, 2021
10:00 a.m. – 10:25 p.m.**

Video Conference: GoToMeeting

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/596970373>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(571\) 317-3122](tel:+15713173122)

Access Code: 596-970-373

AGENDA

- I.** Call to Order
- II.** Roll Call
- III.** Approval of Minutes – March 18, 2021 Meeting
- IV.** Financial Report – March 31, 2021
- V.** President’s Report
 - A. Regional Project Review
 - B. Other
- VI.** Director’s/Staff Report
- VII.** Committee Reports
 - A. RPI Collaborative
 - B. Finance Committee
 - C. Other
- VIII.** Previous Business
- IX.** New Business
- X.** Public Comment
- XI.** Adjournment – next Meeting: May 20, 2021

MI Dept. of Treasury Webinar: 10:30-11:45 a.m. (see Flyer)

Presentation: Rodney Taylor, MI Dept. of Treasury: **America Rescue Plan**



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**MINUTES
OF THE
NORTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
March 18, 2021**

Video-conference: Go-To-Meeting

Call to Order

The Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) Board of Directors meeting was called to order by Robert Heilman, President, at 10:07 a.m. A quorum was declared.

Roll Call

Board Members

Present: Dan Gauthier, Dave Karschnick, John Wallace, Carey Jansen, Dawn Hubbard, Kyle Yoder, Rob Pallarito, Carl Altman, Robert Heilman, Marisue Moreau, Doug Baum, Dave Post, Sheila Phillips, Nathan Skibbe, Adam Poll, and Scott McLennan

Staff Present: Diane Rekowski, Denise Cline, Karen Cole and Theresa Huff

Guest: Sara McCauley

Approval of Minutes

R. Heilman presented the Minutes of the February 18, 2021 meeting. J. Wallace moved, seconded by R. Pallarito to approve the minutes as presented. Yes all, motion carried.

Financial Report

K. Cole reviewed the February 28, 2021 financial statements. S. Phillips moved, seconded by D. Karschnick; to receive and file the February 28, 2021 Financial Report as presented. Yes all, motion carried.

President's Report

Regional Project Review: R. Heilman stated there are (0) Federal Grant project for regional review; (0) other projects for regional review and (0) public notices.

Director's/Staff Report

MI Association of Regions (MAR): None.

Projects/Staff – D. Rekowski

- Program Highlights were sent out for the period of July 2020-February 2021.
- Staff, Christina McEmber is leaving, last day is March 24, 2021. Interviewing the previous applicant.
- D. Cline: Regional Tourism – seeing renewed interest to get it up and running. Working together with communities to work together in similar fashion as the US23 platform. Planning to get the group together soon.

Committee Reports

RPI: D. Baum stated that work continues on the projects in the 10-year RPI plan. He would like to return to meeting regularly once in person meetings are allowed.

Finance Committee: The committee met on February 10, 2021. The Nominating Committee/Finance Committee nominated Alpena Township and the Village of Lincoln to fill two vacant Board positions. D. Baum moved, seconded by J. Wallace to accept appointments as recommended. Yes all, motion carried.

Both Sheila Phillips from the Village of Lincoln and Nathan Skibbe from Alpena Township were present and accepted the positions. They were welcomed by the Board. S. Phillips and N. Skibbe introduced themselves to the board and provided some of their history and experience.

1 year members: D. Post moved, seconded by S. McLennan, to reappoint all 1 year appointments to the board for another year. Yes all, motioned carried.

Other: S. McCauley briefly reviewed the handouts that were sent to the board on the Special COVID Recovery Update for NEMI as of March 16, 2021. She noted to be cautious that this information is subject to revisions as more information is known.

D. Cline reminded the board of a Department of Treasury webinar that will take place next week. T. Huff will resend the details again.

Previous Business

None

New Business

None

County Updates

Alpena Chamber: Anticipates receiving funds from the last round of survival funds. Development projects are occurring in the City and Township as well.

Alcona Co.: Busy working on negotiations with the Police. US23 closing soon, a 2-mile stretch, for 3 or 4 months. The County BOC has begun to explore hiring a County Administrator.

Alpena Co.: State of Michigan rules require 2 more Corrections Officers for the new jail, so they are working on that. Jail Administration can possibly move in later this month. Bagley Street Bridge closed – detours are in place making travel a nightmare. Looking at hiring a County Administrator to replace Tammy Bates who is retiring after many years. There are a lot of meetings for the commissioners.

Alpena Twp.: Several businesses are moving forward with Economic Development projects.

City of Grayling: Downtown apartment project kick off meeting is being held today. Continue to see positive interest in new projects.

Cheboygan Co.: Inmate died last week in the jail and is under investigation. Indian River will soon have new pavement in town.

Crawford Co.: Putting together a Recycling Taskforce for Recycling Solutions.

Montmorency Co.: Working hard on an Invasive Species project. Police Officers are getting a new union contract.

Oscoda Co.: Working on an Online Reservation System for the camp grounds.

Otsego Co.: The airport has reinstated the Veterans coffee hour beginning in April. This has always had great success and attendance and also has been adopted by other counties as well. It's a great opportunity for Vets to get together and talk. Justice Complex is on the May 4th ballot. There is an Active Citizens Committee promoting it. The current jail was built in 1968 and is over 50 years old. Everything is out of date and puts the staff in danger. They need a better space that also provides new technology that will work efficiently.

Mackinaw: Good weather!

MI Works! /Northeast Consortium: They will be hosting "Drive up Job Fairs". Employers will send openings. Jobseekers can fill out form provided at Job Fair and drop off or email back to MI works. They will get completed forms to the respective employers. Events will be in April and May.

Village of Hillman: Just adopted the new budget. Will be replacing a major piece of sidewalk. Looking for groundwater for a new well – hired a contractor to assist. May 2022 – the closure of the power plant. Although there has been talk going around that due to the recent weather related power outages in Texas; they may want to reconsider to keep open.

Village of Lincoln: Road projects this year, but have limited funding. Looking at an ultra-thin layer option that is half the cost of the 1 ½ inch overlay. Will last 5 years or more. That would give them time to find additional funds to do the 1 ½ inch overlay. Working on expanding and improving the Golf Cart Community. It's been funded by pop bottles and cans collections. Have a new water well and working to build a pavilion.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m. by R. Heilman. The next meeting will be April 15, 2021. Details will be provided as to whether it will be in person or virtual.



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**Regional Project Review
For April, 2021**

Region 9 Federal Grant Applications

#	Total	From	Applicant	Project
1	\$379,281	DHHS	Thunder Bay Community Health Service, Inc.	Thunder Bay Community Health Service, Inc. (TBCHS) is applying for a Health Center Service Expansion-School Based Service Site federal grant through the Health Resources and Services Administration. This funding opportunity provides a two-year project period for service delivery sites located at schools that seek to expand access to services. This funding opportunity will allow TBCHS to expand access to comprehensive primary, preventive, and mental health services for the students of Johannesburg/Lewiston Area Schools and the community's underserved residents.
2	296,950	DHHS	NEMCSA	Revision/Carryover request of the Continuation Grant 5 year continuation grant to provide base funding for comprehensive educational, family and support services to 2171 children ages 3-5 in Head Start and 308 children ages 0-3 in Early Head Start. Provide prenatal and early childhood services to children and families within the basic service area of NEMCSA and eleven additional counties. This program provides services to young families consistent with the agency's anti-poverty mission. If approved this will extend the deadline to 1/31/22
3	1,937,290	DHHS	NEMCSA	Revision/Carryover request for the COVID grant, for one time funds to respond to the impact of COVID-19. (Purchased lots of cleaning materials and equipment along with support from other agencies, etc.).

Other Projects for Review

1	Lakeside Park Pavilion and Playground Improvements: Notice of Intent for Recreation Grant Projects associated with an application from the City of Rogers City to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, \$265,000.
2	Otsego lake County Park Drainage Improvements: Notice of Intent for Recreation Grant Projects associated with an application from the Otsego County Parks and Recreation to Michigan Land and Water Conservation Fund, \$150,000.

Public Notice

1	NONE
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Understanding What the American Rescue Plan Means for Local Government

An Informational Webinar and Discussion

You are invited to join NEMCOG for a hosted conversation with the Michigan Department of Treasury's Rodney Taylor. The webinar will focus on the impact of the American Rescue Plan on governments in Northeast Michigan, including governments expected to receive funds, eligible uses of the funds and prudent ways to manage the funds once received. Following the presentation, there will be an opportunity for questions and discussion amongst local government leaders.

This event made possible with grant funds provided by the United States Economic Development Administration.

**April 15th, 2021 at
10:30 - 11:45 AM**

Please RSVP Here

**Join by Go-To-Meeting
Call-In: +1 (571) 317-3122
Access Code: 596-970-373**

*Have questions? Contact Sara at
mccauley@strategicpolicyconsultants.com*

About Rodney Taylor: Rodney is the Division Administrator for the Community Engagement and Finance Division (CEFD) for the Michigan Department of Treasury, which includes the Analytics & Outreach, Audit and Municipal Finance Sections. CEFD plays a critical role in ensuring the fiscal sustainability of local governments in Michigan. The mission of the Division is to partner with Michigan municipalities to be fiscally resilient through financial, operational, and regulatory support services.

Prior to joining Treasury, Rod was manager for DeWitt Charter Township for over a decade. While he started his tenure at the beginning of the economic downturn, he was still able to increase investment in critical infrastructure and expanded regional collaboration, all while greatly increasing the Township's financial reserves. Rod has worked in local government for almost 25 years and previously served as the Chief Information Officer for Ingham County and the City of East Lansing. Rod attend Ferris for his bachelor's degree and has a master's degree in Business Administration from Central Michigan University.

Rodney Taylor - Biography

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