# MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND APPROVED SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES January 14, 2021

# Members joined remotely

Britany L. Affolter-Caine, participating from Ypsilanti Township, MI

Paul Ajegba, participating from Ann Arbor, MI

Ronald W. Beebe, participating from St. Johns, MI

Mark Burton, participating from Meridian Township, MI

Susan Corbin, participating from Petoskey, MI

Paul Gentilozzi, participating from East Lansing MI

September Hargrove, participating from Detroit, MI

Andrew Lockwood (on behalf of Treasurer Eubanks), participating from Grand Ledge, MI

Charles P. Rothstein, participating from Franklin, MI

Susan Tellier, participating from Grand Rapids, MI

Cindy Warner, participating from Palm Springs, CA

## I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mr. Burton called the special meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. The meeting was held virtually via Microsoft Teams due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He stated the purpose of the special meeting is for Board members to consider supplemental budget items that provide support to live music and entertainment venues and small businesses disproportionally impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

Mr. Burton introduced Katelyn Wilcox Surmann, MSF Board Liaison, who reminded members to identify their physical location by stating the county, city, township, or village and state from which he or she is attending the meeting remotely, as required under the Open Meetings Act. Ms. Wilcox Surmann then conducted the attendance roll call.

## II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Katelyn Wilcox Surmann explained the process for members of the public to participate.

- John Jablonski expressed concern that the legislature directed the Michigan Independent Venue and Promoter Association, a relatively new organization, to administer the Michigan Stages Survival Grant Program. He asked how the organization will decide which venues will receive funding, particularly for those that are not members of the association. Mr. Burton stated this would be addressed during the presentation on the agenda item.
- Richard Stewart was an applicant for COVID-19-related small business loan and grant programs and his application was denied for both. He expressed concern on how diversity was defined in the application process and encouraged the development of a universal definition for diversity to prevent discriminatory practices by organizations administering the grants.

The following comments were submitted through the Microsoft Teams chat feature at 12:53 p.m.

- Alex Kofsky - Accelerate UP: For consideration. My organization assists entrepreneurs in the start-up and expansion phases of their business. A number of businesses I work with acquired financing in 2018-2019; one in particular investing \$800k in the remodeling of a downtown building which took 1.5 years. This business opened February 15th, 2020, and is unable to obtain assistance through the PPP and EIDL, as well as many grants they have applied for. The issue being an inability to showcase income loss in relation to their 2019 income numbers. The business is still paying on the loans associated with the buildout, however, being a wellness/fitness center has been devasted by Covid-19 related restrictions. Thank you all for the hard work you do for our State. Please take this issue into consideration, as we need to encourage start-ups during these challenging times. Innovation and entrepreneurship will be a major source of economic success as we move forward into 2021.

#### III. COMMUNICATIONS

Katelyn Wilcox Surmann advised Board members that no communications were received for this meeting.

## IV. SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET ITEMS

Amanda Bright McClanahan, Chief Operating Officer, provided an overview of the supplemental budget items included in SB 748 that was signed into law by Governor Whitmer on December 29, 2020. The guidelines for the programs being considered follow the statutory requirements.

Resolution 2021-001 Michigan Stages Survival Grant Program: Approval of Funding, Program Guidelines, Michigan Independent Venue and Promoter Association (MIVPA) Agreement and Background Review Policy Waiver

Amanda Bright McClanahan, Chief Operating Officer, provided the Board with information regarding this action item. The action involves approval of funding, program guidelines, MIVPA agreement, and background review policy waiver for the Michigan Stages Survival Grant Program. Following discussion, Britany L. Affolter-Caine motioned for the approval of Resolution 2021-001. Susan Tellier seconded the motion. The motion carried: 10 ayes; 0 recused; 1 abstained.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Paul Ajegba, Mark Burton, Susan Corbin, Paul Gentilozzi, September Hargrove, Andrew Lockwood (on behalf of Treasurer Eubanks, designation attached), Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None; Abstained: Ronald W. Beebe

# Resolution 2021-002 Michigan Small Business Survival Grant Program: Approval of Funding, Funding Allocations, Program Guidelines and Background Review Policy Waiver

Joshua Hundt, Executive Vice President & Chief Business Development Officer, provided the Board with information regarding this action item. The action involves approval of funding, funding allocations, program guidelines, and background review policy wavier for the Michigan Small Business Survival Grant Program. Following discussion, Charles P. Rothstein motioned for the approval of Resolution 2021-002. Susan Tellier seconded the motion. The motion carried: 10 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused; 1 abstained.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Paul Ajegba, Mark Burton, Susan Corbin, Paul Gentilozzi, September Hargrove, Andrew Lockwood (on behalf of Treasurer Eubanks, designation attached), Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None; Abstained: Ronald W. Beebe

# Resolution 2021-003 Delegation of Authority

The action involves approval of delegation of authority for the MSF President or the MSF Fund Manager to make all decisions that are necessary and appropriate to administer the Michigan Stages Survival Grant Program and the Michigan Small Business Survival Grant Program. Cindy Warner motioned for the approval of Resolution 2021-003. Paul Ajegba seconded the motion. The motion carried: 10 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused; 1 abstained.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Paul Ajegba, Mark Burton, Susan Corbin, Paul Gentilozzi, September Hargrove, Andrew Lockwood (on behalf of Treasurer Eubanks, designation attached), Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None; Abstained: Ronald W. Beebe

Mr. Burton adjourned the meeting at 12:54 p.m.



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

RACHAEL EUBANKS STATE TREASURER

January 8, 2021

Katelyn Wilcox Surmann Assistant Chief of Protocol & MSF Board Liaison Michigan Economic Development Corporation 300 N. Washington Square Lansing, MI 48913

Re: Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Designee for Treasurer Eubanks

Dear Ms. Surmann:

I hereby designate Andrew Lockwood to attend all Michigan Strategic Fund meetings that I am unable to attend in 2021.

If you need anything additional, please contact Kara Kabia at (517) 241-2624.

Sincerely,

Machael Quesculis

Rachael Eubanks State Treasurer

Cc: Eric Bussis

Andrew Lockwood