



**MME Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 25, 2024 - 10 a.m.
League Lansing Office & Zoom Video Conference**

President Christian Wuerth called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m.

I. Convene and Roll Call

Directors present:

Christian Wuerth, President; Village Manager; Milford
Nathan Henne, City Manager; Owosso
Melissa Marsh, Vice President; City Manager; Madison Heights
Tim Wolff, Village Manager; Lake Isabella

Others present:

Kelly Warren, Secretary/Treasurer; MML
Margaret Mooney, MML

Directors on Zoom:

Michael Cain, Immediate Past President; City Manager; Boyne City
Vester Davis, City Manager; Springfield
Gordon Gallagher, Township Manager; Spring Lake Township
Bridgette Gransden, President Elect; Administrator/Controller; Midland
County
Laura Lam, Chief Operating Officer; Kalamazoo
Mark Rambo, Deputy Administrator; Kent County
Tom Tanghe, City Manager; Auburn Hills

Others on Zoom:

Nicole Bidwell, MML
Heather Carmona, The Nonprofit Spot
Katie Farver, MML
Matt Fulton, Midwest Regional Director; ICMA
Nicole Klepadlo, The Nonprofit Spot
Ed Koryzno, MME Senior Advisor
Pat McGinnis, Advocacy Committee Chairperson; City Manager; Portage
Brandon Skopek, Early Career Outreach Committee Chairperson; Assistant
City Manager; Auburn Hills
Mark Washington, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Chairperson;
City Manager; Grand Rapids

II. Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda.

Motion by: Bridgette Gransden

Seconded by: Michael Cain

Motion carried.

III. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of June, July, and August 2024 Financial Statements

b. Approval of July 16, 2024 Minutes

c. MAC Affiliate Membership

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion by: Michael Cain

Seconded by: Melissa Marsh

Motion carried.

IV. 2025 Budget Adoption

Nicole Bidwell from MML's Finance staff presented the budget worksheet for review and adoption by the Board. Discussion included an amendment to add \$1,000 to the Senior Advisors budget to cover an additional Senior Advisor with experience in county administration, per Bridgette Gransden who made this recommendation and knows someone interested in the role. President Christian Wuerth noted that the budget reflects MME continuing to pay for the Past Presidents Dinner, which has been debated in the past. He also noted a request he has received for MME to return to complimentary membership for Retired Members. Discussion concluded that the current \$40 dues amount will remain for this category of membership.

Motion to approve the budget as amended.

Motion by: Tim Wolff

Seconded by: Bridgette Gransden

Opposed by: None

Motion carried.

V. ICMA Updates

a. Request for Consideration of Amended Midwest Rotational Agreement

President Christian Wuerth explained the amended rotational agreement as included in the packet, outlining the process for selecting candidates to be nominated to serve as the Midwest region's ICMA Vice-Presidents.

Motion to approve the amended agreement as presented.

Motion by: Nathan Henne

Seconded by: Tim Wolff

Opposed by: None

Motion carried.

VI. Committee Updates

a. Advocacy Committee

Pat McGinnis thanked the Board for moving forward with a Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) membership for MME. The Advocacy Committee plans to have a table promoting MME and the council manager form of government at the MAC and MTA conferences in 2025. Pat shared that the Committee has reached out to the Lansing Charter Commission offering to provide them with information from MME members or mayors in local governments with the council manager form, but they did not accept this offer. He also shared that MME member Katie Beemer offered the idea of a “K-12 Committee” that could work on local government curriculum to bring to public schools. In addition, Advocacy Committee Member Jason Smith will be presenting at the upcoming Winter Institute. Discussion included additional suggestions for offering council manager form of government training and resources.

b. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Mark Washington shared that the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee has been meeting and is having good conversations about resources and education for MME members, including a session about navigating differences and finding commonality that was proposed for the Winter Institute.

c. Early Career Outreach Committee

Brandon Skopek reported that the Early Career Outreach Committee had a successful training session in August and will be rescheduling the session on IT services that was originally scheduled for the fall to spring 2025. The Committee is also finalizing their session on mentorship for the Winter Institute.

d. Ethics Committee

President Christian Wuerth reported that Ethics Committee has been working on a couple of things and it is possible that there will be some recommended actions at the next Board meeting.

e. Experience Committee

Tom Tanghe reported that the Experience Committee has received nominations for all of the MME awards except the New Executive Achievement Award and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leadership Award. He reminded the Board that nominations close on October 28 and the Committee will be meeting on November 1 to select the winners. They are also working on a session for the Winter Institute.

f. Professional Development Committee

President Christian Wuerth reported that the Professional Development Committee is busy preparing for the Winter Institute in Bay City and is

already getting started on planning for the Summer Workshop in Mt. Pleasant.

VII. Senior Advisors Updates

Ed Koryzno reported that the Senior Advisor program is celebrating its 50th anniversary and shared that they are engaged with ICMA on the national and regional levels for continued success and improvement of the program. The four Michigan Senior Advisors meet quarterly to stay in touch regarding Managers in Transition and the assistance being provided. Ed also shared that the four of them have dedicated 304 hours to serving MME during the period of January 2024–July 2024, which has included wellness support to members, training to councils, and more.

VIII. Nonprofit Spot Updates

Nicole Klepadlo reported that Winter Institute fundraising is well underway and although responses are coming in slow, interest is there, and 85 companies have been contacted. The deadline to submit Winter Institute session ideas is November 1, and a subcommittee is working to get ahead on Summer Workshop planning too. Nicole reported that the member feedback survey deadline is November 1 as well and there have been 58 responses so far, with the goal being to reach 100.

IX. MML Updates

Kelly Warren highlighted the recent MML Convention on Mackinac Island, the several sessions on artificial intelligence (AI) during the event, the AI handbook that the League coauthored with the University of Michigan, and the highly attended session on preparing for mass shootings, which will be offered again at CapCon in the spring. She also shared that MME newsletter submissions will now go to Margaret and Christian reminded the group about the upcoming deadline. In addition, Kelly reported that the League recently completed an internal DEI plan that they are so proud of.

X. Old Business

None.

XI. New Business

a. Revised Nonprofit Spot Support Services Proposal

The Board discussed the revised Nonprofit Spot support services proposal, which includes a strategic plan reboot to ensure the MME committees are still providing the support that MME members want. Discussion clarified the intent behind a one-year agreement and the increase in the services rate, which had remained the same for the first

two years. Revisiting the contract each year allows for flexibility, given that the relationship between MME and Nonprofit Spot is still relatively new. Heather Carmona added that signing a longer contract could happen in the future, especially given the goals for fund development that go beyond a one-year basis.

Motion to approve the revised proposal as presented.

Motion by: Michael Cain

Seconded by: Tom Tanghe

Opposed by: None

Motion carried.

b. Approval of 16/50 Project Support

President Christian Wuerth highlighted the impact report from Emily Kieliszewski for the 16/50 Project's Women's Municipal Leadership Program, including the recent success among graduates starting in chief administrative officer positions.

Motion to approve \$5,000 in support for the 16/50 Project as presented.

Motion by: Melissa Marsh

Seconded by: Gordon Gallagher

Opposed by: None.

Motion carried.

c. Establishment of Non-Dues Revenues Task Force

President Christian Wuerth explained that the non-dues revenues task force will work closely with Nicole Klepadlo. Discussion clarified that there is a lot of room for new ideas in this area.

Motion to create the committee with the tasks as recommended in the memo and to appoint Aaron Desentz and Brad Kaye subject to their confirmation of availability and interest.

Motion by: Gordon Gallagher

Seconded by: Tim Wolff

Opposed by: None

Motion carried.

d. Establishment of Conference Policy Task Force

President Christian Wuerth explained that this will be a joint task force between the Board and the Professional Development Committee to look at the MME conference policy, working closely with Committee Chair Warren Rothe and Vice-Chair Precia Garland, as well as Nicole Klepadlo.

Motion to approve the recommended action as outlined in memo and to appoint Nathan Henne and Tim Wolff to serve on the task force.

Motion by: Nathan Henne

Seconded by: Tim Wolff
Opposed by: None
Motion carried.

e. ICMA Listserv Request

President Christian Wuerth explained that ICMA's Matt Fulton is interested in being included on the Listserv to offer any resources he may have for topics that arise. He is currently on the other state associations' Listservs in the region for the same purpose.

Motion to add Matt Fulton to the MME Listserv.

Motion by: Michael Cain
Seconded by: Laura Lam
Opposed by: None
Motion carried.

XII. Comments from the Board

Cain: Reported that the Nominations Committee has received 18 nominations from the membership for the upcoming MME Board election, including three for Vice President and 15 for the four directors' terms that are expiring at the end of the Winter Institute.

Lam: Shared that Deputy City Manager Jeff Chamberlain is retiring, and the job is posted on the MML website. She encouraged the Board to let her know of anyone in their networks who may be interested in this role.

XIII. Comments from the President

President Christian Wuerth shared that he visited the Upper Peninsula again for a tour of Negaunee and encouraged City Manager Nate Heffron to join MME. The community is doing a lot of amazing work and improvements through grant funding, including ARPA dollars. Christian also recently attended the retired managers' luncheon.

XIV. Adjournment

President Christian Wuerth adjourned the meeting at 11:17 a.m.