

Arenac County EDC

Meeting Minutes



Location: Arenac County Building
Room 201

August 14th, 2025

- I. Call to Order: 8:32am
- II. Roll Call: Bob Balzer, Amanda Lauzon, Leona Daniels, Abbie Golimbieski, Kim Nelson, Deb Morgan, Jennifer Pierson, Curt Hillman, Mike Stodolak, Shelly DeCharme, Brad Mason, Pat Killingbeck
 - a. Absent: Dale Wiltse, Harold Woolhiser, Julie Hazeltine
 - b. Guest: Shelli Thurston
- III. Meeting Minutes/Secretary's Report:
 - a. Approval of July Meeting Minutes: Motion- Mike Stodolak, Supported-Curt Hillman
- IV. Treasurer's Report:
 - a. Approval of Treasurer's Report: Motion- Curt Hillman, Supported- Mike Stodolak
- V. Director's Report (attached) included in report:
 - a. One vehicle was purchased and one vehicle received repairs through BRES Funding Program. Arenac County successfully completed all summer work experiences, participating businesses expressed interest in hosting youth again next year. Sterling Area Health Center Event had a strong turnout. Mike Hoadley signed *Youth Connect Magazine*, the signed copy will be gifted to the students. MDARD and EDA funding decisions are pending budget finalization. The Childcare Coalition Grant was approved for the wage pilot and reimbursement program. Received an MEDC "Connecting College Grads" grant to provide additional funding for both *Coming Home* events.
- VI. Guest Speaker: Shelli Thurston-Bay City Economic Development Marketing Manager
 - a. Shelli Thurston provided a presentation and information regarding MSHDA Housing TIF and Brownfield Site Assessments.
- VII. Old Business:
 - a. SSRP Grant: Waiting for GIS to give access to report
 - b. Looking into new analysis for county Brownfield activity
- VIII. New Business:
 - a. Childcare in Au Gres is needed
- IX. Around the Table:
 - a. Mike Stodolak: Be careful of fraud links sent by text and emails
 - b. Brad Mason: The old Spartan Tire is just about done; it will be going up for sale when finished.
 - c. Shelly DuCharme: The schools need the School Aid funding to get moving, the schools desperately need that funding.
 - d. Kim Nelson: Caring Bear Picnic had a nice turn out. The Sunrise Community Resource Center backpack giveaway is tonight.
 - e. Curt Hillman: The Depot has three more concerts left this summer. Depot Days will be the first weekend in October. The Christmas tree lighting will be in December; planning has already started. Arenac Opportunities Funding has been cut by fifty percent.
 - f. Leona Daniels: Michigan Farm Bureau is involved in addressing Deer Damage with crops through the Deer Damage Pilot Program, will help cover costs for getting deer processed. Labor is a huge issue, losing specialty crops due to the lack of labor.
 - g. Amanda Lauzon: Edge is getting reconstructed to seven days a week due to not being able to keep up with the demand. Christmas for Kids had annual golf outing at Pine River Golf Course, went well.

- h. Bob Balzer: Consumers offers tree planting grants for communities
 - i. Deb Morgan: Heather has done a great job with Arenac Opportunities; loss of funding will have an impact on the program.
 - j. Pat Killingbeck: Car Show was busy, restaurants in Au Gres have been extremely busy. The new Housing Complex is almost finished. The Museum has a program tonight on the Civil War.
- X. Next Meeting: September 11th at 8:30am
- XI. Meeting Adjourned: 9:57am

Respectfully Submitted,

Abbie Golimbieski

MSUE