



**Mason County Promise Zone Authority Board Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday June 13, 2022: 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.**  
**Location: Lakeshore Resource Network Conference Room, E. Tinkham, Ludington, MI**

**Members Present:**

Fabian Knizacky, Annette Quillan, Dena Thurston, Andrea Large, Kathy Surd, Joan Vidak, Vic Burwell, Amy Pepper

**Members Absent:**

Monica Schuyler, Roger Nash

**Staff Present:**

Jody Maloney, Kelly Parker(3:09pm)

1. **Call to Order:** Vice Chair Thurston called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.
2. **Limited Public Comment:**
3. **Approval of the Agenda**
  - a. *Motion by Knizacky to approve the agenda with support by Large; Motion carried 8-0-2*
4. **Approval of Minutes from 5-9-22**
  - a. *Motion by Knizacky to approve minutes from 5-9-22 supported by Burwell; Motion carried 8-0-2*
5. **Treasurer's Report**
  - a. Trial Balance: \$1,291,698.98
  - b. Invoices:
    - i. MCE FAFSA initiative: \$500 (included in the budget)
    - ii. MCAN: \$1600 (½ time College Advisor at LHS-included in budget)
    - iii. Regular invoices: Chamber & Kennari
  - c. Approval of Invoices
    - i. *Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Large, supported by Vidak; Motion carried 8-0-2*
6. **Director's Report**
  - a. Approval of the Director's Report:
    - i. *Motion by Burwell to approve the Director's Report, supported by Pepper; Motion carried 8-0-2.*
7. **New Business**
  - a. Promise Growth:
    - i. Goal 1 Review: Maloney briefly reviewed goal progress for July/August Growth Discussions
  - b. Committee Reports: See minutes online here: <https://www.masoncountypromise.org/minutes>
    - i. Appeals Committee: Did not meet; Meeting rescheduled to 6-20-22
    - ii. Community Engagement Committee: Met 6-1-22; Next meeting 7-12-22@10AM
      1. Candidates Recommended for Interview:
        - a. *Recommendation to interview Chad Riffle and Meleah Mariani (3-0-0);* Discussion noted that these candidates submitted their candidacy before the May 13th date.
          - i. *Motion by Burwell to approve the recommendation to interview Riffle and Mariani with support by Large. Motion carried 8-0-2.* Maloney will notify additional candidates if there is a decision or if they will be interviewed after Mariani and Riffle are interviewed.
      2. Date for special meeting to interview needed: Maloney will request July 11th and send out a doodle

poll to Board members if that date is not suitable for both candidates; Interview questions will be assigned to Board members by CEC Chair Thurston.

- c. Student Success Committee: Met 5-23-22; Next meeting 6-27-22@10AM
  - i. *Recommendation to include homeschooled graduates who reside in Mason County if they have registered as a homeschool with the State of Michigan for at least one year (Large/Pepper; Carried 4-0-2).*
    - 1. Additional information requested from Newaygo Promise Zone
    - 2. Discussion—Questions from those Board members not on the committee?
    - 3. The Board took no formal action and sent the recommendation back to Committee for further review.
  - ii. Recommendation to amend the Promise Development Plan to require County-based private and parochial schools to register with the ESD for at least one year (Large/Quillan; Carried (4-0-2)).
    - 1. Decision: Not considered.
  - iii. Update on attorney search for Exploring Books/Tech Incentive Option: Thrun Law has declined due to a perceived conflict of interest; Clark-Hill has indicated they would review our request, and a response to follow up has not yet been received; no other attorney has responded.
- d. Executive Committee: Next Meeting: October 19th @ 3PM

**8. Old Business:**

- a. Board Strengths for Growth
  - i. Board members reviewed feedback from other Board colleagues and discussed the following questions:
    - 1. What is one thing you might do differently as a Board member, knowing what your colleagues need.
    - 2. How did you choose what kind of college to attend? What considerations in choosing a college do you think might be different from the time when you made a college decision compared with students today?

**9. Any Other Business:** None

**10. Limited Public Comment:** None

**11. Adjourn:** *Thurston moved for adjournment at 5:17 p.m.*