Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Economic Development Corporation
Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, September 3, 2026– Minutes -DRAFT

Members Present: Dave Ledebuhr, Joy Hazard, Adam Hodges, Anthony Alvarado, David Fosdick, and Tim Dempsey

Members Absent: Nate Ide, Trustee Kathy Sundland, and Adam Carlson

Others Present: Economic Development Director Amber Clark and Executive Assistant Michelle Prinz

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

   Vice Chair Fosdick called the meeting to order at 7:33am.

2. **MISSION:** Set the standard in creating an entrepreneurial culture, be the example for revitalization of our business districts, and be the leaders in building sustainable public/private partnerships.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

   MOTION BY MEMBER FOSDICK TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER HAZARD. MOTION PASSES 6-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

   a. Minutes-Meeting August 6, 2026
   b. Development Projects

      Director Clark stated that Juice Nation and Studio C will be closing.

   MOTION BY MEMBER FOSDICK TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER ALVARADO. MOTION PASSES 6-0.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

   None.

6. PUBLIC REMARKS

   None.

7. OLD BUSINESS

None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Community Economic Development Projects Grant (Federal Office of Administration for Children and Families)

Director Clark led discussion around possible revenue funding grant opportunities to support local businesses. There is an opportunity through the US Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families. The grant would provide local businesses with $27,000 in salary for a new full-time permanent position. The grant minimum is $100,000. There was consensus that more research is needed on this grant. Additional discussion surrounded the need to brainstorm and connect with local businesses about their needs. Possibly survey local businesses. The EDC will discuss further at the next meeting.

b. Groovy Donuts Façade Improvement Grant Reimbursement Agreement

Member Ledebuhr requested a friendly amendment to the agreement to prevent confusion on the terms of the agreement. Manager Dempsey suggested to strike the following words "The terms of this Agreement are for 10 years and."

MOTION BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR TO ADOPT THE GROOVY DONUTS, LLC AMENDED FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT. SUPPORTED BY MANAGER DEMPSEY. MOTION PASSES 6-0.

9. COMMUNITY REPORTS

a. Meridian Mall Updates
Member Hodges mentioned the following:
- Spirit Halloween is open
- Parking lot project is complete
- Working on holiday season preparation

b. MABA
Member Alvarado reported the following:
- 212 current members
- Next Friday membership meeting at MSUFCU at 9:00am-10:30am
- Will be accepting nonprofit grant applications in October/November
- Working on hiring a paid Administrative Assistant

c. Township Board
Manager Dempsey stated the following:
- Presented the 2027 Township Budget and the Five-Year Financial Forecast at last Tuesday's Board meeting
- Public Hearing for the 2027 Budget will be on 9/15
- Final Board Listening Session of the year will be on 10/27 at 6:00pm at St. Luke's Church in Haslett

10. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

None.

11. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

October 1, 2026 at 7:30am at the Township Municipal Building-Town Hall Room.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chair Carlson adjourned the meeting at 8:04am.