

## **Michigan Coalition to Protect Public Rights-of-Way**

### **PROTEC Minutes of August 13, 2025 Regular Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. in Legal Conference Room 2G in the City of Dearborn by the Chair.

**Present:** Jeremy Romer (City of Dearborn); Dawn King (City of Southfield); Mike Watza (PROTEC General Counsel); Jim Jernigan (Wayne County); Chris Johnson (MML); Carrie LeZotte (Bloomfield Hills); Ian Locke (Orion TV); Lynn Meikle (Calhoun County); Deb Guthrie (Guthrie Communications)

#### **I. Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Romer, supported by King, to approve the Agenda. **Motion carried.**

#### **II. Introductions**

#### **III. Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Romer, supported by King, to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2025 Regular Meeting. **Motion carried.**

#### **IV. New Business**

Michigan has thus far held off streamer tax immunity, but this has not addressed the problem of declining municipal revenues. Possible solutions: municipal broadband, inclusion of streamers in PA 480. After all, streamers broadcast baseball and generally act more like cable cos. CTC's preliminary findings support inclusion.

Indiana capitulated to the streamers.

Motion by Romer, supported by King, to retain as General Counsel, Michael Watza, now with the law firm of Bloom Sluggett, P.C. as set forth in the attached letter of June 10, 2025.

**Motion carried.**

As described in the May 8, 2025 PROTEC minutes, there has been a need for a more vibrant website for PROTEC. This was performed by Marx Layne for a one-shot fee of \$500.

Dawn volunteered to distribute PROTEC by-laws, with most recent 1998 amendment, to Board Members.

A June 2022 resolution provided the fiscal agent - Michigan Municipal League – with authority to pay certain recurring monthly invoices without an authorizing resolution by the Board as long as the monthly bills for such items do not exceed the following limits: (\$8,000 General Counsel fees) (\$500 Deb Guthrie) (\$300 Marx Layne) (\$300 MML) provided there is no meeting during the month. The fiscal agent sought such authority during months when the Board does meet so long as the maximum monthly fees are not exceeded. Motion by Romer, supported by King, that the fiscal agent be and is authorized to pay without a separate resolution any monthly invoice which does not exceed the referenced sums, regardless whether a meeting is held during the month.

**Motion carried.**

#### **V. Old Business**

## **VI. Financial Update**

Motion by King, supported by Romer, to pay Marx Layne for public relations services rendered through June 30, 2025, per invoice #2507031, dated June 30, 2025, in the amount of \$602.50. **Motion carried.**

Motion by King, supported by Romer, to pay the law firm of Bloom Sluggett, P.C. for legal services rendered through June 30, 2025, per invoice #26749, dated July 10, 2025, in the amount of \$8,605.00. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Romer, supported by King, to pay the law firm of Bloom Sluggett, P.C. for legal services rendered through July 31, 2025, per invoice #26881, dated August 7, 2025, in the amount of \$4,200.00. **Motion carried.**

Motion by King, supported by Romer, to pay Michigan Municipal League for services rendered through May 31, 2025, per invoice dated June 16, 2025, in the amount of \$1,419.39. **Motion carried.**

Motion by King, supported by Romer, to pay Kitch attorneys for legal services rendered through May 31, 2025, in the amount of \$7,686.00. **Motion carried.**

## **VII. Adjournment**

Motion by Romer, supported by King, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried.** Meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

**The next regular meeting is September 17, 2025, 2:00-4:00 p.m., at Livonia City Hall.**