



115 ERSKINE, 2nd FLOOR
 DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48201
 PHONE (313) 876-0674
 FAX (313) 664-5505
 TYY: 711

A Michigan Works! Agency

MEETING:	DESC Executive Committee Meeting Special Session	DATE:	February 19, 2026
ATTENDEES:	DESC Executive Committee Members: Alice Thompson, Terri Weems, Chris Uhl, Lena Barkley DESC Staff: Dana Williams, Rachel May, Michelle Hodges (remote)	LOCATION:	DESC Corporate Offices
		CALLED TO ORDER:	10:06 a.m.
ABSENT:	Excused: N/A Unexcused: N/A	ADJOURNED:	12:10 p.m.
PUBLIC ATTENDEES:			
FACILITATOR:	Alice Thompson, Board Chairperson	DATE MINUTES APPROVED/ADOPTED:	March 2, 2026

ITEM	DISCUSSION	OUTCOME/ACTION ITEM(S)
I. Welcome & Introductions	Alice Thompson, Board Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.	
II. Approval Agenda/Minutes		<p>Approval of the following agendas will be moved to the March 2, 2026 meeting.</p> <p>12.22.2025 Special Session (with corrections) 02.05.2026 Special Session (with corrections) 02.19.2026 Special Session (with corrections)</p> <p>Approval of the following minutes will be moved to the March 2, 2026 meeting.</p> <p>10.27.2025 12.22.2025 Special Session 02.05.2026 Special Session</p>
III. Board Chair Report	<p>Alice Thompson, Board Chairperson presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liability follow-up: Board is protected 	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraged more transparency from the organization with the committee as she did in previous meetings • It is important to inform committee of issues as they arise • Inform board chair of issues ahead of meeting to support risk management • Inform when you recognize an issue not when you try to resolve it • Important to identify the lessons learned <p>Board discussion ensued.</p>	
IV. Fiscal Update	<p>Michelle Hodges, Interim CFO, DESC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unrestricted fund deficit reported in 6.30.2025 financial statements • Working diligently to address deficit; reviewing open grants with appropriate period of performance; reallocating costs between grants where appropriate; good success there • Deficit reduced significantly • Contributing factor to deficit is the current cost allocation process; Improvements underway • Cost reduction savings plan underway <p>Dana Williams, President, DESC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment update: Job postings for CFO and Budget Director active now, applicant review underway, interviews planned for early March <p>Board discussion ensued.</p>	<p>Action: provide details for cost-savings plan at 02.26.2026 Audit & Finance Meeting</p> <p>Action: provide CFO and Budget Director applicant update with detail at 02.26.2026 Audit & Finance Meeting.</p> <p>Action: Provide financial information</p>
V.	<p>Terri Weems called for a motion for closed session pursuant to section 8A of the Michigan Open Meetings Act to consider evaluation of an employee at the request of the employee:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Motion: Terri Weems Seconded: Chris Uhl</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Motion Carried – A roll call vote was approved unanimously</p> <p>All persons other than the executive committee, and the President, were excused from the meeting. The committee went into closed session for one hour and 42 minutes. During the closed session, the Executive Committee provided verbal feedback and evaluation of the President.</p> <p>The Executive Committee returned to the Committee meeting, re-opened the meeting and proceeded with the agenda.</p>	
VI. Public Comments	none	
VII. Adjournment	<p>Ms. Thompson called for a Motion to Adjourn the meeting:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Motion: Chris Uhl Seconded: Lena Barkley Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously</p>	

DRAFT SUBMITTED BY:

Printed Name: Rachel May Title: Executive Assistant

Signature: /s/ Rachel May Date: 2/26/2026

DATE MINUTES APPROVED/ADOPTED: March 2, 2026 Initials: RM

NEXT MEETING: March 2, 2026