

MINUTES

**Kent-Ottawa-Muskegon Foreign Trade Zone Authority #189
KOM-FTZ Board Meeting
September 10, 2015
Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center
200 Viridian Drive
Muskegon, MI 49440**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ed Garner, Chairman; Sonja Johnson, Director – Van Andel Global Trade Center; Ronald Modreski; Paul Howland, Secretary/Treasurer; Daryl Delabbio; Therese Thill; Jonathan Wilson; Al Vanderberg; Roger Bergman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ben Cross; Ken Rizzio, Vice Chairman; Jim MacLellan.

GUESTS:

1. Chairman Garner called the Kent Ottawa Muskegon Foreign Trade Zone Board meeting to order at 12:17 P.M.
2. The minutes of the March 12, 2015 KOM FTZ meeting were approved. (Moved by Delabbio. Seconded by Wilson.)
3. Treasurer/Secretary Howland gave the financial report. The ledger balance of the 5/3 Bank Certificate of Deposit is \$19,795.29. The ending balance in the KOM FTZ checkbook is \$3474.82
4. Sonja Johnson gave a quick overview of her activities since the March 12, 2015 Board meeting. There were nineteen events:
 - Ms. Johnson made five presentations to businesses in the Kent, Ottawa, and Muskegon counties.
 - She met with United States Custom officials at Sunhill America, located in Grandville, MI.
 - Wolverine Worldwide (WWW) will move its functions from Cedar Springs, MI to Rockford, MI in order to support the company's Canadian growth in June 2016.
 - Southern Litho Plate has been activated with Customs since April, 2014. The company had issues with their systems and has not been able to use the program however expects to use it in the near future.
 - Ms. Johnson attended a meeting with Supply Chain Solutions and The Gerald R. Ford International Airport to discuss options to get a user at their magnet site.
 - She met with Phil Roy to talk about the FTZ program for discussions in his classes at GVSU.
 - She met with UPS about KOM FTZ.
 - Meetings with other companies included Praxis Packaging, Asimco Technologies, located in Southfield, MI, and telephone discussions with ETO Magnetic.

Mr. Modreski asked if Perrigo has been contacted about the benefits of the KOM FTZ. They are a current zone user in the Battle Creek zone. Mr. Modreski further informed the Board about the new Federal workforce program, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA.)

5. The Board then discussed the Columbian Logistics agreement, providing a quick overview to the Board's new members as to why the KOM FTZ had issues with them in the past year over rates and uniform treatment. Discussion also revolved around changing the length of the contract term with Columbian from one year to three years. The Board voted on seeing if it could extend to a two year extension. (Modreski moved. Vanderberg seconded.) Authorization was given to Ms. Johnson to negotiate with Columbian.

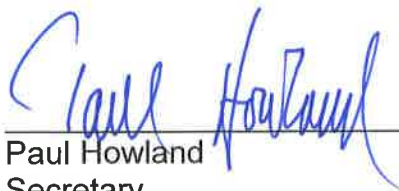
6. There was a brief discussion about the nine magnet sites that are scheduled to sunset on August 31, 2017 if not activated with a user.

7. The Board established its meeting dates for 2016 and March, 2017. It was decided that the second Thursday of March, July, and November, 2016 (March 10, July 14, November 10 respectively and March 9, 2017 were the Board's scheduled meeting dates.

8. A representative of the Muskegon County Port Advisory Committee addressed the KOM FTZ and asked for the Board's support for this effort. KOM FTZ indicated its support, but will ask the Board attorney to check KOM FTZ's by-laws.

9. All business being accomplished, the Kent Ottawa Muskegon Foreign Trade Zone Board adjourned at 1:12 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 1:12 P.M.



Paul Howland
Secretary