



**CITY OF IONIA**  
**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**8:00 AM, Wednesday, July 16, 2025**  
**IONIA THEATRE - MAIN FOYER**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson John Krueger called the meeting of the Ionia Downtown Development Authority to order at 8:00 AM.

**II. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Roll call revealed a Quorum with board members Taryn Altobelli, Heather Poland-Sizemore, Benjamin Weller, Precia Garland, Ryan Wilson, Dustin Sommer, and John Krueger present.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

IACC Director Wilson reminded attendees of the upcoming Ribbon Cuttings (Car Wash and Hale Park), invited attendees to IACC's Coffee and Connect on July 22nd, highlighted the upcoming SEO Basics Lunch and Learn opportunity and noted the launch of their new app.

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

**(IV.1.) To approve the July 16, 2025 meeting agenda.**

With no changes or additions, Member Garland made a motion, seconded by Board Member Sommer, to approve the agenda as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.**

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**(V.1.) To approve the minutes from the June 18, 2025 meeting.**

Minutes from the regular meeting on June 18, 2025, were reviewed. Member Garland made a motion, seconded by Board Member Weller, to approve the meeting minutes as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.**

**VI. FINANCIAL REPORT**

**(VI.1.) To accept the Accounts Payables for the DDA: May 26, 2025 – June 25, 2025 in the amount of \$1,484.59**

**To accept the Accounts Payables for the Theatre: May 26, 2025 – June 25, 2025 in the amount of \$9,213.98**

It was noted that financials are done using a modified accrual basis, with a 30-day run off at the end

of the fiscal year. Members were provided the regular financial package, as well as a three year review of the Theatre Fund. It was requested to provide the three-year look back at the end of each fiscal year.

Board Member Weller made a motion, seconded by Board Member Sommer, to accept the financials as presented.

**MOTION BY VOICE VOTE.**

**VII. DDA DIRECTOR REPORT**

**(VII.1.) Report included in Board Agenda Packet.**

Director Rice discussed launching the fireworks, prep for and work at the Ionia Free Fair and the status of the upcoming launch of the social district. It was also noted that two DDA businesses are partnering to provide an Estate Planning Workshop hosted at the Ionia Theatre on August 18th at 11am.

**VIII. THEATRE REPORT**

**(VIII.1.) Report included in Board Agenda Packet.**

Assistant Director Rice discussed the previous month's attendance and show numbers. Upcoming events include Ionia Community Theatre's Revue of Andrew Lloyd Webber on August 2nd, "Field of Dreams" Free Movie Hosted by WION on August 4th and ICCOA's Fundraiser with Jake Slater returning as Elvis on August 10th. WION will continue the Free Movie Series with the Original "Top Gun" showing in September and Gremlins hitting the screen in October.

**IX. BOARD DECISIONS AND ACTION ITEMS**

**(IX.1.) MIPitch Funding Support**

Director Rice noted the previous year's financial support to the MIPitch program, ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 since 2021. The funds go directly to entrepreneurs pitching an idea to expand or start a business. The event is on September 18th and idea submissions begin in August. Member Wilson also made note of several downtown businesses obtaining funds over the past years.

Member Garland made a motion to approve \$1,000 to financially support MIPitch 2025, seconded by Board Member Altobelli.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Taryn Altobelli, Heather Poland-Sizemore, Benjamin Weller, Precia Garland, Dustin Sommer

Nays: John Krueger

Abstentions: Ryan Wilson

**MOTION BY VOICE VOTE.**

**X. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**(X.1.) Year-End Marketing Committee Update - to be provided at August Board Meeting**

A marketing snapshot of progress will be provided as the marketing committee progresses into the next phase of downtown support. It was requested to also review the goals set in the board strategy session and start reviewing those pillars determined at the beginning of 2025.

**XI. OTHER**

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cassie Rice, Recording Secretary  
for Heather Poland-Sizemore, Secretary

**UPCOMING EVENTS**