

Minutes of Regular Meeting - April 8th, 2025

River Market Community Co-op and Zoom

Attendance:

Directors Present:

In-person: Luke Engel, Randy Gutzmann, Amanda Hanlon, Karen Hulstrand, Julie Luna, David Mickelson, Stephen Munasinghe, and Judy Murphy

Via Zoom: None

Directors Absent:

Meghan Hatalla

The Directors present constituted a quorum.

Others Present:

Andre Bessette, River Market Community Co-op (RMCC) IT Director, and Grace Lehne, RMCC Board Administrative Assistant (BAA)

Call to Order

Mr. Engel called the April 8th, 2025 meeting of the RMCC Board of Directors to order at 6:01 p.m.

Owner Comments and Points of Order

Mr. Engel acknowledged no owners were present. Mr. Engel called for any points of order to be added. No points of order were added.

Consent Agenda / Pulled Reports

Mr. Engel then called upon directors to identify reports for removal from April's Consent Agenda. No reports were pulled. Ms. Luna moved to accept the consent agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Mickelson, and approved by the board.

BOD/GM Open Discussion

Mr. Bessette opened the floor for questions about the General Manager's Report. Discussion was had about ongoing IT initiatives and the Co-op Deals app.

B.6: Treatment of Staff

Ms. Lehne opened the floor for questions about the B.6 report. Questions were asked about wages, staffing, benefits, and the staff satisfaction survey. Ms. Luna moved to accept the B.6 report, which was seconded by Mr. Munasinghe and approved by the board.

B.9: Urgent General Manager Succession

Mr. Bessette opened the floor for questions about the B.9 report. Discussion was had about when Mr. Bessette had served as the emergency succession General Manager in the past. Mr. Munasinghe moved to accept the B.9 report, which was seconded by Mr. Gutzmann and approved by the board.

Board Budget and Financials

Mr. Munasinghe led a discussion about the board's budget priorities including board compensation, the 2026 CCMA conference, and an events budget. Ms. Luna moved to accept the board budget, which was seconded by Ms. Hanlon and approved by the board.

Break 6:56 – 7:06 PM

C-Policy Monitoring Reports

C.1: Governing Style

Mr. Engel spoke about the C.1 report. The board discussed ways to keep their work future focused, how they observe the Policy Governance Principles, efforts to encourage diverse viewpoints, and how survey results are followed up on. Ms. Hulstrand moved to accept C.1, which was seconded by Mr. Mickelson and approved by the board.

C.2: The Board's Job

Mr. Engel spoke about the C.2 report. The board discussed possible changes to the way that the C.2 report is worded to report on the opportunities provided to owners to interact with the board rather than if owners are interacting with the board. The board discussed educational opportunities for directors. Mr. Mickelson moved to accept C.2, which was seconded by Mr. Munasinghe and approved by the board.

C.3: Annual Agenda Planning

Ms. Murphy spoke about the C.3 report. She highlighted the success of the digitized board calendar. Ms. Hulstrand moved to accept C.3, which was seconded by Mr. Engel and approved by the board.

C.4: Board Meetings

Mr. Mickelson spoke about the C.4 report. He spoke about ways to refine the standards that the board holds itself to regarding meetings. The board discussed how attendance is counted for partial meetings, and how to better advertise that serving on the board is a paid opportunity. Ms. Hulstrand moved to accept C.4, which was seconded by Ms. Luna and approved by the board.

C.5: Director's Code of Conduct

Ms. Luna spoke about the C.5 report. The board discussed how they interact with staff and potential updates to the report. Ms. Murphy moved to accept C.5, which was seconded by Mr. Mickelson and approved by the board.

C.6: Officer's Roles

Ms. Hanlon spoke about the C.6 report. The board discussed the scope of the role of the Treasurer and how meeting minutes can be located. Ms. Luna moved to accept C.6, which was seconded by Mr. Engel and approved by the board.

C.7: Board Committee Principles

Mr. Munasinghe spoke about the C.7 report. He spoke about ways that committees could check in with the board. The board discussed how committees are communicated to new board members. Ms. Luna moved to accept C.7, which was seconded by Mr. Engel and approved by the board.

C.8: Governance Investment

Ms. Hulstrand spoke about the C.8 report. She suggested ideas for Basecamp training, compiling resources for new directors, and recruiting. Mr. Engel moved to accept C.8, which was seconded by Ms. Luna and approved by the board.

Pulled Reports

No reports were pulled.

Board Check-in

The board discussed check in items including upcoming D policy reports, changing plans for the Spring Retreat, finalizing CCMA plans, and the May/June newsletter article.

Executive Session

Mr. Engel opened the Executive Session. The Open Session resumed upon the Executive Session's conclusion.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Luna moved to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Ms. Murphy, and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Submitted by Grace Lehne, RMCC Board Administrative Assistant