Meeting Minutes: Minnesota Climate Innovation Finance Authority Board of Directors

Date: 12/17/2025
Minutes prepared by: Amy John
Minutes approved on: 2/18/2026
Location: MPCA Office Conference Room #100 / Hybrid Meeting

Attendance:

- The meeting began at approximately 9:31 a.m.
    - Present: Kumar, Haagenson, Benjamin, Kohlasch, McKinnon, Mills, Nelmark, Perushek, Sultanova, Teiken, Warmuth, Wyckoff
        - Kevin Pranis proxy for Joe Fowler until 11:00 am when Fowler joined the meeting
    - Absent: None

Approval of Agenda:

- Motion: Teiken, Second: Kumar
- Unanimous approval- roll call vote with Kevin Pranis abstaining from voting as a proxy for Joe Fowler

Approval of October 15, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes:

- Motion: Kumar, Second: Nelmark
- Unanimous approval - roll call vote with Kevin Pranis abstaining from voting as a proxy for Joe Fowler

Introduction of New Staff:

- Kari Groth Swan introduced the three new staff members: Peter Greenwood, Director of Investments; Marissa Deml, Finance Administrative Assistant; Peter Jones, Staff Attorney

Auditors Report:

- Eric Horent, Chief Financial Officer, presented the findings of MnCIFA's financial audit, which is required per statute. Eric stated that there were no audit findings or recommendations. Our auditors want us to set a policy for loan reserves by the end of the fiscal year. By the next board meeting, we expect to have a policy on loan reserves to present to the board.

- Robert Smalley, Principal at Berry Dunn, MnCIFA's auditing firm, presented. They reviewed our financial statements, internal controls, and our accounting policies. They finalized their report in October and we received an unmodified opinion, which is the highest level we can receive.
- Motion to approve the auditors report. Motion: Nelmark, Second: Wycoff
- Unanimous approval - roll call vote with Kevin Pranis abstaining from voting as a proxy for Joe Fowler

Closed Meeting Portion due to Attorney Client Privilege:

- Moved to a closed session at 10:02 am.
- Closed session ended at 11:02 am.
- Motion to not sign the amendment on the CGC subgrant which was discussed in the closed session. Motion: Kohlasch, Second: Teiken
- Unanimous approval - roll call vote with Melanie Benjamin and Joe Fowler abstaining, Joe having returned to the meeting at the time of the vote.

Credit Committee Presentation:

- Arpita Bhattacharyya, Chief Investment Officer, presented a $3 million loan to Flow Environmental Systems Inc. ("Flow") to finance the refurbishment of a manufacturing facility that will produce up to 840 heat pumps annually.
- Motion to approve the $3 million loan to Flow: Nelmark, Second: Fowler
- Unanimous approval- roll call vote with Kevin McKinnon abstaining.
- Arpita Bhattacharyya, Chief Investment Officer, then discussed Investment Team Updates. She clarified some new pre-Board approval processes and pre-Close processes they are working on.

Finance Team Update:

- Eric Horent, Chief Financial Officer presented on loan origination fees. Eric recommended that origination fees be 1.0% on loan amounts up to $2,000,000, plus 0.5% on any amount exceeding $2,000,000. This is because it will enable MnCIFA to recover costs, it adequately fits the data from cost analysis, provides adequate cost recovery, and maintains affordability.
- Peter Jones, Staff Attorney, presented the loan rescission resolution. It states that when we receive notice from a recipient that they are not accepting the loan, it directs the CFO to unencumber the funds so we can use those funds for other projects.

- Motion to adopt Resolution to Rescind Prior Resolution of $1,700,000 Loan to 180 Degrees, Inc. and Unencumber Associated Funds: Nelmark, Second: Fowler
- Unanimous approval- roll call vote

Executive Director’s Report:

- Kari Groth Swan, Executive Director, presented the Executive Director’s Report.
- We have 3 board members up for reappointment in January and they all applied to be reappointed.
- Our website is up and live.
- Kari has met with both the authors of our bill and both heads of the Energy Committee and are working through language they want to bring to session. We will hear from the Governor’s Office if our bills are a go or no go and will communicate this to the board once we know.
- Our new office is going to be ready by February 1. We will have an open house afterwards.
- Kari presented a proclamation that she created to have MnCIFA proclaim today as Brendon Slotterback day to honor him for his work and service to MnCIFA as his consulting contract comes to a close.

Other Business & Discussion for the Board:

- No discussion.

Motion to Adjourn:

- Motion: Kohlasch, Second: Teiken
- Unanimous approval – roll call vote
- Meeting ended approximately 12:09 p.m.