



Migrant Labor Housing Advisory Board

NOTES

February 12, 2021

1:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

[MS Teams](#)

Phone: 248-509-0316 / Access: 519 435 234

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Eva Alvarez	Adam Dietrich	Francisco Posada	Beth VanDrie
Craig Anderson	Joann Hoganson	Jose Roman-Mota	Mark Miezio
Jesse Costilla	Trever Meachum	Dorian Slaybod	

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Bill Groenink	Lupita Perales	Ann Marie Rocha
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GUESTS:

Hector Arroyo	Teresa Hendricks	Sheila McCulloch	Heather Throne
Brad Deacon	Poppy Hernandez	Gary McDowell	Ben Tirrell
Dale Freeman	Lisabeth Iglesias-Rios	Grace Michienzi	Mark Swartz
Majed Ghussaini	Jim Johnson	Brad Neumann	Jamie Zmitko-Somers
Alexis Handal	Fred Leitz	Mary Rielly	

NOTE TAKER:

Sheila McCulloch

Welcome/Introductions

MDARD Director Gary McDowell and Heather Throne gave brief opening comments.

Roll Call Introductions

The Advisory Board members introduced themselves with a brief professional summary.

Advisory Board Goals/Objectives

The members discussed the purpose of Advisory Board is to gain a common understanding of programming, rules, laws, and regulations that apply to the migrant labor workforce in the state of Michigan. The Advisory Board will review information with the intent to submit formal recommendations, in mid-April, to MDARD's Director for consideration that will improve migrant laborer's experience in Michigan.

MDARD will house a Migrant Labor Housing Advisory Board website to house relevant resources and contact information for reference and transparency.

Advisory Board Authority

Brad Deacon discussed the Advisory Board's legal authority and responsibilities under open meetings and the public health code. Members received the [Public Health Code](#)

[\(Excerpt\) Act 368 Of 1978 - Part 124 Agricultural Labor Camps](#), [Regulations for Agricultural Labor Camps](#), [Open Meeting Act](#), [Freedom of Information Act](#), and [Standards of Conduct for Public Officers And Employees Act 196 of 1973](#) to reference specifically.

Industry Informational Presentations

Inspection/Licensing Criteria

Majed Ghussaini presented on Migrant Labor Housing Program legal authority, housing standards, H2A, construction plans, inspection, and licensing requirements.

Zoning Regulations

Brad Neuman and Mary Reilly from MSU Extension. Members of the American Planning Association and provide training for planning and zoning commissions. The team reviewed the [Michigan Zoning Enabling Act](#), specifically MCL 125.3206 and 125.3207, the [Michigan Planning Enabling Act](#), U.S. Constitution [Amendment 14](#) (Equal Protection), U.S. Department of Justice [Fair Housing Act](#), specifically 42 USC 3602 (b), [Michigan Public Health Code PA 368 of 1978](#), specifically MCL 333.1203 and R 325.3605, and general police power ordinance authority, as it relates to planning and zoning and offered some items to consider when submitting recommendations (i.e. community outreach, housing types, offering a zoning ordinance model template, public housing options, etc.).

Board members agreed upcoming agendas should include:

- [H-2A Temporary Agricultural Workers](#) application process overview. Hector Arroyo agreed to have a presentation on February 25, 2021.
- Migrant Labor Housing Provider/worker public assistance programs. Jose Roman-Mota will present on these topics specifically medical services available.
- Budget allocation and grant funding opportunities. (e.g., Michigan State Housing Development Authority, State Land Bank, etc.)
- [SunRISE Apartments](#) barrier-free seasonal farmworker housing options.
- Develop action priority list, parameters, and projected timelines.
- Owner/migrant worker relationships and demographic changes. (i.e., seasonal farm worker versus migrant laborer.)
- Occupant/Owner housing legal constraints and conflicts across agencies and departments (local, state, federal).

Send additional agenda items to Heather Throne with presenter contact information, if available.

Public Comment

Teresa Hendricks, Director Migrant Legal Aid, voiced concerns the H2A program is encouraging family displacement/discrimination and the need for additional MDARD migrant labor housing inspectors. The team referenced the [Michigan Food and Agriculture Housing Task Force Report](#) that provides several recommendations to address housing discrimination and family displacement.

The next Migrant Labor Housing Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled on:
February 25, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.