

**Mississippi Market Cooperative, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

Date and place: Tuesday, January 23rd, 2024, 6:30 p.m. - 8:08 p.m. hybrid meeting

Directors present in person: Daniel Ramos Haaz, Taylor Mitsch, Roderick McCulloch, Noel Nix, Jon Olson, Molly Phipps, Devona Wells

Directors present on Zoom: Roy Berger, Tamara Downs Schwei

Directors absent: None

Administrative staff present: Catherine Downey, CEO; Madeline Summers, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Directors

Member-owners present: There were no member owners present

1. **Call to order.** President Molly Phipps called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. There was a quorum present.
2. **Check in question.** Directors took turns answering a check in question.
3. **Reading the ends:** Jon Olson read the ends statement. A -Ends
4. **Member welcome and questions:** There were no questions at this time.
5. **Agenda Review:** The agenda was reviewed.
6. **Consent Agenda:** Roderick moved, and Devona seconded to approve the items on the consent agenda, which included the acceptance of new member-owners (54), the approval of the minutes from December's board meeting, the CEO Report, the approval of membership repurchases (12) and the approval of quit claims (1). The motion passed unanimously.
7. **Interim board member appointment:** Directors voted on appointing Roy Berger to the Board of Directors. Roy will serve between now and the next election

Daniel moved, and Noel seconded to appoint Roy Berger as a board member for the remainder of the term. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **Education: Cooperating with other local coops** The Development Education: Cooperating with other local coops, The Development Committee brought forth a conversation about what connecting to other boards in the Twin Cities could look like.
9. **CEO Report:** Catherine presented the Global Limitations report, describing it as straightforward. Catherine also mentioned investigating becoming a board member for HAFA (Hmong American Farmers Association).

Taylor moved and Jon seconded to pass the monitoring reports. Motion passed unanimously

10. **President's Report:** Molly wrote a President's Report for the board, submitting it with this month's packet. Molly outlined that many of the topics in her report were also on the agenda. The report highlighted the Ends monitoring report and Global Limitations, DEI dashboard, Finance Committee reporting changes discussed by the Executive Committee, and the education focus on cooperating with cooperatives.
11. The board took a brief break from 7:23p.m. to 7:31 p.m. The meeting resumed at that time.
12. **CCMA:** CCMA will take place on May 30 - June 1 in Portland, Maine. Directors can learn more about cooperatives and networking with other board members.

Devona, Molly, and Tamara expressed interest in attending. Roderick will attend with Shared Capital. Catherine will also be there.

13. **Working with Thane in 2024:** Directors inquired about the allocation of the 15 hours that Mississippi Market has contracted with Thane Joyal through Columinate.
14. **Board of Directors Retreat**
Directors are planning an optional dinner on Friday, February 9th 6-8p and a full Board of Directors retreat on Saturday, February 10th.
15. **Committees: Development and DEI:** Directors agreed with the recommendation of the Development Committee to remove exit interviews from the Development Committee Charter.
16. **Meeting Evaluation:** Directors evaluated the parts of the meeting that went well and what could be improved.
17. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m. The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be Tuesday, February 27th at 6:30 p.m. The location for directors and co-op staff will be announced shortly before the meeting. Member-owners and guests are invited to attend virtually.

Respectfully submitted by Tamara Downs Schwei, Secretary

Date: _____