Minutes of the Meeting of
The Michigan Professional Industrial Development Association
Tippy Dam - July 25-26, 1962

Members Present: Farrell, Stegeman, Gage, Young, Petersen, O'Neill, Wilkins, Nicholson, Moffett, West, Jewell, Kavanagh, Byers, Patterson, Secor, Webb, McClellan.

Guests: Davenport, Raia

Bob Byers introduced Rod Raia representing Industrial Development magazine. He explained the proposed special Michigan study to be included in the September issue and the need for at least 8 pages of advertising support. Considerable time was spent discussing the relative merits of an "ad-supported" section as compared to a "sponsored" section. Mr. Raia disclosed that this was to be an "ad-supported" project and asked for the support of those present.

The Secretary was instructed to write to the Publisher, Mac Conway and express the appreciation of our group for this personal explanation of the project by Mr. Raia.

The Secretary told the members present of a recent visit to Jim Coates, who is being treated in the University Hospital in Ann Arbor. Young, Petersen, and Gage were instructed to express the sympathy and concern of our group and to present Jim with a suitable gift during his hospital stay.

Membership Chairman, Cliff Webb, reported on prospective members: Sy Betz, Ken McCormick and Al Jacoby. On his recommendation, Sy Betz was unanimously accepted as a member. McCormick and Jacoby will be contacted later regarding their affiliation.

Bob Patterson explained the details of the Port Huron project to obtain the Internal Revenue Service Center. He was optimistic regarding their chances if the St. Clair County voters would approve the bond issue scheduled for August 7.

It was agreed that the September meeting should be held at Kellogg Center, on Thursday, September 20.

Attached is a resume of the legislative report submitted by George Moffett Jr.

Robert L. Gage
Secretary

7/26/62
Mr. Moffett reported on the work of the legislative committee as follows:

Mr. Farrell, Mr. Gage, and he met with Rep. Bursley at Lansing and acquainted him with the existence of the M.P.I.D.A. and briefly outlined our legislative aspirations. Being in sympathy with them, he agreed to assist, suggesting that we consolidate our recommendations and give them to him so that bills could be properly drafted.

Subsequently, Farrell, Gage and Moffett reconvened to decide what legislation we should press for, being mindful that asking for too many things would diminish our chances of success. Our discussion evolved four needs. These were:

1. A bill to permit the issuance of general obligation bonds to finance industrial buildings.

2. A bill to use revenue bonds for the same purpose.

3. A bill to permit governmental bodies to purchase and hold land for industrial use.

4. A redrafting of the present legislation authorizing the formation of an industrial credit corporation. This legislation has been pronounced unworkable. It has never been implemented since its passage in 1953.

As these issues were investigated, it became clear that neither item 1 nor item 3 could be meaningfully legislated due to a constitutional prohibition against the use of tax monies to finance private endeavors. (The new constitution perpetuates the ban.)

Item 4 is already being redrafted by Rep. Bursley. It will be patterned after the New York State Credit Corporation Act, one that is purported to be successfully used.

Item 2 remained the only one that we could take any action on.

The members of the association agreed that the committee should pursue the matter further. Meetings, as required, will be held with Mr. Bursley and others, to see that proper legislation is drafted well in advance of the coming session. Copies will be sent to each of the members so that local legislators may be well informed on this subject by our group before the bill is ever introduced.