



## Evart Downtown Development Authority

Chair, Alan Bengry  
Treasurer, Lynn Salinas  
Mark Sochocki  
Dan Boyer

Vice-Chair, Gary Hartsock  
Secretary, Brian Youngs  
Cory Juliano  
Pepper Lockhart  
DDA Director, Todd Bruggema

[www.evartmainstreet.com](http://www.evartmainstreet.com)

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### EVART DDA REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 13, 2026

Community Room at The Depot

200 S. Main St. Evart, MI 49631

1. In Attendance:

Present: Alan Bengry, Gary Hartsock, Lynn Salinas, Brian Youngs, Mark Sochocki, Cory Juliano, Dan Boyer, Teijin Wing,  
DDA Director - Todd Bruggema

Absent: Pepper Lockhart

2. Meeting called to order at 8:01 am by Bengry

3. Introduction of Guests: Angela Hunter

4. Approval of Agenda with the addition of the summer music program as a new business item – Moved by Hartsock, Supported by Salinas

Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0  
Results: Carried

5. Approval of Minutes of the Dec. 9, 2025, regular meeting – Moved by Hartsock, Supported by Youngs

Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0  
Results: Carried

6. Approval of vendor list in the amount of \$5,719.19 for the DDA – Moved by Salinas, Supported by Hartsock

Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0  
Results: Carried

7. Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Salinas reported that the \$20,000 contribution from the City of Evart had been received. She also reported that the \$500 donation from Ice Mountain (for the Jake Slater concert/fundraiser) had been received. Treasurer Salinas informed the group that a total of \$2,800 was donated to the Jake Slater concert/fundraiser by various donors. Todd added that the event netted approximately \$2,300 for the DDA.

8. President Comments: None

9. Committee Updates

Economic Vitality and Design

- a. Farmer’s Market: Angela Hunter informed the group that she has been asked to serve on a Double Up Food Bucks Michigan focus group. She also disclosed that MIFMA is changing the annual conference to bi-annually. In addition, she informed the group that the USDA is making changes to the cottage food law that include online selling, increasing the amount a baker can make annually and using a state-issued number in lieu of putting an address and phone number on the labels.
- b. Pop-Up Building: Todd informed the group that he had recently been contacted by a lady from the Hersey area about renting the pop-up building on a very limited and short-term basis to sell baked goods. She intends to commit to a longer-term rental arrangement if sales/revenues support the venture. Todd polled the group as to whether they were agreeable to this arrangement. All DDA members in attendance were in favor.

Promotion and Organization

- a. DDA Board Recruiting – Todd reminded the group that there remains one open DDA board position. He asked the group to be thinking of good candidates who either own property or own a business within the DDA district. Todd stated that he has made contact with Jessica Green of Details Elite Salon about potentially joining the Evert DDA board. She hasn’t committed herself yet, but Todd is hopeful she will, and he plans to maintain contact with Jessica going forward.
- b. Volunteers – Todd reminded the group that the DDA as well as many other Evert community groups are continually in need of volunteers and are always in search of willing participants.

10. Old Business: None

11. New Business

- a. MOTA meeting – Todd informed the group that the Mecosta Osceola Transit Authority (MOTA) is planning a public meeting at The Depot in Evert on Jan. 15, 2026. The primary purpose of the meeting is to discuss the results of a recent Facebook survey conducted by MOTA. In addition to the in-person meeting, participants can pre-register and participate via ZOOM. Todd has contacted numerous larger employers in Osceola County as well as all school districts within the county to spread word of the meeting and urge their attendance. Todd also urged all DDA board members to physically attend or ZOOM into the meeting.
- b. Summer music program – Todd asked the group for ideas on possible musical acts to approach about taking part in Evert’s summer 2026 music program. Todd would like to have Jake Slater once again perform during the Christmas season but find two different acts to take part during the 2026 summer months. Todd will contact some other area DDA/Chamber Directors to see if they have any suggestions for musical acts to approach.

12. Director Comments: None

13. City Manager Comments: None

14. Citizen Comments: None

15. Adjournment – Moved by Hartsock, Supported by Juliano to adjourn

Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0  
Results: Carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:38am.

Respectfully submitted by Brian Youngs, Secretary