

## Minutes

West Michigan Prosperity Alliance  
Steering Committee  
August 15, 2016

Holland, MI  
Herman Miller Design Yard

### **1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by John Weiss.

Present: John Weiss - GVMC  
Erin Kuhn - WMSRDC  
Rick Chapla - The Right Place  
Doug Wood - Orchard View Public Schools  
Jim Sandy - Mecosta County Development Corp.  
Anne Armstrong - Office of Governor Snyder  
Mike Brownfield - Office of Governor Snyder  
Paul Griffith - Michigan Works! West Central  
Dave Bee - West Michigan Regional Planning Commission  
Doug Wood - Orchard View Community Education  
Jacob Maas - West Michigan Works!  
Dan Rinsema-Sybenga - Muskegon Community College  
Bill Raymond - Ottawa County Community Action  
Bonnie Gettys - Barry County Foundation  
Bill Pink - Grand Rapids Community College  
Kathy McLean - Ludington / Scottville Chamber of Commerce  
Craig Howell - Michigan Works  
Steve Bulthuis - Macatawa Area Coordinating Council  
Linda Brand - Model Communities

### **2. Public Comment**

None

### **3. Minutes**

**MOTION - To Approve the June RPI Minutes. MOVE - Chapla. SUPPORT - Sandy. MOTION CARRIED.**

### **4. Project Review Committee Recommendations**

Recommendations from the Project Review Committee were reviewed. Thirteen grant proposals were received in all. The Review Committee met and ranked the

proposals according to criteria that was predetermined by public input in 2014. Seven proposals scored highly and were recommended by the Committee. The Committee also asked that additional funding be moved from other areas of the RPI budget to cover all seven projects.

Discussion ensued as each proposal was reviewed.

Project	Rank	Amount Requested
Port of Muskegon Communications & Marketing Strategy	1	\$20,000
Connected Community Engagement Program	2	\$45,000
College Degree and Recognized Credential Alignment	3	\$60,000
West Michigan Water Systems Plan	4	\$10,000
Hardy Pond Trail	5	\$20,000
Sustainable Funding Strategy for West Michigan Watersheds	6	\$59,000
Preliminary Design and Engineering for a Regional Utility Force Main	7	\$52,500

Discussion included questions regarding if requested funding could be reduced for various projects and if additional funding could be squeezed out of the RPI budget to fully fund all seven recommended projects.

Also discussed was the role of voting at the October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting if full funding for all seven projects was procured. With each automatically receiving funding, there would be no reason to engage in a public voting exercise.

It was decided that the next two ranking projects would be added to the voting selection. As the Port of Muskegon, Connected Community and Watershed Funding are continuation of major initiatives previously funded and highly ranked, they would be considered priorities for receive additional funding but not be giving presentations on October 3.

**MOTION – To Consider the Following Projects for Funding:**

- Port of Muskegon
- Connected Community
- College Degree & Recognized Credential Alignment
- West Michigan Water Systems Plan
- Hardy Pond Trail
- Sustainable Funding for West Michigan Watersheds
- Preliminary Design and Engineering for a Regional Utility Force Main
- Grand River Revitalization
- Adult Education Connection: Connecting Intergenerational Education Services

**MOVE – Bulthuis. SUPPORT – Gettys. MOTION CARRIED**

**5. Adjourn**