

**GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL**  
**Board Meeting**

January 12, 2004  
10:00 a.m.  
DeVos Place

MINUTES

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Chairman Buck.

**Members Present**

|                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Jim Beelen       | Allendale Township   |
| Dale Bergman     | Sparta Township      |
| Jim Buck         | City of Grandville   |
| Daryl Delabbio   | Kent County          |
| Cindy Heinbeck   | Alpine Township      |
| Don Hilton       | Gaines Township      |
| Jim Holtvluwer   | Georgetown Township  |
| Mark Knudsen     | Ottawa County        |
| James McIntyre   | Courtland Township   |
| Jim Miedema      | Jamestown Township   |
| Cy Moore         | Treasurer            |
| Steven Patrick   | City of Coopersville |
| Bob Rinck        | Ottawa County        |
| Rick Root        | City of Kentwood     |
| Larry Silvernail | Byron Township       |
| Bonnie Shupe     | Cannon Township      |
| Rob VerHeulen    | City of Walker       |
| Ted Vonk         | Kent County          |

**Members Absent**

|                  |                           |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Cindy Bartman    | City of East Grand Rapids |
| George Bosanic   | City of Greenville        |
| Evelyn Champney  | Village of Sparta         |
| Mike DeVries     | Grand Rapids Township     |
| Bev Drake        | ACSET Council             |
| Tom Fehsenfeld   | At-Large                  |
| Dave Groenleer   | Plainfield Township       |
| Bryan Gruesbeck  | Village of Middleville    |
| Bryan Harrison   | Caledonia Township        |
| Doyle Hayes      | At-Large                  |
| George Heartwell | City of Grand Rapids      |
| Dennis Hoemke    | Algoma Township           |
| Kurt Kimball     | City of Grand Rapids      |

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Pauline Luben       | City of Hudsonville |
| Jeff Mansfield      | City of Hastings    |
| Mick McGraw         | At-Large Member     |
| David Morren        | Kent County         |
| Sandy Frost Parrish | Cascade Township    |
| Frank Sessions      | Tallmadge Township  |
| Tom Wieczorek       | City of Ionia       |
| Michael Young       | City of Rockford    |

**Others Present:**

|                   |                            |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Brian Berdanier   | Grand Valley Metro Council |
| Andy Bowman       | Grand Valley Metro Council |
| Leon Branderhorst | Grand Valley Metro Council |
| Frank Campbell    | City of Hastings           |
| Jim Fetzer        | ITP                        |
| Ron Howell        | Village of Middleville     |
| Abed Itani        | Grand Valley Metro Council |
| Mike Lytle        | Village of Middleville     |
| Robert May        | City of Hastings           |
| Gayle McCrath     | Grand Valley Metro Council |
| Don Stypula       | Grand Valley Metro Council |

**2. Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION to approve the December 2003, GVMC Board Meeting Minutes. MOVE – Vonk. SUPPORT - Holtvluwer. MOTION CARRIED.**

**3. Appointment of Sharon Vanderbout as Kent County Representative to the REGIS Board.**

**MOTION to approve Sharon Vanderbout to the REGIS Board as Kent County’s representative. MOVE – Delabbio. SUPPORT – Rinck. MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. Transportation**

**a. Amendment to Unified Work Program**

Abed Itani explained the amendment to the Unified Work Program. After doing the audit this year it indicated there are additional funds to be used. In order to use these funds, the Unified Work Program must be amended. The projects in the requested amendment are listed in the memo handed out and have been approved by the Tech, Policy and Executive Committees.

**MOTION to approve the amendment to the Unified Work Program. MOVE – Silvernail. SUPPORT - Vonk. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **b. Amendment to TIP for Interurban Transportation Partnership**

Abed Itani explained the request for the amendment to the TIP for the Interurban Transportation Partnership. Each year ITP projects how much money they will get. When the actual figures come in, they then ask for an amendment to reflect the new figures. Approval by GVMC is necessary to receive federal funds. The request for amendment has been approved by the Technical, Policy, and Executive Committees.

**MOTION to approve the amendment to the TIP for the Interurban Transportation Partnership. MOVE – VerHeulen. SUPPORT - Beelen. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **5. GVMC Blueprint Committee Recommendation**

GVMC Planning Department staff has worked over the past several years to produce a Metropolitan Framework. This new regional vision/plan was developed through a series of meetings held throughout the metropolitan area as part of our overall “Blueprint II” process to achieve the aims and principals of the Metropolitan Development Blueprint. In these “subregional meetings,” staff guided local officials through an initial draft graphic of the Metropolitan Framework, the name now given to the mapped and described parts of these future visions. The Blueprint Committee has met twice, been briefed on this work and they have approved both the process and the outcomes.

We distributed a very rough draft of a descriptive document and a Metro Framework map at the December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the GVMC Board. We are now proposing the attached resolution for consideration by the GVMC Board.

The attached resolution has been recommended by the Blueprint Committee and outlines the type of decision we feel we need from GVMC at this time. As stated in the resolution, a GVMC decision at this time will serve two purposes: (1) allow the use of the plan to function as a regional plan for the Kent County Agriculture Preservation Board in accepting and processing applications for purchase of development rights (PDR) requests, and (2) allow staff to use the draft framework on an interim basis to discuss its current proposals with regional entities and service providers and take comment for future meetings with subregions, local governments and GVMC.

Also, as stated in the proposed resolution, this is intended as approval for interim use only. There will be changes to this framework as we proceed and we will keep the Blueprint Committee, the Executive Board and the GVMC Board informed as we move through this process. It should take about one year at which time we hope to have a Metropolitan Framework before GVMC for consideration and adoption.

Andy Bowman discussed the Metropolitan Framework map and answered questions. He stressed that this will be presented to groups around the area and will incorporate their input as the map evolves.

Mr. Bowman also stressed that this approval is needed for Kent County to proceed with its PDR program.

Ron Howell asked if the presentation was going to be available on the web page.

Mr. Bowman indicated they were working at getting the information on the web page in the future.

Frank Campbell questioned the wording in the resolution specific to Kent County. He stated that the wording should be stated as a Metro Council Resolution rather than as a Kent County resolution.

Mr. Bowman explained that Kent County is listed specifically in parts of the resolution because of the PDR program. The full resolution does reference the Metro Council.

**MOTION to approve the resolution on the Metropolitan Framework. MOVE – Delabbio. SUPPORT – Patrick. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **6. Legislative Update**

Don Stypula gave the legislative update.

The Legislature will return for a brief two-day session at Noon, Wednesday January 14. Both chambers will then adjourn until the Governor's State-of-the-State message at 7 PM January 27. Two weeks after that, the Governor is expected to unveil her FY 2005 budget recommendations. The 2005 budget could be looking at a deficit from \$500 million – 1.5 billion.

The next Revenue Estimating Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. It is expected that no changes will be necessary to balance the budget for 2004.

The legislature will continue to look at the Land Use Council's recommendations. The "low hanging fruit" has already been taken. The Governor has signed the joint planning commission legislation.

We will continue to work against tipping fee legislation. As written, the legislation would result in \$50 m per year, but the legislation doesn't specify where it would go.

TEA-21 – The extension on TEA-21 ends within a month. It is expected another extension will be signed. There are several competing bills for reauthorization, but it is not anticipated it will be reauthorized until after the presidential election.

## **7. Coming Events**

Gayle McCrath spoke about the upcoming January 22<sup>nd</sup> Legislative Dinner and encouraged all members and elected officials to attend.

## **8. Public Comment**

Cindy Heinbeck commented that Republican lawmakers have been quoted as saying there are a lot of areas that still can be cut from the State budget. Ms. Heinbeck questioned if a listing of these areas were available for review so that GVMC and its members can lobby for specific areas that would help to preserve what remains of revenue sharing.

Don Stypula stated he would make calls that day and forward that information on to all members.

**9. Adjournment – 11:05**

**Motion to adjourn. MOVE – Vonk. SUPPORT – Knudsen. MOTION CARRIED.**