

GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL
Board Meeting

October 2, 2003
8:30 a.m.
Kent County Building

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Chair Jim Buck

Members Present

Dale Bergman	Sparta Township
Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Daryl Delabbio	Kent County
Bev Drake	ACSET Council
Judith Frey	City of East Grand Rapids
Dave Groenleer	Plainfield Township
George Heartwell	City of Grand Rapids
Cindy Heinbeck	Alpine Township
Don Hilton	Gaines Township
Dennis Hoemke	Algoma Township
Jim Holtvluwer	Georgetown Township
Kurt Kimball	City of Grand Rapids
John Logie	City of Grand Rapids
Pauline Luben	City of Hudsonville
Mick McGraw	At-Large Member
James McIntyre	Courtland Township
Jim Miedema	Jamestown Township
Cy Moore	At-Large Member
David Morren	Kent County
Steven Patrick	City of Coopersville
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Frank Sessions	Tallmadge Township
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker
Ted Vonk	Kent County
Michael Young	City of Rockford

Members Absent

Jim Beelen	Allendale Township
George Bosanic	City of Greenville
Evelyn Champney	Village of Sparta
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
Tom Fehsenfeld	At-Large

Bryan Gruesbeck
Bryan Harrison
Doyle Hayes
Mark Knudsen
Jeff Mansfield
Sandy Frost Parrish
Bob Rinck
Bonnie Shupe
Larry Silvernail
Tom Wiczorek

Village of Middleville
Caledonia Township
At-Large
Ottawa County
City of Hastings
Cascade Township
Ottawa County
Cannon Township
Byron Township
City of Ionia

Others Present:

Andy Bowman
Leon Branderhorst
David Czurak
Kevin Green
Mary Hollinrake
Abed Itani
Marsha Small
Don Stypula

Grand Valley Metro Council
Grand Valley Metro Council
Grand Rapids Business Journal
City of Wyoming
Kent County Clerk
Grand Valley Metro Council
MDOT
Grand Valley Metro Council

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION to approve the September 2003, GVMC Board Meeting Minutes. MOVE – Heinbeck. SUPPORT - Morren. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Financial Report / Approval of Bills

The Council considered a bill for \$11,850 for BAI.

MOTION – To approve payment of \$11,850 to BAI. MOVE – Morren. SUPPORT – Heinbeck. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Special Ceremony

a. Swearing in of George Heartwell

George Heartwell was sworn in as a representative to the Metro Council by Kent County Clerk, Mary Hollinrake.

Mr. Heartwell stated that as a regionalist, he had coveted the appointment to the Metro Council Board for years. He added that he believed what was good for the core city was good for the region, and what was good for the region was good for the city, the two are co-dependent. Working together will ensure the strength and vitality of the region and the Metro Council.

b. Farewell Remarks by Hon. John Logie, Mayor of Grand Rapids

Mr. Logie welcomed Mr. Heartwell to the Metro Council and said it speaks to the majesty of this country that this type of change of office can take place smoothly, with a seamless transition. Mr. Logie reviewed the successes of the Metro Council and stressed the need for continued regional cooperation and added that after twelve years serving on the GVMC board, it is the relationships that are forged here that allow us to move forward.

GVMC Chairman Jim Buck praised Mayor Logie for his leadership and dedication to regional issues. The GVMC Board and audience gave Mayor Logie a standing ovation as he handed over the reins to Heartwell. A short recess was called at 9:00 a.m. to allow Mayor Logie and Mayor-elect Heartwell to receive well wishers.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:20 a.m.

5. Transportation

a. Approval of 2004-2006 Transportation Improvement Plan

Chairman Buck opened the public hearing.

Abed Itani explained the 2004 – 2006 Transportation Improvement Plan and answered questions. The proper process has been followed including public involvement, air quality analysis, public meeting, and environmental justice analysis. It has been approved by the Tech and Policy Committees.

Chairman Buck asked for public comment. None.

Chairman Buck closed the public hearing.

**MOTION – To Approve the 2004 – 2006 Transportation Improvement Plan.
MOVE – Groenleer. SUPPORT – VerHeulen. MOTION CARRIED.**

6. GVMC Committee Assignments

Chairman Buck reported that the updated list of committee assignments was included in the board packet. He stated the assignments are flexible and can be changed as need be.

**MOTION - To Approve the 2003-2004 GVMC Committee List. MOVE – Hilton.
SUPPORT – Luben. MOTION CARRIED.**

7. Legislative Update

Gayle McCrath reported on the success of the Legislative Breakfast held on September 29th at the Pen Club. It was the best attended legislative breakfast to date and promoted very relevant

discussion with legislators on the issues of recall, mobile homes, start of school and land use recommendations.

Don Stypula reported on the November 3 event at the Meijer Gardens cosponsored by GVMC, Kent County, the City of Grand Rapids and the West Michigan Strategic Alliance. The event was requested by the Governor, who will be in attendance. The topic of discussion will be the land use council's recommendations. GVMC members are encouraged to RSVP ASAP as the guest list is filling up fast.

Mr. Stypula also reported that a Budget Estimating Conference will be held on October 14. Revenues for the State appear to be much lower than anticipated. More cuts to revenue sharing are expected. Mr. Stypula encouraged anyone who can to attend the Budget Estimating Conference and make their position known to legislators.

8. Other

It was reported that Kent County will have a series of regional meetings throughout the next month and citizens are encouraged to attend.

Dave Groenleer reported that the Natural Rivers Act was under attack and encouraged all to become involved.

9. Public Comment

Marsha Small of MDOT reported on events at MDOT. The state budget has resulted in personnel problems that may ultimately affect MDOT.

A five month extension of TEA-21 has been passed by the federal government.

10. Adjournment

MOTION – To Adjourn. MOVE - Kimball. SUPPORT Vonk. – MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.