

**GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL  
Board Meeting**

November 4, 2004  
8:30 a.m.  
Kent County Building

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairman Jim Buck.

**Members Present**

Cindy Bartman	City of East Grand Rapids
Jim Beelen	Allendale Township
Dale Bergman	Sparta Township
Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Daryl Delabbio	Kent County
Bev Drake	ACSET Council
Tom Fehsenfeld	At-Large Member
George Heartwell	City of Grand Rapids
Don Hilton	Gaines Township
Dennis Hoemke	Algoma Township
Jerry Homminga	Cedar Springs
Kurt Kimball	City of Grand Rapids
Pauline Luben	City of Hudsonville
Robert May	City of Hastings
Mick McGraw	At-Large Member
Jim Miedema	Jamestown Township
Cy Moore	Treasurer
David Morren	Kent County
Deborah Nier	City of Wayland
Steven Patrick	City of Coopersville
Bob Rinck	Ottawa County
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Bonnie Shupe	Cannon Township
Larry Silvernail	Byron Township
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker
Ted Vonk	Kent County
Al Vanderberg	Ottawa County
Michael Young	City of Rockford

**Members Absent**

George Bosanic	City of Greenville
Bryan Chodkowski	Village of Sparta
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township

Dave Groenleer  
Bryan Harrison  
Doyle Hayes  
Cindy Heinbeck  
Jim Holtvluwer  
Ron Howell  
James McIntyre  
Sandy Frost Parrish  
Tom Wieczorek  
Bill Wiersma

Plainfield Township  
Caledonia Township  
At-Large Member  
Alpine Township  
Georgetown Township  
Village of Middleville  
Courtland Township  
Cascade Township  
City of Ionia  
Tallmadge Township

**Others Present:**

Leon Branderhorst  
Andy Bowman  
Jim Fetzer  
Jerry Hunsburger  
Abed Itani  
Dennis Kent  
Gayle McCrath  
Robert Partridge  
Marsha Small  
Don Stypula  
Peter Varga  
Bob White

Grand Valley Metro Council  
Grand Valley Metro Council  
ITP  
Kent ISD  
Grand Valley Metro Council  
MDOT  
Grand Valley Metro Council  
Grand Rapids Community College  
MDOT  
Grand Valley Metro Council  
ITP  
Kent County

**2. Approval of Minutes dated October, 2004**

**MOTION – To Approve the Minutes of the October, 2004 GVMC Board Meeting.  
MOVE – Kimball. SUPPORT – Wiersma. MOTION CARRIED.**

**3. Recognition of Departing Members**

Chairman Buck thanked departing Board members Cindy Heinbeck, Dave Groenleer, Jim Holtvluwer, and Larry Silvernail for their service and dedication to the Council, as well to their home communities.

Larry Silvernail stated that he was part of the development of the Metro Council. He has great expectations for the organization and will miss the relationships he has built.

**4. GVMC Committee Assignments**

Chairman Buck reported the committee list was again included in the agenda packet and if anyone would like to be added, please contact him or Gayle McCrath.

**5. Transportation Department**

## **TIP Amendment**

Abed Itani reviewed the three proposed TIP amendments which included an ITP amendment to use \$333,157 in unallocated federal funds; STP safety projects for FY 2005; and a FY 2005 Enhancement project for a brick street in Grand Rapids.

**MOTION – To approve the proposed TIP amendments. MOVE – Heartwell. SUPPORT – Kimball. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **Amendment to the FY 2004 Unified Work Program**

Abed Itani explained the requested amendment to the FY 2004 Unified Work Program to allow for ITP to spend the \$333,157 in unallocated federal funds included in the TIP amendment listed above. The amendment was approved by both the policy and tech committees.

**MOTION – To approve the proposed amendment to the FY 2004 Unified Work Program. MOVE – VerHeulen. SUPPORT – Kimball. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **Proposed FY 2005 Congestion Mitigation-Air Quality (CMAQ) Projects**

Abed Itani reported on the list of proposed FY 2005 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) projects submitted by several local jurisdictions and MDOT for inclusion in the FY 2004-2006 TIP.

**MOTION to approve the proposed FY 2005 CMAQ projects. MOVE – Hilton. SUPPORT – Luben. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **6. REGIS Update**

Don Stypula gave the REGIS update. He referred to the written report dated November 1, which was included in the agenda packet. Mr. Stypula stated that they were working through their current problems with the help of Kent County and Grand Rapids. REGIS' first priority is to get Kent County up and running. It should be up and testing tomorrow and functioning properly by Monday.

Mr. Stypula stated he was working with the REGIS Board to move forward with decentralizing the operating structure. The first meeting will be brought together on November 16<sup>th</sup> (technical). The invitations will go out tomorrow and it will be chaired by Greg Sundstrum. It is anticipated that the agenda will require two meetings. Also concurrently, the user group and advisory group will also be meeting. It is anticipated the process will take 2 – 3 months.

## **7. Legislative Update**

Don Stypula gave the legislative update. He stated that it is unlikely much will be taken up in the lame duck session. Craig DeRoche will be the new Speaker of the House and Jerry Kooiman will be in a strong leadership position. Betsy DeVos is retiring as the

Michigan Republican Chairperson.

Rick Root asked about HB 4358. Mr. Stypula stated it looks like that issue has been sidestepped.

## **8. Formation of Regional Workgroup**

Jerry Hunsburger of Kent ISD, Robert Partridge of Grand Rapids Community College, and Robert White of Kent County discussed the need for coordinated efforts between local government and schools in the recovery of personal property taxes from businesses.

It was determined a group would be formed to address the issue.

George Heartwell suggested the Regional Cooperation Committee take this on.

A suggestion was made that a smaller group be brought together to determine the agenda and scope of the work.

Chairman Buck stated he would assign that to Don Stypula to initiate.

Mr. Stypula stated he would meet with the Michigan Treasury Department to gauge their interest in the issue.

Daryl Delabbio stated pressure should be put on the Treasury Department to participate in the work group rather than just gauging their interest.

**MOTION – To bring together the Regional Cooperation Committee to address the issue of cooperative actions between local governments and schools regarding collection of personal property taxes. MOVE – Heartwell. SUPPORT – VONK. Motion Carried.**

## **9. Public Comment**

Dennis Kent of MDOT reported M-6 the South Beltline would officially open its entire length on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Kent thanked all who supported it and helped with its planning and construction, especially long time supporters Larry Silvernail and Don Hilton.

## **10. Adjournment**

Adjourn 9:30