

GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL

Board Meeting

December 7th, 2006

8:30 a.m.
Kent County Building

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

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

Members Present:

Jim Beelen	Allendale Township
Dale Bergman	Sparta Township
Bonnie Blackledge	Cannon Township
Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Daryl Delabbio	Kent County
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
Brian Donovan	City of East Grand Rapids
Jason Eppler	City of Ionia
Don Hilton, Sr.	Gaines Township
Dennis Hoemke	Algoma Township
Bill Holland	Georgetown Township
Kurt Kimball	City of Grand Rapids
Elias Lumpkins, Jr.	City of Grand Rapids
George Meek	Plainfield Township
Jim Miedema	Jamestown Township
Cy Moore	Treasurer
Audrey Nevins	Byron Township
Sandy Frost Parrish	Cascade Township
Steven Patrick	City of Coopersville
Chuck Porter	Courtland Township
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Al Vanderberg	Ottawa County
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker
Bill VerHulst	City of Wyoming
Ted Vonk	Kent County
Bill Wiersma	Tallmadge Township

Members Absent:

Marta Brechting	Alpine Township
Pat Capek	City of Cedar Springs
Brian Chodkowski	Village of Sparta
Bev Drake	ACSET Council
Tom Fehsenfeld	At-Large Member
Brian Harrison	Caledonia Township
Doyle Hayes	At-Large Member
Pauline Luben	City of Hudsonville
Robert May	City of Hastings
Mick McGraw	At-large Member

Roger Morgan	Kent County
Lon Myers	Village of Middleville
Deborah Nier	City of Wayland
Bob Rinck	Ottawa County
Carol Sheets	City of Wyoming
Michael Young	City of Rockford

Others Present:

Leon Branderhorst	Grand Valley Metro Council
Cindy Durenberger	FHA
Jim Fetzer	ITP
Abed Itani	Grand Valley Metro Council
Dennis Kent	MDOT
Gayle McCrath	Grand Valley Metro Council
Marsha Small	MDOT
Don Stypula	Grand Valley Metro Council

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approval of November 2nd, 2006 Minutes.

**MOTION – To Approve November 2nd, 2006 GVMC Board Meeting Minutes.
MOVE – Meek. SUPPORT – Vonk. MOTION CARRIED.**

4. Transportation Department

A. GVMC FY 2007 TIP Amendment

Don Stypula explained the proposed amendment to the 2007 and 2008 portions of the FY 2006-2008 Transportation Improvement Program. MDOT has advised that transportation projects funded under the Local Jobs Today program must be amended into the TIP.

MOTION – To Approve the Requested Amendments to the 2007 and 2008 portions of the FY 2006-2008 TIP. MOTION – Donovan. SUPPORT DeVries. MOTION CARRIED.

B. Amendment to the GVMC FY 2007 Unified Planning Work Program

Don Stypula explained the list of proposed amendments to GVMC's FY 2007 UPWP including those to reflect federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Federal Transit Administration Section 5303 Program carry over funds from FY 2006 under work items "1.3" – Geographic Information System (GIS); "3.7" – 4 Mile Road Corridor Study; "4.1" Pavement Management System (PMS); "4.2" – Congestion Management (CMS); and "7.2" Administration.

MOTION – To Approve the Amendment of the Requested Items on the GVMC 2007 Unified Planning Work Program. MOVE – Lumpkins. SUPPORT – Meek. MOTION CARRIED.

C. Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration GVMC MPO Certification.

Cindy Durenberger of the Federal Highway Administration presented the FHA's review of the GVMC MPO and its recertification. The review included 4 accolades; 15 recommendations, 2 of those being strong recommendations. GVMC has received accolades over its new Pavement Management Van, the first in the state. The GVMC MPO was recertified for the next 4 years.

Don Stypula praised Transportation Director Abed Itani, and thanked him for his work.

5. Legislative Issues

Legislative Chairman Rick Root reported the December 13 Legislative Committee has been cancelled.

Rick Root reviewed the list of suggested legislative priorities.

Rick Root stressed that this was a short list, and by no means all inclusive. The proximity of the Legislative Luncheon mandated the list be developed quickly and be as concise as possible

A. Revenue Sharing: GVMC supports the reauthorization of the formula for distributing the statutory portion of state shared revenues in a manner that restores revenue sharing payments to Michigan Counties and fully funds the state's historic revenue sharing obligations to Michigan's cities, villages and townships.

B. Business Tax Restructuring: GVMC supports the restructuring of the state business tax code to provide incentives for business retention, expansion and recruitment while maintaining adequate revenues to support critical state and local government services

Local Control

C. Telecommunications Franchising: The GVMC and its member communities enthusiastically encourage local competition among telecommunications service providers via expeditious negotiation of local franchising agreements or regional franchise templates that serve the needs of local citizens and businesses. The GVMC strongly supports the on-going efforts of the Michigan Townships Association and the Michigan Municipal League to preserve local telecommunications franchising authority.

Intergovernmental Cooperation

d. Elimination of Obstacles for Multi-Jurisdictional Service Sharing: The GVMC supports amendments to current state laws that will remove statutory obstacles faced by Michigan counties, cities, villages and townships desiring to form service sharing partnerships. In pursuit of that goal, GVMC seeks amendments to several existing state

statutes that will make it easier for counties and communities to share resources and more efficiently deliver critical local services:

- a. 1967 Public Act 7 – Urban Cooperation Act
- b. 1967 Public Act 8 – Intergovernmental Transfer of Functions and Responsibilities Act
- c. 1969 Public Act 312 – Compulsory Binding Arbitration
- d. 1989 Public Act 289 – The Metro Councils Act

MOTION – To Accept the Above Listed Legislative Priorities. MOTION – Root. SUPPORT- Holland. MOTION CARRIED.

Don Stypula reviewed recent developments in the Telecom issue

6. Other

Chairman Buck reported the Executive Director Evaluation form had been sent out and asked all members to return it by December 22.

Departing GVMC Board members Ted Vonk and Sandi Frost Parrish reported they enjoyed working with the Council, however as a result of the elections, would be moving on to other assignments.

7. Adjournment – 9:15 a.m. MOTION – To Adjourn. MOVE – Meek. SUPPORT – Hilton. MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.