

# GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL

## Board Meeting

December 4, 2008

8:30 a.m.

Kent County Building  
Commissioners Chambers

### MINUTES

#### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m. by Vice Chairman Don Hilton.

#### Members Present:

Dale Bergman	Sparta Township
Daryl Delabbio	Kent County
Randy DeBruine	City of Belding
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
Brian Donovan	City of East Grand Rapids
Cindy Fox	Cascade Township
Doyle Hayes	At-Large Member
John Helmholdt	City of Grand Rapids
Don Hilton, Sr.	Gaines Township
Denny Hoemke	Algoma Township
Jim Holtrop	Ottawa County
Elias Lumpkins, Jr.	City of Grand Rapids
Mick McGraw	At-large Member
George Meek	Plainfield Township
Jim Miedema	Jamestown Township
Cy Moore	Treasurer
Lon Myers	Village of Middleville
Jim LaPeer	Cannon Township
Steven Patrick	City of Coopersville
Chuck Porter	Courtland Township
Milt Rohwer	City of Grand Rapids
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Carol Sheets	City of Wyoming
Ken Snow	City of Greenville
Al Vanderberg	Ottawa County

#### Members Absent:

Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Sharon DeLange	Village of Sparta
Pat Capek	City of Cedar Springs
Jason Eppler	City of Ionia

Tom Fehsenfeld	At-Large Member
Brian Harrison	Caledonia Township
Kurt Kimball	City of Grand Rapids
Pauline Luben	City of Hudsonville
Robert May	City of Hastings
Roger Morgan	Kent County
Audrey Nevins	Byron Township
Deborah Nier	City of Wayland
David Pasquale	City of Lowell
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker
Bill VerHulst	City of Wyoming
Michael Young	City of Rockford

**Others Present:**

Jerry Alkema	Allendale Township
Alex Arends	Alpine Township
Andy Bowman	Grand Valley Metro Council
Abed Itani	Grand Valley Metro Council
Dharmesh Jain	Grand Valley Metro Council
Gayle McCrath	Grand Valley Metro Council
Don Stypula	Grand Valley Metro Council
Peter Varga	The Rapid

**2. Public Comment**

None

**3. Oath of Office**

Kent County Clerk Mary Hollinrake administered the Oath of Office to Jim LaPeer of Canon Township.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION – To Approve the Minutes of the November 2008 GVMC Board Meeting. MOVE – Sheets. SUPPORT – Meek. MOTION CARRIED.**

**5. Transportation – Amendment to the GVMC FY 2008-2011 TIP**

Abed Itani explained the request for the amendment to the 2008-2011 TIP. The amendments would affect the following:

- City of Hudsonville is requesting Surface Transportation Program (Urban) (STPU) funding for a previously submitted project for CMAQ funding in FY 2009. This project was to be funded under the CMAQ program, but was

determined ineligible by FHWA and MDOT. The project is located on 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave. at the I-196 interchange.

- MDOT is requesting to modify two projects in FY 2009 as well as two cost revisions to existing projects (currently located in the TIP) and add four projects to FY 2009.
- Kent County Road Commission is requesting to add an HPP project to the FY 2009 TIP – Project to connect two trails. It is an earmark and the project will be completed in two phases.
- MDOT has announced the local STP Safety Projects and High Risk Rural Road Programs which need to be incorporated into the FY 2008-2011 TIP.
- ITP is requesting to amend the TIP for FY 2009, 2010, and 2011 adding Section 5309 New Starts funding for the Division Ave. Bus Rapid Transit project.

**MOTION – To Approve the Requested Amendment to the FY 2009-2011 GVMC TIP. MOVE – Sheets. SUPPORT – Meek. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **6. Legislative**

Don Stypula reminded the Council of the December 15, Legislative Breakfast. The topics of discussion are expected to be transportation funding, revenue sharing, and Public Act 312.

Rick Root stated it was important for everyone to attend and give their input. He also added we need to talk to legislators about the DEQ and proposed additional obligations. Our position is that we don't support an increase. This would increase the fees and eliminate the sunset of fees and inflation escalator.

Don Stypula requested the Board give him authority to work on their behalf on the issue.

**MOTION – To Approve Don Stypula to Support GVMC's Position on the DEQ Additional Obligations. MOVE – Sheets. SUPPORT – Meek. MOTION CARRIED.**

Don Stypula stated he would bring up the issue at the Legislative Breakfast and have a position paper for legislators at that meeting.

Don Stypula reviewed the transportation funding news conference held by the MML and other organizations. Many other organizations are lobbying for the same thing.

## **7. Kurt Kimball Tribute**

Don Hilton opened the tribute to Kurt Kimball's 22 years of public service and spoke of how everyone has benefited from Kurt's influence.

GVMC Board members spoke of their admiration of Kurt and his many outstanding qualities including: being a model of administrative and legislative professionalism;

helping parties reach common ground; being a true friend; a legacy of leadership; intelligence; thoughtfulness; ethical; sense of humor; and more.

Kurt Kimball spoke of his history with the Grand Valley Metro Council and its growth and evolution. He challenged everyone to do more. He thanked everyone and stated that being on the Council has been one of the highlights of his career. He said he feels his legacy will be the relationships that have been fostered.

**8. Other**

None

**9. Adjournment – 10:00 a.m.**