

GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL

Board Meeting

October 7, 2010

8:30 a.m.

Kent County Commission Chambers

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Vice Chairman Don Hilton

Members Present:

Alex Arends	Alpine Township
Dick Bulkowski	Kent County
Chris Burns	City of Cedar Springs
Tom Butcher	Grand Valley State University
Dan Carlton	Georgetown Township
Daryl Delabbio	Kent County
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
Tom Fehsenfeld	At-Large Member
Cindy Fox	Cascade Township
Doyle Hayes	At-Large Member
George Heartwell	City of Grand Rapids
Don Hilton, Sr.	Gaines Township
Denny Hoemke	Algoma Township
Jim Holtrop	Ottawa County
Jim LaPeer	Cannon Township
Elias Lumpkins, Jr.	City of Grand Rapids
George Meek	Plainfield Township
Jim Miedema	Jamestown Township
Cy Moore	Treasurer
Milt Rohwer	City of Grand Rapids
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Ken Snow	City of Greenville
Al Vanderberg	Ottawa County
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker

Members Absent:

Dale Bergman	Sparta Township
Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Jerry Alkema	Allendale Township
Sharon DeLange	Village of Sparta
Brian Donovan	City of East Grand Rapids
Jason Eppler	City of Ionia
Brian Harrison	Caledonia Township

John Helmholdt	At-Large
Pauline Luben	City of Hudsonville
Mick McGraw	At-large Member
Robert May	City of Hastings
Audrey Nevins	Byron Township
Sandi Frost Parrish	Kent County
David Pasquale	City of Lowell
Steven Patrick	City of Coopersville
Jack Poll	City of Wyoming
Chuck Porter	Courtland Township
Toby VanEss	Tallmadge Township
Phil Van Noord	Village of Middleville
Bill VerHulst	City of Wyoming
Roger Wills	City of Belding
Chris Yonker	City of Wayland
Michael Young	City of Rockford

Others Present:

Andy Bowman	Grand Valley Metro Council
Leon Branderhorst	Grand Valley Metro Council
Abed Itani	Grand Valley Metro Council
Dennis Kent	MDOT
Gayle McCrath	Grand Valley Metro Council
Don Stypula	Grand Valley Metro Council
Don Tubbs	City of Hastings
Steve Warren	Kent County Road Commission

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION – To Approve the Minutes of the September GVMC Board Meeting. MOVE – Heartwell. SUPPORT – Meek. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Jamestown Township

MOTION – To Approve Jamestown Township Remaining a Member of the Grand Valley Metro Council. MOVE – Vanderberg. SUPPORT – Holtrop. MOTION CARRIED.

5. Strategic Initiative

Don Stypula reported on the Strategic Initiatives.

GVMC FY 2011 Strategic Initiatives As Recommended by the Executive Committee

1) Managing Emerging Issues: An on-going service program to help GVMC member counties and communities develop awareness and knowledge of and properly manage emerging public administration and public policy issues that affect county and municipal operations and service delivery.

2) Encouraging Collaborative Service Sharing: Develop region-wide initiatives to encourage collaborative service and cost sharing models and assist sub-regional neighbors and the counties in identifying, analyzing and developing cost and service sharing agreements for the delivery of public services.

3) Coordinating a Region-Wide Training Exchange for GVMC Members: Develop a region-wide initiative to share the costs of providing education and training programs on a wide-range of topics for elected officials, administrators and staff.

4) Nurturing a Regional Economic Development Partnership: Galvanize and grow Metro Council's existing partnerships with the area Chambers of Commerce, the Right Place, Inc., Lakeshore Advantage, the Ottawa County Economic Development Office, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and other organizations to communicate a unified, public-private voice on economic development issues and opportunities.

5) Planning for Sustainable Communities: Encourage, promote and directly assist GVMC-member communities in sustainable growth practices through updated master plans, capital improvement plans, and other development tools and regulations. This includes facilitation and direct involvement in regional and multi-jurisdictional planning efforts to encourage sustainable growth and infrastructure investment.

6) Retooling GVMC's Governance, Structure and Operations: Empanel a Task Force consisting of GVMC members to review and recommend changes to GVMC's organizational structure and develop an operational model for Metro Council that improves efficiency and addresses members' needs.

Don Stypula reported this is an evolving document and will change over time. We have an aggressive timetable to achieve the goals – June 30, 2011.

Al Vanderberg stated now we need an implementation plan with times and metrics. We need a timeline, plan and measurables sooner rather than later.

Daryl Delabbio said this group (the Board) needs to be a catalyst to get things to change.

Tom Fehsenfeld added we also need to be realistic with the goals and expectations and see how they align with the previous strategic plan to see what needs to be dropped. Goals are great, but we need the resources to make things happen.

Dick Bulkowski stated the third item under D could have universities and colleges added to it.

Rick Root asked how we get that constant pressure to keep this moving.

Al Vanderberg said strategic planning should be an annual event, not something just on the shelf. The Board should do it every year and the staff should implement and report on the quality. The next step is the work of management. Don and his staff should come back to the Executive Committee with a plan within the next month.

Rick Root stated we have an expectation of taking these wide-ranging goals and dumping them on one person with limited resources. Maybe we should take out the legislative component. It is almost becoming unattainable. Do we need to tighten the focus?

Al Vanderberg said it is a mistake to let function drive form. We need to wrap the resources around the goals.

Jim LaPeer suggested taking someone already on staff and making them a project manager.

Tom Butcher reported GVSU also has a strategic plan. Everyone has to bring their work plan in alignment with the strategic plan. I challenge all of you to consider this is our strategic plan, not just staff but that of every member and coordinate and collaborate to make it happen. The members need to make this happen.

Don Hilton added we are here for about one hour a month and we discuss what is on the agenda. An hour per month for this many governmental units will not suffice to make this happen. Members should communicate with Don Stypula, Jim Buck or Rick Root to engage what is not on the agenda. We need to put pressure on everyone to realize they are an important part of this.

George Heartwell stated we could put the strategic initiatives at the bottom of each agenda.

MOTION – To Endorse the Strategic Initiatives, Incorporating the Wording to Include Universities and Colleges as Suggested. MOVE – Heartwell. SUPPORT – Root. MOTION CARRIED.

6. Legislative Advocacy

Rick Root reported the next Quarterly Luncheon will be Monday, October 11, with Bill Ballenger as the featured speaker.

Don Stypula reported nothing much is expected to happen during the Lame Duck session, however transportation funding may move at the state level.

7. Transportation Amendment

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is requesting an amendment to

GVMC's FY 2011-14 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The amendment for the FY 2011 General Program Accounts (GPA) will ensure that the new TIP is consistent with the previous action the Metro Council has taken for the FY 2008-11 TIP.

FY 2011

FY JN	Route	Location	Work Description	Total Cost Est.
11 N/A	Various	Areawide	Trunkline Road CPM	GPA \$6,600,000
11 N/A	Various	Areawide	Trunkline Pre-Construction Phases	GPA \$400,000
11 N/A	Various	Areawide	Trunkline Bridge CPM/CSM	GPA \$300,000
11 N/A	Various	Areawide	Trunkline Highway Safety	GPA \$2,400,000
11 N/A	Various	Areawide	Trunkline Program Devlp/Scoping	GPA \$400,000

**MOTION – To Approve the Amendment to GVMC's FY 2011-14 TIP as Requested.
MOVE – Vanderberg. SUPPORT- Meek. MOTION CARRIED.**

8. Adjournment – 9:40

MOTION – To Adjourn. MOVE – Fox. SUPPORT – VerHeulen. MOTION CARRIED.