

GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL

Board Meeting

May 5, 2011

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:

Jerry Alkema	Allendale Township
Alex Arends	Alpine Township
Dale Bergman	Sparta Township
Jim Buck	City of Grandville
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
Brian Donovan	City of East Grand Rapids
Rebecca Fleury	Village of Middleville
Cindy Fox	Cascade Township
Doyle Hayes	At-Large Member
Carol Hennessey	Kent County
Don Hilton, Sr.	Gaines Township
Denny Hoemke	Algoma Township
Jim LaPeer	Cannon Township
Robert May	City of Hastings
Mick McGraw	At-large Member
George Meek	Plainfield Township
Jim Miedema	Jamestown Township
David Pasquale	City of Lowell
Jack Poll	City of Wyoming
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Jim Saalfeld	Kent County
Ken Snow	City of Greenville
Martin Super	Village of Sparta
Al Vanderberg	Ottawa County
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker
Bill VerHulst	City of Wyoming
Patrick Waterman	City of Hudsonville

Members Absent:

Jason Eppler	City of Ionia
Tom Fehsenfeld	At-Large Member
Brian Harrison	Caledonia Township
George Heartwell	City of Grand Rapids
John Helmholdt	At-Large
Jim Holtrop	Ottawa County
Elias Lumpkins, Jr.	City of Grand Rapids
Cy Moore	Treasurer
Audrey Nevins	Byron Township
Steven Patrick	City of Coopersville
Chuck Porter	Courtland Township
Milt Rohwer	City of Grand Rapids
Toby VanEss	Tallmadge Township
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
Erick Kind	MDOT
Gayle McCrath	Grand Valley Metro Council
Don Stypula	Grand Valley Metro Council
Don Tubbs	City of Hastings

2. Public Comment

None

3. Oath of Office for New Members

Mary Hollinrake administered the GVMC Oath of Office to Martin Super of the Village of Sparta.

4. Approval of Minutes

MOTION – To Approve the Minutes of the April 2011 GVMC Board Meeting with Correction. MOVE – Delabbio. SUPPORT – Fox. MOTION CARRIED.

5. Finance

a. Finance Report

Don Stypula reviewed the financial report. The Finance committee and Executive committee have reviewed and approved.

MOTION – To Approve the Financial Report. MOVE – VerHulst. SUPPORT – Delabbio. MOTION CARRIED.

b. FY 2011 General Fund Budget Amendments

Don Stypula reviewed the requested budget amendments. The amendments include a \$75,000 grant from MDOT (a large amount of which will fund Planning & Strategic Initiatives), carryovers from the Fisher Station project, and adjustment to interest income.

MOTION – To Approve the Proposed FY2011 Budget Amendments. MOVE – VerHulst. SUPPORT – Carlson. MOTION CARRIED.

6. Legislative Advocacy

Legislative Committee Chair, Rick Root, discussed the proposed Resolution Endorsing a Responsible Reform and Reinvention Agenda for Michigan.

Discussion:

Jim Saalfeld stated he was concerned with some of the whereases and wanted to know for the record that this resolution is not an endorsement of the One Kent initiative as there are many unanswered questions regarding One Kent and endorsement would be premature.

Don Hilton reported he was involved in all the meetings in which the resolution was discussed, and One Kent was not mentioned in any way.

Rick Root explained there will be a commission brought together with local officials to study and give input into the One Kent initiative, but it has not yet started and had nothing to do with this resolution.

Rob VerHeulen stated the minutes should reflect this resolution should not be construed as a statement of support or opposition to One Kent.

Carol Hennessey said many of the words in the resolution could be misconstrued to interpret it this way (regionalism, intergovernmental cooperation, etc.). It appears we are giving the state permission to tell us how to operate. She would like to postpone the issue and bring it back again.

Don Hilton reported he is concerned there is a need to move forward relatively soon with the resolution. He added that this Council was formed to provide regional cooperation which is the backbone of this resolution.

Denny Hoemke stated the goal of the resolution was to tell Lansing we want to be at the table; we know how to do it as we have been cooperating with each other for years.

Al Vanderberg said a solution could be in a cover letter which would state the resolution is not meant to take a position in support or against One Kent.

Jim Saalfeld stated he shares Carol Hennessey's concerns, although after hearing the explanations could be supportive of the resolution.

Carol Hennessey said a cover letter which makes very clear our intent is to get a seat at the table and that it is not an endorsement of One Kent could work.

Rick Root asked Carol if she could support the resolution with the above mentioned cover letter which would be vetted through the Legislative committee chair and GVMC Board chair.

Carol Hennessey stated yes, she could.

MOTION – To Approve the Resolution Endorsing a Responsible Reform and Reinvention Agenda for Michigan with the Inclusion of a Cover Letter Explaining the Resolution is in no Way a Statement of Endorsement or Opposition of One Kent. The Cover Letter will also Contain Language Explaining that the Intent of the Resolution is not to Endorse any Specific Initiative but Rather to Secure GVMC a Seat at the Table in the Reinvention of Michigan. (The cover letter is to be vetted by the Legislative committee chair and GVMC Board chair)

MOVE – Root. SUPPORT – Burns. MOTION CARRIED.

Legislative Issues Update

Don Stypula reported on meetings being convened with GVMC members regarding infrastructure financing. The information will be conveyed to the Governor and his staff.

7. Transportation Department – TIP Amendment

Don Stypula explained the Kent County Road Commission has asked GVMC to set aside one item from the proposed amendment, the Muskatawa Trail.

Due to several changes being requested by ITP The Rapid, KCRC, the City of Grand Rapids and MDOT to the FY2011-2014 TIP, staff is requesting approval of the following changes:

- ITP The Rapid is requesting to add a Specialized Services Operating Assistance grant to the FY2011 – 2014 TIP specifically to FY2012. The grant is for \$463,289, 100% State funded.
- The KCRC is requesting to add two awarded High Risk Rural Road (HRRR) projects to FY2012 (please see attached). KCRC is also requesting to remove Byron Center Township from the Fred Meijer Kenowa Trail project. The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council (MACC) MPO will display the remainder of the awarded project in their TIP. Next, KCRC is requesting to move an FY2012 Local Bridge Fund project (68th Street Bridge over Plaster Creek) to FY2011.
- The City of Grand Rapids is requesting to change the scope and remove one awarded FY2011 Safety project. The City is also requesting to add a Rail Trail Acquisition project as well as Butterworth Avenue Realignment and Reconfiguration project for design phase services.
- MDOT is requesting Administrative Modifications as well as Amendments to the FY2011-2014 TIP, specifically to FY2011 and FY2012..

MOTION – To Approve the Amended TIP Amendment. MOVE – LaPeer. SUPPORT – Vanderberg. MOTION CARRIED.

8. Adjournment – 9:40 a.m.

MOTION – To Adjourn. MOVE – Meek. SUPPORT – Super. MOTION CARRIED.