

# GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL

## Board Meeting

May 3, 2012

8:30 a.m.

Kent County Commission Chambers

## MINUTES

### 1. Call to Order

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

#### Members Present:

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
Steve Grimm	Cannon Township
George Heartwell	City of Grand Rapids
Don Hilton, Sr.	Gaines Township
Denny Hoemke	Algoma Township
Jim Holtrop	Ottawa County
John Hoppough	City of Greenville
Cindy Janes	Cascade Township
Robert May	City of Hastings
George Meek	Plainfield Township
Jim Miedema	Jamestown Township
Jack Poll	City of Wyoming
Al Vanderberg	Ottawa County
Bill VerHulst	City of Wyoming
Patrick Waterman	City of Hudsonville

#### Members Absent:

Jerry Alkema	Allendale Township
Alex Arends	Alpine Township
Dale Bergman	Sparta Township
Brian Donovan	City of East Grand Rapids
Jason Eppler	City of Ionia
Tom Fehsenfeld	At-Large Member
Rebecca Fleury	Village of Middleville
Carol Hennessey	Kent County
Brian Harrison	Caledonia Township
Doyle Hayes	At-Large Member
John Helmholdt	At-Large

Mark Howe	City of Lowell
Audrey Nevins-Weiss	Byron Township
Cy Moore	Treasurer
Steven Patrick	City of Coopersville
Chuck Porter	Courtland Township
Elias Lumpkins, Jr.	City of Grand Rapids
Mick McGraw	At-large Member
Milt Rohwer	City of Grand Rapids
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Jim Saalfeld	Kent County
Martin Super	Village of Sparta
Toby VanEss	Tallmadge Township
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker
Roger Wills	City of Belding
Michael Young	City of Rockford
Chris Yonker	City of Wayland

**Others Present:**

Abed Itani	Grand Valley Metro Council
Andy Bowman	Grand Valley Metro Council
David Czurak	Grand Rapids Business Journal
Scott Greenlee	Michigan Transportation Team
Mic Gunderson	KCEMS
Dharmesh Jain	Grand Valley Metro Council
Curtiss Holt	City of Wyoming
Dennis Kent	MDOT
Gayle McCrath	Grand Valley Metro Council
Brenda McNabb-Stang	City of Hastings
Erika Rosebrook	Urban Initiatives, Office of Gov. Snyder
John Weiss	Grand Valley Metro Council
Peter Varga	ITP / The Rapid

**2. Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION – To Approve the Minutes of the April GVMC Board Meeting. MOVE – Hilton. SUPPORT – Janes. MOTION CARRIED.**

**3. Public Comment**

None

**4. Finance – MDOT Audit Letter**

John Weiss reviewed the official letter from MDOT on the settlement of the audit. MDOT has not yet contacted GVMC regarding a process for payment.

**MOTION – To Accept the MDOT Audit Settlement as Described in the Official MDOT Letter. MOVE – Hilton. SUPPORT – Janes. MOTION CARRIED.**

**5. Emerging Issues Update**

a. **Scott Greenlee – Michigan Transportation Team**

Scott Greenlee of the Michigan Transportation Team met with over 50 Metro Council members and staff at four meetings held at the GVMC offices. GVMC was one of the first organizations to sign on to the Michigan Transportation Team (MTT). Scott expressed his thanks and appreciation for the opportunity to meet with members. The information he gathered is being brought back to Lansing for consideration in transportation related policy. One of the findings is that infrastructure needs improving. Twenty-five various bills are in consideration which would result in increased funding for existing roads and bridges. Repairing infrastructure early, rather than waiting until it needs to be replaced entirely, saves money at about a 6:1 ratio over a 3-5 year period.

Scott would like to meet further with members and receive feedback on transportation matters ongoingly. He is willing to talk with any groups (Supervisors, UMMM, MML, MTA, etc.) or one-on-one. He thanks John Weiss for facilitating this interaction and for going above and beyond in making it an issue.

b. **Mic Gunderson – Kent County Emergency Management System**

Mic Gunderson of KCEMS reviewed the highlights of the earlier completed study on KCEMS. Recommendations were for municipalities to be more involved and to help make decisions in the design of EMS. The way KCEMS is structured has limited enforcement of standards. Municipalities are currently not represented on the KCEMS board. The goal is to link the authority of municipalities with the responsibility of KCEMS. The KCEMS Board will add two new members to its advisory body. One representative will be from highly populated municipalities and one with lower population. They also want to better use physician expertise and hospital data. However, various regulations are making that problematic. The issue of closest unit response is also critical. Ambulance services are working on a system to cooperate. Medical first responders are more complicated.

The next step is for GVMC members to give thought to the appropriate people to nominate to the KCEMS Board.

c. **Erika Rosebrook – Urban Initiatives, Office of Governor Snyder**

Erika Rosebrook explained the office of Urban Initiatives was part of the Governor’s 10 point plan to reinvent Michigan and is funded by a grant from the Council of Michigan Foundations. They are still creating their goals, working on an urban agenda, and searching for innovative ways to help the community grow. Erika has had discussions with John Weiss and plans to have more in the coming months. They are considering local goals and pilot programs. Whenever GVMC members are having events, etc. Erika would be happy to attend.

6. **Transportation – Pavement Management Van Camera**

Abed Itani reported on the request to purchase a reverse view camera for the pavement management van. It would help the van more efficiently capture data such as sign information.

**MOTION – To Approve the Purchase of a Reverse View Camera for the Pavement Management Van. MOVE – DeVries. SUPPORT – Holtrop. MOTION CARRIED.**

**7. Legislative Update – PPT Meeting**

John Weiss reported on the PPT study group which met with Senators Jansen and Hildenbrand. The meeting was to share information and offer alternatives. Last week the PPT bills were passed out of committee and onto the Senate floor. We continue to provide information. New items are being added. It is not anticipated to move as quickly in the House and will do as much as possible to stay part of the process.

**8. Other**

John Weiss reviewed the various news articles included in the Board agenda packet which were directly regarding the Metro Council or covered issues important to GVMC.

John Weiss reported on the recently held LGROW meeting where he discussed the importance of being sustainable.

John reported the speaker at the July 9<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Luncheon will be Lt. Governor Calley. The luncheon will be in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce.

Tom Butcher thanked John Weiss for his support and reported he has had various discussions with John, the director of the Johnson Center and others regarding expanding the internship program. GVSU will continue to support graduate assistants with GVMC.

John Weiss thanked GVSU and other major financial contributors for their support in achieving the strategic initiatives.

John Weiss reported Rick Root will be retiring as Mayor of Kentwood on June 4. He asked everyone to keep Rick in their prayers. John spoke of Mayor Root's over 30 years of public service and dedication.

Bob May, Mayor of the City of Hastings, expressed great appreciation for his ongoing professional as well as personal relationships with Mayor Root.

George Heartwell spoke of Rick's leadership and diplomacy in local government, as well as his heartfelt friendship.

Several members expressed their professional kinship with and admiration of Mayor Root, while others were overcome by emotion and unable to speak.

**9. Adjournment – 9:40 a.m.**

**MOTION – To Adjourn. MOVE – Hilton. SUPPORT – Janes. MOTION CARRIED.**