

# GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL

## Board Meeting

June 7, 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:

Alex Arends	Alpine Township
Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Chris Burns	City of Cedar Springs
Dan Carlton	Georgetown Township
Daryl Delabbio	Kent County
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
George Heartwell	City of Grand Rapids
Carol Hennessey	Kent County
Don Hilton, Sr.	Gaines Township
Denny Hoemke	Algoma Township
Jim Holtrop	Ottawa County
John Hoppough	City of Greenville
Mark Howe	City of Lowell
Tom Fehsenfeld	At-Large Member
George Meek	Plainfield Township
Jack Poll	City of Wyoming
Jim Saalfeld	Kent County
Al Vanderberg	Ottawa County
Bill VerHulst	City of Wyoming
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker

#### Members Absent:

Jerry Alkema	Allendale Township
Dale Bergman	Sparta Township
Tom Butcher	Grand Valley State University
Brian Donovan	City of East Grand Rapids
Jason Eppler	City of Ionia
Rebecca Fleury	Village of Middleville
Steve Grimm	Cannon Township
Brian Harrison	Caledonia Township
Doyle Hayes	At-Large Member
John Helmholdt	At-Large Member
Cindy Janes	Cascade Township
Robert May	City of Hastings

Elias Lumpkins, Jr.	City of Grand Rapids
Mick McGraw	At-large Member
Jim Miedema	Jamestown Township
Cy Moore	Treasurer
Audrey Nevins-Weiss	Byron Township
Steven Patrick	City of Coopersville
Chuck Porter	Courtland Township
Milt Rohwer	City of Grand Rapids
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Martin Super	Village of Sparta
Toby VanEss	Tallmadge Township
Patrick Waterman	City of Hudsonville
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
Dennis Kent	MDOT
Gayle McCrath	Grand Valley Metro Council
John Weiss	Grand Valley Metro Council
Peter Varga	ITP / The Rapid

**2. Approval of Minutes**

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

**3. Public Comment**

None

**4. LGROW Contracts**

John Weiss reported there are three LGROW contracts to be approved by the Council for work to promote, create a business plan and work on sustainability. The contracts will be funded by grants through the Frey, Grand Rapids, and Wege Foundations.

Andy Bowman explained in the creation of LGROW we tried to include as large a stakeholders group as possible, ranging from local governments, environmental groups, business, to private citizens, etc. The grants brought before the Council today are to do five basic things: benchmarking best practices; create stakeholder focus groups; work on communication strategies; start up projects (database, education better media, stronger web presence); creation of a business plan.

There were various questions from members regarding the contractors, their qualifications, and the process of awarding the contracts, as well as LGROW objectives and progress.

Jim Buck agreed to have Brian Donovan give a presentation to the Board on LGROW.

**MOTION – To Table the LGROW Contracts Until the July GVMC Board Meeting. MOVE – Hilton. SUPPORT – Vanderberg. MOTION CARRIED.**

**5. Oath of Office**

Mary Hollinrake, Kent County Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Richard Clanton, Mayor of Kentwood.

Richard Clanton encouraged everyone to keep Rick Root in their prayers and to post messages to his care page. He looks forward to working with members and feels it is important to maintain leadership and continuity.

**6. Mike Gusweiler West Michigan Sports Commission**

Mike Gusweiler updated the Council on the West Michigan Sports Commission. He reported on why it was formed, what it is doing today and the impact it is having on the community. It was created in 2007 as a destination marketing entity for youth and amateur sports & sports tourism. Its objectives include economic development, increasing the quality of life in the area, and creating a signature event (the Meijer state games).

**7. Jared Rodriguez West Michigan Policy Forum**

Jared Rodrigues reported on the Sept. 12-13 West Michigan Policy Forum. The event focuses on jobs, economic growth, and business & government collaboration. It brings together local, state and federal officials as well as business leaders to address growth and collaboration issues.

This year educational elements have been added and the format has been changed up to make it faster paced & educational.

Jared announced GVMC members would be offered a special price of \$295 for the event.

**8. Legislative**

John Weiss reported he has participated in many PPT focus group meetings. The legislation was passed out of the Senate with the poison pill amendment. It probably won't be brought up to the House until after November.

The next Legislative committee meeting will be on Monday, June 11 where we will welcome Pete MacGregor and elect a new committee chair.

**9. Other**

The next Board Meeting will be held on Monday, July 9 at 10:30 a.m. at the Prince Center and will be followed by the Quarterly Luncheon (sponsored in part by Meijer) featuring Lt. Governor Brian Calley.

**10. Adjournment – 10:40 a.m.**

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