

GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL

Board Meeting

December 6, 2012

8:30 a.m.

Kent County Commission Chambers
Grand Rapids

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
Tom Butcher	Grand Valley State University
Dan Carlton	Georgetown Township
Richard Clanton	City of Kentwood
Daryl Delabbio	Kent County
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
Brian Donovan	City of East Grand Rapids
Steve Grimm	Cannon Township
Carol Hennessey	Kent County
Don Hilton, Sr.	Gaines Township
Denny Hoemke	Algoma Township
John Hoppough	City of Greenville
Cindy Janes	Cascade Township
Cy Moore	Treasurer
Jack Poll	City of Wyoming
Jay Stevens	Plainfield Township
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker
Bill VerHulst	City of Wyoming

Members Absent:

Jerry Alkema	Allendale Township
Jason Eppler	City of Ionia
Brian Harrison	Caledonia Township
Doyle Hayes	At-Large Member
George Heartwell	City of Grand Rapids
John Helmholdt	At-Large Member
Jim Holtrop	Ottawa County
Mark Howe	City of Lowell

Rebecca Fleury	Village of Middleville
Elias Lumpkins, Jr.	City of Grand Rapids
Mick McGraw	At-large Member
Audrey Nevins-Weiss	Byron Township
Steven Patrick	City of Coopersville
Chuck Porter	Courtland Township
Milt Rohwer	City of Grand Rapids
Jim Saalfeld	Kent County
Michael Selden	City of Wayland
Al Vanderberg	Ottawa County
Toby VanEss	Tallmadge Township
Patrick Waterman	City of Hudsonville
Roger Wills	City of Belding
Michael Young	City of Rockford

Others Present:

Gayle McCrath	Grand Valley Metro Council
Bob Homan	Plainfield Township
Dennis Kent	MDOT
Brenda McNabb-Stange	City of Hastings
John Weiss	Grand Valley Metro Council

2. Minutes

MOTION: To Approve the Minutes of the November GVMC Board Meeting. MOVE - Janes. SUPPORT – Hilton. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Public Comment

None

4. Oath of Office

Deputy Kent County Clerk Sonja Dean administered the Oath of Office to Jay Spencer, Supervisor of Plainfield Twp. Mr. Spencer stated he was excited to be at the GVMC table and take part. A lot of things are happening regionally and on the state level which this body has an important part in.

5. Appointment of Brian Donovan to Executive Committee

Al Vanderberg reported the Human Resources Committee has considered replacements for Rob VerHeulen on the Executive Committee, as he will be leaving his position as Mayor of Walker to join the Michigan Legislature. Brian Donovan, City Manager of East Grand Rapids, has been

with the Council many years and has done a huge amount of work in various areas, most notably with LGROW.

John Weiss stated he has spent a lot of time working with Brian and appreciates the leadership and forward thinking he brings to the Council.

MOTION – To Appoint Brian Donovan to the GVMC Executive Committee as of 1/1/2013. MOVE – Vanderberg. SUPPORT – Janes. MOTION CARRIED.

6. Transportation Funding

John Weiss reported the Michigan Transportation Team has met ongoingly. Through GVMC a smaller local task force has come together often and drafted several proposals. The Metro Council also sponsored a meeting with 25 GVMC members, representatives from the Governor's office and MDOT officials attending in which long term transportation funding was discussed.

Mike DeVries stated the concern legislation quickly being ran through during the lame duck session. Fortunately, transportation funding is not expected to be taken up before the New Year. This will allow a thoughtful process and is expected to be addressed in the Governor's State of the State address.

7. Presentation on Restore the Rapids

Wendy Ogilvie of Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber gave a presentation on the proposal to restore the rapids to the Grand River. See Attached

8. Change of Date of January GVMC Board Meeting

MOTION – To Move the Date of the January GVMC Board Meeting to January 10. MOVE – Poll. SUPPORT – Delabbio. MOTION CARRIED.

9. PPT

John Weiss reported a subgroup of the Legislative Committee has been involved in the process, doing analysis and working with the Lt. Governor to put together proposals. The issue is moving very quickly. Today there will be a vote. We encourage everyone to take the advice of MML, MAC and MTA and contact their legislators to request a delay. More time is needed to analyze the issue and outcomes. There are major holes in the currently proposed legislation. Hundreds of hours of work have been put into the proposal we support. It has been a monumental effort by cities, counties & townships. There is a lot more work to be done.

10. Other

11. Farewell to Rob VerHeulen, Mayor of Walker

GVMC Chair Jim Buck wished Rob VerHeulen well in his new position as Representative in the Michigan Legislature. Rob has been long-serving and second to none in his commitment to his community, the Council and the Region.

John Weiss thanked Rob for his service to the City of Walker and GVMC.

Each Board member was given the opportunity to speak and wish Rob well in his new endeavor.

12. Adjournment – 10:00 a.m.

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