

**GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL**  
**Board Meeting**

July 12, 2004  
10:30 a.m.  
Millennium Park

MINUTES

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 a.m. by Chairman Jim Buck.

**Members Present**

Jim Beelen	Allendale Township
Dale Bergman	Sparta Township
Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Daryl Delabbio	Kent County
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
Bev Drake	ACSET Council
Cindy Heinbeck	Alpine Township
Don Hilton	Gaines Township
Dennis Hoemke	Algoma Township
Jim Holtvluwer	Georgetown Township
Kurt Kimball	City of Grand Rapids
Robert May	City of Hastings
James McIntyre	Courtland Township
Mick McGraw	At-Large Member
Jim Miedema	Jamestown Township
Cy Moore	Treasurer
David Morren	Kent County
Deborah Nier	City of Wayland
Bob Rinck	Ottawa County
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Bonnie Shupe	Cannon Township
Larry Silvernail	Byron Township
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker
Ted Vonk	Kent County

**Members Absent**

Cindy Bartman	City of East Grand Rapids
George Bosanic	City of Greenville
Bryan Chodkowski	Village of Sparta
Tom Fehsenfeld	At-Large Member
Dave Groenleer	Plainfield Township
Doyle Hayes	At-Large Member
George Heartwell	City of Grand Rapids
Bryan Harrison	Caledonia Township

Jerry Homminga  
Ron Howell  
Mark Knudsen  
Pauline Luben  
Sandy Frost Parrish  
Steven Patrick  
Tom Wiczorek  
Bill Wiersma  
Michael Young

Cedar Springs  
Village of Middleville  
Ottawa County  
City of Hudsonville  
Cascade Township  
City of Coopersville  
City of Ionia  
Tallmadge Township  
City of Rockford

**Others Present:**

Andy Bowman  
Leon Branderhorst  
Abed Itani  
Gayle McCrath  
Don Stypula

Grand Valley Metro Council  
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**2. Approval of Minutes dated June, 2004**

**MOTION – To Approve the Minutes of the June, 2004 GVMC Board Meeting.  
MOVE – May. SUPPORT – VerHeulen. MOTION CARRIED.**

**3. Financial Report**

Treasurer Cy Moore reported on the financial statement. Net revenues over expenditures year-to-date are \$173,565. However, this is largely due to a \$129,000 pass through billing from NPDES in which we have received funds from those participating but have not yet been billed by Fishbeck; and also an unexpended UBC grant. When taking these into consideration, revenues over expenditures are \$19,000.

Questions - none

The report was accepted into record.

Chairman Buck introduced a bill from Mika Meyers for \$3,748.

**MOTION - To pay the Mika Meyer bill in the amount of \$3,748. MOVE – Heinbeck. SUPPORT – Holtvluwer. MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. Transportation**

**a. FY 2005 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget**

Abed Itani discussed the FY 2005 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget and answered questions.

Mr. Itani stated that this plan and budget needs to be in place in order to receive

federal funding. MDOT needs this approved budget by July 15, 2004. Included in the budget are the MPO, ITP, and MDOT.

The budget does not vary much from last year.

### **FY2005 GVMC Unified Work Program Tasks**

#### **Program Areas of Focus:**

- Transportation/Land Use Regional Study
- Safety Conscious Planning (Intersection Profile Study)
- Transportation Geographic Information System
- Travel Demand Model Update/calibration/validation
- Transit/Mode Split Model
- Ozone Action! Program
- Congestion Management System (CMS)
- Pavement Management System (PMS)
- 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan Update
- 2004-2006 Transportation Improvement Program Update
- Intelligent Transportation System ( ITS Study)
- Non-Motorized Plan
- Public Involvement/Information
- Technical Assistant
- City of Walker/Alpine/Kent County Road Commission Corridor Study

Questions - None

**MOTION – To approve the FY 2005 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget. MOVE - Silvernail. SUPPORT – Kimball. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **5. Recommendations from May 21 GVMC Strategic Planning**

Don Stypula reported on the following recommendations that emerged from the May 21, Strategic Planning Meeting.

### **RECOMMENDATION #1 – THE GVMC VISION AND MISSION**

After much discussion, the following Vision was agreed upon at the strategic planning session:

#### **Our Vision**

A Council of Governments dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of the people of our metropolitan area through collaboration among regional partners.

GVMC's Mission, remains intact with the exception of one redundant sentence being eliminated:

#### **Our Mission**

The mission of the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council is to advance the current and future wellbeing of our metropolitan area by bringing together public and private sectors

to cooperatively advocate, plan for, and coordinate the provision of services and investments which have environmental, economic and social impact.

In pursuit of this mission, it is understood that the well-being of the metropolitan community relies on good government and springs from a shared vision that encompasses many elements, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Preparing now for the challenges of the future
- Planning for orderly growth and development
- Minimizing urban sprawl
- Preserving and enhancing the natural, social, and physical environments
- Promoting economic vitality and employment opportunities
- Equitably sharing responsibility for community needs
- Recognizing the strengths and benefits of diversity
- Promoting quality lifelong educational opportunities
- Promoting quality cultural and recreational institutions and facilities
- Developing a sensible and environmentally sound transportation system to serve all population groups
- Vigilantly preserving the health and safety of the general public
- Effectively utilizing and enhancing existing infrastructure
- Eliminating unnecessary duplication of services
- Effectively advocating for financial equity and other assistance with the State and Federal governments
- Conserving and enhancing healthy neighborhoods, business districts and employment centers
- Promoting a high quality of life now and for future generations

**RECOMMENDATION #2 – NAME OF COOPERATION COMMITTEE**

Change the name of the City-Township Cooperation Committee to the GVMC Regional Cooperation Committee and meet quarterly.

Chairman Buck recognized Cindy Heinbeck’s contribution in recommending this action and thanked her for her suggestion.

**RECOMMENDATION #3 – ISSUES AND TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

The May 21, GVMC strategic planning group recommends the following list of issues as topics for discussion during the quarterly meetings of the new GVMC Regional Cooperation Committee.

1. Affordable Housing
2. Future of Metropolitan Government
3. Future of Public Transportation
4. Interface and relationships between local units and school districts / school election issues
5. Increasing local tax burden
6. Regional cooperation on homeland security issues

7. Institutional racism in metropolitan planning
8. Sustainable funding solutions for local units and school districts
9. Structure of GVMC: Environmental and Watershed initiatives
10. REGIS as a member “service” of GVMC
11. Urban sprawl and planning – all sectors
12. Commerce Centers proposal
13. Relative cost of government
14. Regionalized services – cost/benefit
15. Municipal financing issues raised in the Plante and Moran study

## **6. REGIS Update**

### **a. Resignation of Brian Berdanier**

Don Stypula announced that REGIS Director Brian Berdanire had resigned his position.

### **b. Visioning Meeting – July 19, 2004**

Don Stypula reported that there would be a meeting on July 19, at the GVMC offices with the Chief Executive of every REGIS participant to discuss their commitment to the program, and where they would like to see it in the future.

## **7. Legislative Update**

Don Stypula gave the legislative update.

He stated that the legislature was breaking, however it would probably continue to meet on Wednesdays until the budget was resolved.

He reported that recall legislation would likely be delayed until fall as is mobile home reform.

Reauthorization of federal transportation is still in flux as is state transportation funding.

The hike in cigarette taxes have come into effect, however changes to revenue sharing are unpredictable at this point.

## **8. Other Items**

### **a. Presentation by Plante & Moran at August Board Meeting**

Don Stypula reported there would be a presentation by Plante and Moran at the August Board Meeting.

Jim Buck stated that Rob VerHeulen and Dave Morren would be joining the Nominating Committee, which will be making a recommendation to fill the position of Frank Sessions.

**9. Public Comment**

None

**10. Adjourn**

**MOTION – To adjourn. MOVE – May. SUPPORT – Heinbeck. MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.