

**Grand Valley Metro Council
Executive Committee Meeting**

Thursday, January 18, 2007
12:00 PM

Grand Valley Metro Council
40 Pearl NW, Suite 410
Grand Rapids, MI

MINUTES

Present

Jim Beelen	Allendale Township
Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Daryl Delabbio	Kent County
Don Hilton	Gaines Township
Kurt Kimball	City of Grand Rapids
Cy Moore	Council Treasurer
Audrey Nevins	Byron Township
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Al Vanderberg	Ottawa County
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker

Other

Leon Branderhorst	Grand Valley Metro Council
Abed Itani	Grand Valley Metro Council
Andy Bowman	Grand Valley Metro Council
Dharmesh Jain	Grand Valley Metro Council
Gayle McCrath	Grand Valley Metro Council
Don Stypula	Grand Valley Metro Council
Michael Young	City of Rockford

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Chairman Jim Buck.

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION – To Approve the November, 2006 Minutes of the GVMC Executive Committee. MOVE – Root. SUPPORT – Kimball. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Update on FY 2006 Audit

Don Stypula reported the audit is expected to be finished shortly, and it can be presented at a joint meeting of the Finance Committee and Executive Committee in February, and then presented to the Board in March.

Cy Moore indicated he would not be at the February Executive Committee meeting. He is leaving February 2 for vacation.

Don Stypula stated he would meet with Cy and Leon Branderhorst before February 2 and forward the audit results to Cy for his review prior to the meeting.

4. Appointment of GVMC Finance Committee

Jim Buck reviewed the request for a Finance Committee and the list of nominated individuals.

Chair: Cy Moore, Treasurer, GVMC
Vice Chair: Mike DeVries, Supervisor, Grand Rapids Township
William VerHulst, Council Member, City of Wyoming
William Holland, Supervisor, Georgetown Township
Robert VerHeulen, Mayor, City of Walker
Scott Buhner, Finance Director, City of Grand Rapids
Robert White, Fiscal Services Director, Kent County
Jeff Dood, Finance Director, City of Rockford
Erika Rosebrook, Assistant Administrator, Ottawa County

MOTION – To Accept the Nomination of the Above Mentioned Nominees to the GVMC Finance Committee and Move their Nominations on to the GVMC Board. MOVE – Beelen. SUPPORT – Vanderberg. MOTION CARRIED.

5. 2007 TIP Amendment for 2009 Local Jobs Today Program

Don Stypula explained the 2007 TIP Amendment request for the 2009 Local Jobs Today Program.

MOTION – To Approve the Amendment to the 2007 TIP for 2009 Local Jobs Today Program and Move it to the GVMC Board. MOVE – Kimball. SUPPORT – VerHeulen. MOTION CARRIED.

6. Legislative Issues

a. Revised GVMC Legislative Priorities for 94th Legislature

Don Stypula reported the telecom issue had dropped off of the short list of legislative priorities and the Legislative Committee moved to add a new issue in its place.

Economic Development

County/Local Inducements for Business and Tourism Development: The Grand Valley Metropolitan Council supports the creation of new, and reauthorization of existing, statutory funding mechanisms that enable county and local governments to assist in retaining existing businesses, attracting new business ventures, and promoting convention and tourism, provided that tax receipts and other state funds are distributed based on an equitable formula that provides funding to all regions of the state.

MOTION – To Add the Above Issue and Policy Statement to the GVMC Legislative Priorities, and to Pass It on to the GVMC Board. MOVE – Kimball. SUPPORT – Nevins. MOTION CARRIED.

b. February 14, 2007 GVMC State Tax Policy Forum

Rick Root explained that the Legislative Committee was holding a forum at the Cascade Township Community Center on February 14, to discuss State Tax Policy.

Don Stypula reported Tom Clay has been asked to give a key note discussion regarding historical perspective and possible scenarios. Mr. Clay will have handouts, and Don will make sure all members have these before the meeting. This meeting will be used to develop overarching principles that GVMC members agree to and can promote as the discussion on tax policy heats up.

Rick Root added that the GVMC Legislative Committee should be used as a catalyst to get members engaged and energize their elected officials and community behind issues and policy statements that GVMC members agree upon. They won't agree on everything, but should concentrate on focusing on those issues in which they can use their collective influence to affect public policy.

c. State Revenue Estimating Conference

Don Stypula reported the State Revenue Estimating Conference was underway today and information from all sources show revenue is down for the whole year from \$850 - \$880 million in the current fiscal year. Revenue sharing is in the mix to be hit to cover the gap in revenues. Next fiscal year looks equally as bad. Don

will transmit the final report from the conference to all members as soon as it is done. Don stated he has no doubt the Governor will propose a tax increase.

7. Other

Jim Buck reported there is another Quarterly Luncheon planned for April, and asked if anyone had any ideas on topics, please forward them to him or Gayle.

Kurt Kimball asked if they could get someone from the Governor's tax policy group to discuss their overarching issues.

Don Stypula stated he could.

8. Executive Director's Review

Staff was excused while the Executive Committee discussed the Executive Director's review.

9. Adjourn 1:00 p.m.