

**Grand Valley Metro Council
Executive Committee Meeting**

April 19, 2012

Noon

Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NW, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI

Minutes

Present

Jim Buck
Daryl Delabbio
Cindy Janes
George Heartwell
Don Hilton, Sr.
Cy Moore
Rick Root
Alan Vanderberg
Rob VerHeulen
Michael Young

City of Grandville
Kent County
Cascade Township
City of Grand Rapids
Gaines Township
Council Treasurer
City of Kentwood
Ottawa County
City of Walker
City of Rockford

Absent

Other

Abed Itani
Andy Bowman
Gayle McCrath
John Weiss

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1. Call to Order

Chair Jim Buck called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION - To Approve the March 2012 GVMC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. MOVE – Heartwell. SUPPORT – Fox. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Review of Quarterly Luncheon

John Weiss reported on the success of the April 9th Quarterly Luncheon. Approx. 100 people attended the presentation from Mark Murray which was very well received. That interaction with Mr. Murray led to an invitation for ten GVMC members to hear former Governor John Engler speak at the Economics Club.

Gayle McCrath reported on the finances of the Quarterly Luncheon. Even with 100 attending, the cost of the luncheon is approximately \$23.30 pp. With our previous average of 50 people in attendance it is approximately \$29.00 pp. Costs include room charge, lunch, dessert, service charge. Additionally, every time the Board meeting is held at the Prince Center, there is a cost of \$250 room charge and \$160 for food & beverage. The cost of the luncheon is currently \$22. There are questions of whether increasing the price would make it cost prohibitive.

Options for reducing losses include eliminating dessert; changing venue which could save on costs for the Board meeting; eliminating part of the refreshments at the Board meeting; and increasing the cost to \$25.

4. Legislative Update

John Weiss reported on the PPT issue. Monday there is a meeting scheduled at GVMC with Senators Hildenbrand & Jansen on the PPT. It is a fast moving issue. Enclosed in this week's update will be information on the bills and contacts.

Daryl Delabbio reported on the "Replace Don't Erase" campaign. Attempts to make replacement constitutional are unlikely to be successful. Rumor is that the House won't touch the legislation until after the election.

5. Mic Gunderson – KCEMS

Mic Gunderson of KCEMS discussed proposed organizational change of the KCEMS Board. The plan to improve representation is to remove two current KCEMS Executive Committee members and to add two from the municipalities served; one to be added from within urban core and one from outside the core area.

KCEMS is asking GVMC to, as a neutral party, facilitate those appointments.

John Weiss reported he felt it was a good use of the Metro Council's membership and that it fit well with GVMC's mission. Lots of the issues being addressed by KCEMS are at the operational level and don't necessarily filter up. By changing the structure of their Board, KCEMS would increase communication and understanding of issues by the governing bodies of the local governments.

Jim Buck stated John Weiss should set up the meeting to facilitate this appointment/election.

John also reported on a meeting he initiated between KCEMS and REGIS regarding use of GIS information to make emergency response quicker & more accurate.

6. Survey of Local Officials

John Weiss reported the survey of elected officials went out to 241 people this morning and mirrors the public survey that was done previously. This one isn't limited to Kent County, but rather is of "West Michigan". The survey was done in conjunction with the Johnson Center at GVSU.

7. MDOT Audit Letter

John Weiss reviewed the official MDOT audit letter. Settlement included \$159,305 (most of which is already recorded in accounts payable) and the forgiving of the \$165,500 owed by REGIS. The letter included directions to make sure all contracts are approved by MDOT before being signed by subcontractors and to record labor hours in a manner consistent with MDOT methodology.

8. Public Relations

John Weiss reviewed several recent newspaper and internet stories regarding GVMC. He also reported on an upcoming appearance by Rob VerHeulen and himself on the Shelly Irwin show at GVSU. He pitched stories regarding LGROW, REGIS, etc., with prospects of five shows between now and summer on the show. John said he will see if the programs can be streamed on GVMC's website.

9. Pavement Management Van

John Weiss reported the Pavement Management Van is currently in Florida being repaired. At this time the van is entirely paid for and we are marketing it to other communities, making it a revenue source for GVMC.

Abed Itani requested approval of addition of rear facing cameras to the van which would allow more efficient completion of street sign projects. The camera is expected to cost \$25,000. The payoff for this expense is estimated at 2 years and funds are available in the budget.

Abed also reported GVMC and Jim Snell will receive an award on the 25th from the Asset Management group.

MOTION – To Approve the \$25,000 Expenditure to Add an Additional Camera to the Pavement Management Van. MOVE – Vanderberg. SUPPORT – Fox. MOTION CARRIED.

10. Staff Excused – 1:15 p.m.