

Grand Valley Metro Council Executive Committee Meeting

June 21, 2012

Noon

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

Minutes

Present

Daryl Delabbio
Cindy Janes
George Heartwell
Don Hilton, Sr.

Kent County
Cascade Township
City of Grand Rapids
Gaines Township

Absent

Jim Buck
Cy Moore
Alan Vanderberg
Rob VerHeulen
Michael Young

City of Grandville
Council Treasurer
Ottawa County
City of Walker
City of Rockford

Other

Abed Itani
Andy Bowman
Chris Brown
Brian Donovan
Gayle McCrath
John Weiss

Grand Valley Metro Council
Grand Valley Metro Council
Grand Valley Metro Council
East Grand Rapids
Grand Valley Metro Council
Grand Valley Metro Council

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Don Hilton called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

There was not a quorum present, so approval of the minutes will be moved to the July meeting agenda.

3. Unified Work Program

Abed Itani reviewed the Unified Work Program. The FY2013 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council includes the budget for all federally assisted transportation planning activities that the GVMC Transportation Division, the Interurban Transit Partnership (ITP) and MDOT will undertake. GVMC must submit the UPWP annually to the sponsoring federal agencies, Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration prior to July 10th. It functions as the coordinated budget for the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

The general outline of the FY2013 UWP transportation tasks related to GVMC and the associated budget was reviewed. Also reviewed was the dues structure (local match) proposed for the fiscal year 2012. Total expenditures are \$1.49 million which includes an increase in salaries 2.7% (which have not had a cost of living increase since 2008).

John Weiss stated the FY2013 UPWP will be forwarded to the GVMC Board for approval.

4. Quarterly Luncheon

John Weiss reviewed the Quarterly Luncheon featuring Lt. Governor Brian Calley. The Lt. Governor will also attend the July GVMC Board meeting for a question and answer session with GVMC members.

5. LGROW

Brian Donovan reviewed LGROW's history and progress as a region-wide collaborative association dedicated to restoring and enhancing water quality. LGROW has developed an in-depth watershed plan approved by the DEQ with various objectives and goals. One of the major successes it has had is coming together collectively to meet requirements of storm water permits. Through this coordinated effort, all involved are saving money. It has been suggested LGROW might qualify for EVIP funding. LGROW has received \$1.8 million in grants; however financial sustainability has been an ongoing struggle.

Brian also reviewed the three contracts, funded by the Frey, Wege and Grand Rapids Foundations. The contracts would be for enhanced communications and web presence, database management, and business plan.

John Weiss stated the three LGROW contracts will go to the July GVMC Board meeting for approval.

6. North Kent Transit Study

Mike DeVries reviewed the history of the North Kent Transit Study. GVMC was asked to facilitate the funding for the study, which it did. The contractors completed the study and made the required presentation to the Kent County Board of Commissioners. In his opinion

GVMC has completed its mission. It is not GVMC's obligation to promote the study. We are not a lobbying group. It is not up to us to implement.

Daryl Delabbio stated he thought there was an assumption that the presentation to the commissioners was a request for action for millage, which it was not. It was just a presentation. If local areas want a millage, they should go to their Boards to advocate for it and tax themselves. A county-wide millage will not work as so many areas are not even covered by transit. Others tax themselves to pay for it. It is not GVMC's charge to promote it.

John Weiss is to write a letter saying GMVC was pleased to help find funding and facilitate the study and its charge has been completed.

7. Staff Excused – 1:15 p.m.