

**Grand Valley Metro Council
Executive Committee Meeting**

October 16, 2014

12:00 noon

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

Minutes

Present

Alex Arends
Jim Buck
Daryl Delabbio
Mike DeVries
Brian Donovan
George Heartwell
Don Hilton, Sr.
Cy Moore
Alan Vanderberg
Michael Young

Alpine Township
Secretary
Kent County
Grand Rapids Township
City of East Grand Rapids
City of Grand Rapids
Gaines Township
Council Treasurer
Ottawa County
City of Rockford

Absent

None

Other

Chris Brown
Abed Itani
Dharmesh Jain
Gayle McCrath
Wendy Ogilvie
John Weiss

Grand Valley Metro Council
Grand Valley Metro Council
GVMC / REGIS
Grand Valley Metro Council
Grand Valley Metro Council
Grand Valley Metro Council

1. Call to Order

Chair Al Vanderberg called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION – To Approve the July Executive Committee Minutes. MOVE – Arends. SUPPORT – Donovan. MOTION CARRIED.

3. West Michigan Strategic Alliance

John Weiss reviewed the WMSA donation of intellectual property and remaining \$5,000 of cash. With donations by Jim Brooks and Huntington Bank, WMSA is now debt free. There is also some furniture left, although the exact location of it is unknown. The \$5,000 will become a donation to the Regional Prosperity Initiative. Jim Brooks, John Irwin and Greg Northrup will come to the next GVMC Board meeting to give a presentation and do a formal hand-over.

The original intent was for GVMC to accept the intellectual property, which basically consists of historic regional data, with WMSA ceasing to exist. It was never intended to remain an ongoing entity (filing required documentation and tax forms), and there may be liability issues involved if it is not dissolved. This was a point of concern for Jim Brown. Questions were raised regarding if Jim Brown should be asked to write something up to formally dissolve WMSA. Since WMSA is no more, who would sign? Al Vanderberg as last Chair?

Al Vanderberg stated it makes sense to have a very simple agreement written up which transfers the intellectual property. The Ottawa County attorney could take care of that. Upon the contribution of the intellectual property, the Executive Committee could discuss what to do regarding dissolving of the entity and filing appropriate paperwork.

Cy Moore added that there are very specific legal requirements to dissolving an entity and it has to be done appropriately. The threat of liability is very real. That liquidation needs to be done by WMSA.

John Weiss asked if there was any value is holding on to the 501C3.

Cy Moore reiterated that holding on to the 501C3 would be accepting liability.

Al Vanderberg stated it might open up funding opportunities.

Al Vanderberg stated he would talk with the Ottawa County attorney and Jim Brooks.

4. Discussion on Nelson Twp. and Village of Sparta

John Weiss reported Sparta Village may be interested in rejoining the Metro Council and Nelson Twp. has expressed interest in joining, but only for one year.

GVMC's cost incurred for members joining or leaving the council is about \$2,000. Additionally, an official vote must be taken by the legislative body of each member, drawing out the process. A member "joining for just one year" would result in a lot of expense to GVMC, as well as a lot of administrative work by its members.

There has also been considerable discussion regarding MPO members leaving, and then returning when they have a transportation project that needs funding.

A policy was suggested which would state that if an MPO member left, and then rejoined, it would be required to pay \$2,000 to cover the expense of the process, plus any back dues, and a \$1,000 penalty.

MOTION: To Bring a Resolution to the Full GVMC Board to Create a Policy Which Would State that if an MPO Member Left, and Then Wanted to Rejoined, It Would be Required to Pay \$2,000 to Cover the Expense of the Process, Any Back Dues, and a \$1,000 Penalty. MOVE – Heartwell. SUPPORT –Donovan. MOTION CARRIED.

Michael DeVries will contact Sparta Village and Township to discuss their commitment.

John Weiss will also contact Sparta.

5. November and December Board Meetings

Because of scheduling conflicts with the Kent County Commission Chambers, the November and December GVMC Board Meetings will be held at the City of Wyoming

6. Regional Prosperity Initiative Update

John Weiss updated the group on the activities of the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Alliance. On October 10, over 125 people met at GVSU to vote on the top 5 Regional Projects of Significance. Originally 31 proposals were submitted, which were narrowed down to 6 according to the selection criteria established at the General Session at the Governors Economic Summit. Presentations were made by all 6 contenders. By vote of all those attending, the top 5 were determined. The RPI Steering Committee met immediately after the General Session and voted unanimously to approve the priorities and 5-Year plan.

The next step is to submit a grant application for Phase II of the Prosperity Initiative. The request is for \$250,000 (with \$195,000 carryover from 2014). These funds will be used to continue collaboration and cooperation as well as supply seed and leveraging funding for the 5 projects.

7. GVMC Executive Committee & Officers

Michael Young reported the Human Resources Committee has discussed the recommendations for GVMC Executive Committee and Officers for FY2014-15. The committee recommends appointment of the same slate as FY2013-14 which is:

Executive Committee

Al Vanderberg – Chair
Mike DeVries – Vice Chair
Jim Buck – Secretary
Cy Moore – Treasurer
Alex Arends
Daryl Delabbio
Brian Donovan
George Heartwell
Don Hilton
Cy Moore
Michael Young

MOTION – To Recommend the Above Mentioned Slate for FY2014-15 GVMC Officers and Executive Committee. MOVE – Young. SUPPORT – Delabbio. MOTION CARRIED.

8. Adjourn – 1:30 p.m.