

**Grand Valley Metro Council
Executive Committee Meeting**

April 16, 2015

12:00 noon

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

Minutes

Present

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

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

Alex Arends

Alpine Township

Other

Gayle McCrath
John Weiss

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. Natural Resources

a. Grand Rapids Whitewater Agreement

- i. John Weiss reviewed the agreement with Grand Rapids Whitewater for \$42,000 to provide administrative, communications and coordination services by Wendy Ogilvie and Erin Haviland. The agreement also contains work done by Truscott Rossman.

MOTION – To Approve a Resolution of Support of the Whitewater Project. MOVE – DeVries. SUPPORT – Donovan. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION – To Approve the Agreement with Grand Rapids Whitewater for Services by GVMC’s Natural Resources Department. MOVE – Young. SUPPORT – Heartwell. MOTION CARRIED.

b. Wege Grant Application

- i. John Weiss reviewed an \$18,000 grant request to the Wege Foundation for increased social media communications. If approved, the grant would help fund a position for Brian Zuber, the current GVSU Graduate Assistant.

3. Transportation

a. Long Range Transportation Plan

Abed Itani will bring the Long Range Transportation Plan to the May GVMC Board Meeting for approval. Dues freezes have been budgeted for in all departments.

b. Recertification

Rachael Tupica from FHWA will address the Board to review the Transportation Recertification which was just completed. It was a very positive review with no corrective action recommended. There has been discussion on whether all transportation dues paying entities should have a seat on the GVMC Board. Currently, all have a seat on the Policy committee, which has been empowered to make virtually all transportation decisions. If all transportation dues paying entities were to have seats on the GVMC Board, there may be a need to hold two separate meetings as votes on transportation and GVMC issues would need to be segregated.

4. Strategic Planning Review

The April GVMC Strategic Planning session was discussed. The main focus of the event was how GVMC Board members could be more involved, using their talents and connections, to make the Council even more dynamic. Consensus was that it was a valuable meeting with a lot accomplished. It was noted that the session might more accurately be described as “consensus building” rather than strategic planning. Gayle McCrath and Al Vanderberg will review Lew Bender’s notes and format a document for review.

5. REGIS Organizational Structure

John Weiss reviewed several documents including: GVMC & REGIS projected budgets; REGIS user logged in hours; current REGIS structure & staffing (including resignations and hirings); and proposed organizational restructure.

It was noted that REGIS has been projecting deficits for several years and there have been ongoing discussions with the REGIS Executive Committee and Board on how to make it

sustainable. A new REGIS structure would result in substantial savings and bring the organization into financial stability.

**MOTION – To Approve the New Organizational Model. MOVE – Heartwell.
SUPPORT – Young. MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION – To Enact the New REGIS Organizational Model by Laying-off the REGIS Director, with a Severance Package of 5 Months’ Salary and Benefits Including a Letter of Recommendation. MOVE – Heartwell. SUPPORT – Moore. MOTION CARRIED.

6. Executive Director Review

Staff Excused

7. Adjourn – 1:30 p.m.