

**Grand Valley Metro Council
Executive Committee Meeting**

July 16, 2015
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.
Alan Vanderberg
Michael Young

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

Absent

Cy Moore

Council Treasurer

Other

Chris Brown
Abed Itani
Gayle McCrath
John Weiss

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1. Call to Order

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

2. Minutes

MOTION – To Approve the May 2015 Minutes. MOVE – Delabbio. SUPPORT – Donovan. MOTION CARRIED.

3. GVMC 2015-16 Budget

John Weiss reviewed the proposed 2015-16 budget.

Key Budget Highlights for 2015-2016

- There will be **no** member dues increases for GVMC including Transportation, REGIS or LGROW/Environmental Programs. All member dues are frozen at last year's level.
- GVMC has completed its 3 year fiscal transformation and this is a balanced budget that continues expansion of our programs and services to our members. We have achieved financial stabilization, budget control, and fiscal sustainability.
- The Environmental, Regis and Transportation Departments in cooperation with our members will work together to catalog and map existing land use, zoning, transportation, recreational, and non-motorized information in a single location. This has been a priority for our members and economic development partners for several years and we will work with our members toward achieving this goal. This catalog of data will be a useful resource within all GVMC programs and members, our Regional Prosperity Efforts, Economic Development Partners and as a guide to elements chosen for the Transportation Improvement Program. It will also assist other agencies like MDOT, The Right Place, MDEC and others by having readily available local planning and land use information from a single source.
- The Clean Air Program will be administered this year by the Environmental Department allowing greater collaboration between our programs and additional educational activities. Multiple Clean Air/Clean Water events have already been scheduled. The Transportation and Environmental Departments will collaborate on the program allowing for expansion and greater synergy between our Clean Air and Clean Water initiatives.
- Elimination of the Memo of Understanding, increased internal collaboration and subsequent reorganization of REGIS has resulted in decreased costs and increased revenue opportunities while reducing the budgeted losses by 90%.
- All REGIS Capital Equipment is being evaluated and additional funds are being budgeted to improve system performance and sustainability. The goal is to increase sustainability and system performance by second quarter of fiscal 2016.
- During 2015 Grand Valley State University became a full member of our NPDES Watershed Permit effort and has signed a 3 year agreement to continue in the program. Fiscal 2016 will be the first full year for GVSU to participate with our 22 municipalities involved in our MS4 Program.
- For the past two years GVMC has been the fiduciary agent and chair of Governor Snyder's Regional Prosperity Alliance. This program has dramatically increased our profile and leadership at the regional level and in Lansing. This program has been renewed in the Michigan Budget for next year.
- This budget reflects for the first time full integration of all GVMC programs and operations with multiple collaborations, cost sharing and program efforts occurring between departments. This has resulted in program expansion and improved operational efficiencies.

George Heartwell and Brian Donovan stated they appreciated the work that went into the financial transformation of GVMC by all the staff.

**MOTION – To Move the 2015-16 GVMC Budget Review on to the GVMC Board.
MOVE – Heartwell. SUPPORT – Young. MOTION CARRIED.**

4. Executive Committee & At-Large Appointments

Appointment of the Executive Committee and At-Large members for 2015-16 was discussed. GVMC's Bylaws state that it is preferred that officers don't serve more than 4 consecutive terms.

Mayor George Heartwell will be term-limited out of office for the City of Grand Rapids in January. It is expected his replacement as Mayor will be appointed to GVMC and take his spot on the Executive Committee.

Michael Young will contact Cy Moore to determine his interest in continuing as Treasurer of GVMC.

At-Large appointments were discussed. The appointments of Mic McGraw and Doyle Hayes have lapsed after long and distinguished tenures at GVMC.

Mark Lemoine's appointment to the Algoma Township Board was discussed and determined not to be a conflict of interest.

The subject of appointment will go on the August GVMC Board agenda. Al will write a letter to Mic and Doyle and they will be honored at the September meeting.

5. Addition of Nelson, Township, Village of Sparta and Possibly Sparta Township

The Village of Sparta and Nelson Township have voted to join Metro Council. A resolution for the action will be included in the August Board packet.

If Sparta Township were to rejoin GVMC, this would be the best time to do it as it could be combined with the costs to process the other two memberships.

It was determined that if Sparta Twp. joins with Nelson Twp. & the Village of Sparta, a single legal and processing fee will be split between the two rejoining entities.

Mike DeVries will contact Sparta Twp. to see if they anticipate rejoining with the other two.

6. Other

John Weiss reported on a request from GVSU to facilitate a discussion with the Neighbors of the Belknap Lookout (NOBL) regarding GVSU's upcoming development in the area. GVSU requests John as a neutral facilitator to help ensure all voices are heard and not to take a position or advocacy role.

7. Executive Director Review

Staff Excused

8. Adjourn – 1:30 p.m.