

**Grand Valley Metro Council  
Executive Committee Meeting**

Thursday, March 17, 2005  
12:00 PM

Grand Valley Metro Council  
40 Pearl NW, Suite 410  
Grand Rapids, MI

**MINUTES**

**Present**

Jim Beelen	City of Allendale
Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Daryl Delabbio	Kent County
Don Hilton	Gaines Township
Kurt Kimball	City of Grand Rapids
Sandy Frost Parrish	Cascade Township
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Al Vanderberg	Ottawa County
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker

**Other**

Andy Bowman	Grand Valley Metro Council
Leon Branderhorst	Grand Valley Metro Council
Abed Itani	Grand Valley Metro Council
Gayle McCrath	Grand Valley Metro Council
Don Stypula	Grand Valley Metro Council

**Absent**

Cy Moore	Council Treasurer
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**1. Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 by Chair Jim Buck.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the February Executive Committee meeting were reviewed.

**MOTION – To approve the February 2005 minutes of the GVMC Executive Committee Meeting. MOVE – Delabbio. SUPPORT – Parrish. MOTION CARRIED.**

**3. Financial Update**

Don Stypula gave the financial update. It was reported that advertising expense was up due to the cost of the public notice of the addition of Wyoming; and Land Use Contractual Services was high due to contracts planned for in previous fiscal years, but coming due in 2004-2005. Mr. Stypula also stated that a grant had been secured from the DEQ for \$265,000 for in-kind match for work on the Lower Grand.

Kurt Kimball asked if the grant was for the same work as the UCB Lower Grand grant.

Don Stypula stated that it was a separate issue.

Don Stypula reported that they are just receiving the final paperwork from area communities on NPDESII participation and that he has heard from Corky Overmeyer and Eric DeLong that Grand Rapids is considering joining.

**4. Resolution of Support for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program**

Don Stypula explained his proposed resolution in support of the CDBG program.

Options were discussed regarding what entities should be included in the resolution. Should it just be entitlement communities; just communities that are members of the Metro Council, etc.?

It was decided that all entitlement communities plus communities which receive other program monies within the possible GVMC membership area should be included.

**MOTION – To Approve the CDBG Program Resolution and Include in the Language Communities that Receive Any Type of Block Grant Monies, Within the Area Which is Considered Possible for GVMC Membership. MOVE – Vanderberg. SUPPORT – Root. MOTION CARRIED.**

**5. REGIS Update**

Don Stypula indicated significant strides had been made in REGIS in moving towards the federated model. There was a great meeting held last Thursday. Two subgroups have been formed and have established timetables. The first meets next week, with the other meeting the week after. The target date to report results is April 21.

Andy Bowman reported the Arc 9 deployment is in great shape and they are currently doing training for users.

**6. Legislative Update**

Don Stypula reported on the Senate Local Government Committee meeting held in Muskegon. He distributed a list which was compiled by the City of Grand Rapids and Kent County regarding shared services and cooperative efforts. He stated that in his comments to the committee he reported Act 312; the Headlee Amendment and Proposal A; and Bolt vs. Lansing; were the major issues which needed action.

Mr. Stypula reported the Executive Order is expected by the Governor next week. Revenue Sharing should be out of the picture. Proposed cuts in higher education will be delayed until fall.

Jim Beelen questioned whether fire protection grants were still in play.

Mr. Stypula stated they were.

Don Stypula reported on proposed aquatic nuisance legislation which would allow Michigan to join together with states and provinces adjacent to the Great Lakes to protect them against invasive species.

Andy Bowman asked if there were any states in the Northeast involved in the process.

Mr. Stypula stated there weren't, but he would bring it up to Senator Birkholz.

Mr. Stypula indicated that the representatives from local government chosen to be members of the Local Government Finance Committee were expected to be announced next Wednesday, with the final report being issued in the fall.

Don Hilton stated he has filled out paperwork to be considered for a position.

Abed Itani stated the Senate has reported a TEA-21 bill of \$284 billion over 6 years, and the House has already passed their bill. MPOs are driving blind until a bill passes.

Al Vanderberg urged everyone to call Senators Levin and Stabenow to encourage them to pass the bill as soon as possible.

**7. Other**

**8. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.