

**Grand Valley Metro Council
Executive Committee Meeting**

Thursday, July 21, 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
Cy Moore	Council Treasurer
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

Sandy Frost Parrish	Cascade Township
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1. Call To Order

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

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION – To Approve the Minutes of the June, 2005, Executive Committee. MOVE - Vanderberg. SUPPORT – Root. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Financial Report

Don Stypula handed out the monthly financial report and explained it.

Cy Moore questioned what the \$151,000 change in fund balance was due to.

Don Stypula stated it was due to NPDES fees which have been billed to members but have not yet been billed by Fishbeck.

Leon Branderhorst stated that he wanted to clarify that \$95,000 of it was NPDES, with \$20,000 from local match of the 4 Mile project, and \$17,000 in depreciation.

4. Payment of Bill

Don Stypula stated he is asking for payment of a bill for \$14,650 for a community survey which has been completed.

Kurt Kimball asked if this was in the amended budget.

Don Stypula indicated it was.

Kurt Kimball stated in light of the financial situation, he would rather keep a planner than pay for a survey.

MOTIN – To Accept the Financial Report into Record and Move the Payment of the \$14,650 bill to the August Board Agenda. MOVE – Kimball. SUPPORT – Delabbio. MOTION CARRIED.

5. Transportation

a. Approval of FY 2006-2008 Transportation Improvement Program TIP

Abed Itani explained the FY 2006-2008 TIP. It has been approved by the Tech and Policy Committees.

MOTION – To Approve the FY 2006-2008 TIP and Move it to the August GVMC Board Agenda. MOVE – Beelen. SUPPORT – VerHeulen. MOTION CARRIED.

b. Amendment to FY 2006-2008 TIP to include the M-6 Non-Motorized Trail Project

Abed Itani explained the FY 2006-2008 TIP amendment request for the M-6 non-motorized trail. He reported it involved 100% federal funding with no local match.

Don Hilton stated he had help from a lot of people in bringing this trail to a reality, including everyone here and especially Peter Varga.

MOTION – To Approve the FY 2006-2008 TIP Amendment and Move it onto the August Board Agenda. MOVE – Root. SUPPORT – Beelen. MOTION CARRIED.

6. Signing Resolution

Abed Itani explained the request by M-DOT for a new resolution granting authority to sign contracts.

MOTION – To Approve the Resolution and Move it onto the August Board Agenda. MOVE – Vanderberg. SUPPORT – Delabbio. MOTION CARRIED.

7. REGIS Update

Don Stypula reported the last REGIS Board meeting was well attended. There are two meetings next Monday. Input from both of those groups will put the finishing touches on the budget, staffing model, and intergovernmental agreement.

8. Legislative Update

Don Stypula gave the legislative update.

T-21 has been extended again, but has not yet been renewed.

The state budget is crawling along. There are meetings behind closed doors. The Governor has just left for the Far East. The Legislature will recess for one month after Thursday of next week.

Business tax revisions are moving forward. The Senate is backing off of phasing out the SBT now and looking at securitization of the cigarette settlement which they would put into a fund to encourage high tech industries.

The Municipal Finance Study is going nowhere. They are supposed to have recommendations in by December.

Al Vanderberg stated Don Gilmore told him they will be meeting in September.

Cy Moore reported the tobacco money isn't a sure thing and if they securitize, they might have to end up giving the money back.

Jim Buck stated the House passed a bill to start the school year after Labor Day.

9. Budget

Don Stypula reported the budget figures are frightening. This happened on my watch and I accept responsibility for it. Whatever steps need to be taken, I would prefer to do it in a way which would preserve Land Use. The solution will reflect on GVMC for years to come. If I could get back time, I would have started the day I arrived in raising funds. I set aside the Fishbeck contract and that work will now be done internally.

A lot of difficult decisions will have to be by this committee.

Cy Moore stated the write up by Don did not reflect accurately the proposed \$50,000 being drawn out of fund balance.

Don Stypula reported that what he was going to do was to formulate a Land Use plan to continue under the agreement that \$50,000 could be used from the fund balance, also work on other funding and send a clear message to potential funders that we are strong on Land Use. I will correct the way it is reflected in the proposal.

Cy Moore – This budget actually asks us to fund \$126,000 out of fund balance. Business machines and depreciation also needs a better estimate.

Kurt Kimball asked if the proposed shift of \$45,000 was included.

Abed Itani indicated yes it was.

Kurt Kimball asked how that was reflected in the budget.

Don Stypula stated it was being transferred into Administration.

Kurt Kimball questioned why Administration and not Land Use.

Cy Moore questioned Transportation's budget. It shows Transportation will have expenses over revenue; however I did not remember it portrayed this way when the dues increase was requested.

Abed Itani stated it was due to the carryover of a project and local match.

Al Vanderberg asked if the committee had come up with recommendations.

Don Stypula reported they asked for several options.

Jim Buck dismissed the staff and started the closed session.

10. Adjournment – 1:30 p.m.

