

Grand Valley Metro Council Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 16, 2007
12:00 PM

Grand Valley Metro Council
40 Pearl Street N.W., Suite 410
Grand Rapids, MI

MINUTES

Present

Daryl Delabbio
Don Hilton Sr.
Cy Moore
Alan Vanderberg
Rob VerHeulen

Kent County
Gaines Township
Council Treasurer
Ottawa County
City of Walker

Absent

Jim Beelen
Jim Buck
Kurt Kimball
Audrey Nevins
Rick Root

Allendale Township
City of Grandville
City of Grand Rapids
Byron Township
City of Kentwood

Other

Andy Bowman
Leon Branderhorst
Abed Itani
Dharmesh Jain
Gayle McCrath
Don Stypula

Grand Valley Metro Council
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Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m. by Vice Chairman Don Hilton.

1. Approval of Minutes

The July, 2007, GVMC Executive Committee Minutes were accepted into record.

2. Financial Issues

a. REGIS Budget

Dharmesh Jain reviewed the proposed 2007-2008 REGIS budget. The REGIS Board has been very active in developing the budget and has approved the proposal.

The REGIS Budget was Moved to the September, 2007, GVMC Board Agenda.

b. GVMC 2007-2008 Budget

Don Stypula reviewed the proposed 2007-2008 budget. He stated he is working on the strategic business plan which links GVMC's priorities to the budget. It should be finished by this weekend. It will be sent out with the budget.

Don Stypula discussed with the group the request for \$5,000 from the Civics Institute to fund the next installment of the school curriculum. Don recommended GVMC make the donation. The change will appear in the forwarded budget.

Questions were raised regarding the number of schools using the curriculum and also the weighting of its content, township vs. city.

Al Vanderberg stated he would like to put a hold on the request until he has answers to some of the committee members' questions.

The GVMC 2007-08 Budget Was Moved to the GVMC September Board Agenda.

c. Amendment to GVMC 2006-2007 Budget

Don Stypula discussed a proposed amendment to the GVMC 2006-07 budget for additional expenditures, changes in accounting for the pavement management van, and contractual services. The proposed amendment was reviewed by the Finance Committee.

The Proposed Amendment to the GVMC 2006-07 Budget was Moved to the GVMC September Board Agenda.

3. Transportation

a. Project Amendment to GVMC 07-08 TIP

Abed Itani discussed the proposed GVMC 2007-08 TIP amendment which covers several projects. The amendment has already been approved by the Tech and Policy committees.

The Proposed 2007-08 TIP Amendment was Moved to the GVMC September Board Agenda.

b. Pavement Management Van Update

Abed Itani updated the committee on the pavement management van.

4. Amendment to GVMC Articles of Incorporation

Don Stypula reported that the City of Lowell has decided to become a member of the Metro Council, and discussed voting on an amendment to the GVMC Articles of Incorporation to permit this.

Rob VerHeulen stated since there was not a quorum, he did not know if this action could be officially taken.

Don Stypula stated he would check on it.

5. Legislative Issues

a. Greenlight Issues

Don Stypula reviewed the proposed “Greenlight” issues approved by the Legislative Committee.

Cy Moore asked if these would be reviewed each year.

Don Stypula indicated they would.

The “Greenlight” Issues were Moved to the GVMC September Board Agenda.

b. SB 647-648

Don Stypula explained SB 647-648, mandatory signage laws for communities which charge fees for emergency responder incidents.

The GVMC Legislative committee has taken a position in opposition to the bills as it interferes with home rule.

Rob VerHeulen stated there was some differing of opinion on this issue and that GVMC could lose its clout and credibility if it moves strongly on a great number of issues. If a position is taken on this it needs to be clear that it is on the basis of the erosion of home rule.

c. Consumers Energy Proposed Rate Structure Change

Don Stypula explained the rate consolidation request by Consumers Energy and how it would hurt utilities and end users.

6. Other Items

a. September GVMC Executive Committee Meeting Date Change

The September Executive committee meeting was changed to Thursday the 13th of September.

b. VIP Tour of Metro Health

Don Stypula reported that Carol Sheets had arranged a VP tour of the new Metro Health facility for those interested.

7. Adjourn – 1:30 p.m.