

**Grand Valley Metro Council
Executive Committee Meeting**

Thursday, September 16, 2004
12:00 PM

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

MINUTES

Present

Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Daryl Delabbio	Kent County
Cindy Heinbeck	Alpine Township
Don Hilton	Gaines Township
Kurt Kimball	City of Grand Rapids
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker

Absent

Cy Moore	Council Treasurer
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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
Matt Wiese	Grand Valley Metro Council

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 by Chair Jim Buck. Mr. Buck expressed his regrets that Cindy Heinbeck would be leaving the Council, and thanked her for her dedication and service to her community and the Council.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the August Executive Committee meeting were reviewed.

MOTION – To approve the August 2004 minutes of the GVMC Executive Committee Meeting. MOVE – VerHeulen. SUPPORT – Kimball. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Finance Report

Leon Branderhorst gave the financial report. He reported GVMC is still in good financial shape with a current fund balance of \$695,000. The financial statements reviewed were for August 31, 2004 and represent 11 months of operation in this fiscal year. The balance sheet reflects a favorable balance of \$12,000 + , but we will end the year using cash balance taking into consideration the NPDES pass thru funds which we have billed for the entire year and are reflected in the revenues to date, although the offsetting expenditures have not been incurred and bill to us at this time.

Regis Fund Statements were also presented, and Regis is right about where they expected to be at this point in time.

MOTION – To accept the financial report into record. MOVE – Hilton. SUPPORT – Heinbeck. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Nominating Committee

Kurt Kimball gave the report from the Nominating Committee.

The committee made the following recommendations:

Officers:

Chair – James Buck, Mayor, City of Grandville

Vice Chair – Don Hilton, Township Supervisor, Gaines Township

Secretary – Kurt Kimball, City Manager, City of Grand Rapids

Treasurer – Cy Moore, At-Large Member

Balance of Executive Committee:

Rick Root, Mayor, City of Kentwood

Al Vanderberg, Administrator, Ottawa County

Daryl Delabbio, Administrator/Controller, Kent County

Rob VerHeulen, Mayor, City of Walker

Sandra Frost Parrish, Trustee, Cascade Charter Township

Jim Beelen, Township Supervisor, Allendale Charter Township

MOTION – To move the recommendations of the Nominating Committee to the October GVMC Board agenda for consideration. MOVE – Root. SUPPORT- Delabbio. MOTION CARRIED.

5. Title VI Policy

Abed Itani explained the proposed Title VI policy. It is a formal written policy that lists steps taken to ensure nondiscriminatory practices for entities that receive federal funding. It has been approved by Mika Meyers and has been given preliminary approval from MDOT. It will be forwarded on to MDOT after it is formally approved by GVMC.

MOTION – To move GVMC’s Title VI policy to the October Board agenda. MOVE – Delabbio. SUPPORT – ROOT. MOTION CARRIED.

6. REGIS Update

Don Stypula gave the REGIS update. He reported on the stakeholders meeting, which included technical staff and REGIS staff. An excellent presentation was given and there was good discussion regarding the new proposed federated model. A whitepaper which was put together by Kent County and Grand Rapids was discussed. The suggestion was made to move forward with smaller groups of individuals on contract language and structures. We are poised to take a very positive giant step. Don stated he felt progress had been made at the meeting.

Some individuals have expressed interest in moving forward with this model, while others want to stay with the current model.

7. Citizen's Research Council Survey

Don Stypula reported on a survey on local government finance the Citizen's Research Council will be doing. The study will include shared services and local government consolidation. It will involve extensive interviews with local jurisdictions across the state. Currently funding has been secured by the Mott Foundation which will fund sampling in the Detroit area. Where the sampling takes place will be largely determined by the funding sources.

Don Hilton stated he had just heard a speaker in Washington D.C. who opposed government consolidation, and if this survey suggests consolidation, maybe this speaker should be brought in to give the other side of the story.

8. Proposed GVMC 15th Anniversary Video Project

For lack of time, Chairman Buck suggested this item be deferred to next month's agenda.

9. Legislative Update

Don Stypula gave the legislative update. He reported the House did not pass the legislation to enable counties to accelerate tax collection process over the next three years so winter county property taxes are eventually collected six months earlier in July. The acceleration would allow the counties to collect revenues more quickly and fill the hole in their budgets caused by the state withholding \$183 million in statutory revenue sharing. The issue will be taken up again by the House next week. The legislation would prevent revenue sharing being cut to other local governments in this budget year.

Hopefully, reauthorization of transportation funding on the federal level will be taken up this fall in the lame duck session.

10. Other

None

11. Adjourn – 1:30 p.m.

MOTION – To Adjourn. MOVE – Root. SUPPORT – Heinbeck. MOTION CARRIED.