

**GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

March 14, 2007

8:30 a.m.

40 Pearl St. NW Ste. 410
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

MINUTES

1. Call To Order

ROLL CALL

Present:

Chuck Bloom	Cannon Township
Jim Day	Kent County
Eric DeLong	City of Grand Rapids
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
Bryan Harrison	Caledonia Township
Bob Homan	Plainfield Township
Barb Holt	City of Walker
Don Hilton	Gaines Township
Andy Johnston	Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
Kurt Kimball	City of Grand Rapids
Elias Lumpkins	City of Grand Rapids
Gayle McCrath	Grand Valley Metro Council
Erika Rosebrook	Ottawa County
Don Stypula	Grand Valley Metro Council

2. Call to Order

Vice Chair Mike DeVries called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the January 2007 GVMC Legislative Committee were reviewed.

MOTION – To Approve the January 2007 Legislative Committee Minutes. MOVE – Day. SUPPORT – Lumpkins. MOTION CARRIED.

4. **GVMC Position Statement on State Budget and Tax Policy**

Don Stypula reviewed the draft position statement on state budget and tax policy created by the ad hoc tax policy committee. The finished product will be presented to legislators and the Governor. An updated copy will be forwarded to the membership after it is approved by the Legislative and Executive committees.

Mike DeVries explained the process and thinking behind the creation of the document.

Suggested changes to the document included:

- Taking out the 4th bullet on the 4th page.
- Add a sentence in the Metro Councils Act area which says the Council will work closely with the legislature.
- Regarding Act 312, on page 5 replace the word allow with require.
- Support wording on arbitration as long as there were provisions for selection.
- New section regarding Higher Education and Medicaid – Add sentence referencing fixing the system without cost shifting.
- Create Blue Ribbon Commission on Corrections Spending - Add reference to controlling inmate medical costs.

Don Stypula will make the suggested changes and forward an updated copy to all after approval by the Executive committee.

5. **HB 4442 – Exempt “Pop-Ups” from Headlee Rollback Provisions**

The tie-bared HB4440, 4441, and 4442 were discussed. HB 4440 creates a moratorium; HB 4441 regards real estate tax; and 4442 eliminates the Headlee “pop-ups”.

MOTION – To Support the Concept of the Headlee Fix, Taking Out the Restrictions on Spending; and Not Tying it to Any Other Legislation. MOVE – Rosebrook. SUPPORT – Day. MOTION CARRIED.

6. Other Issues

Don Stypula reviewed a MIRS News Service report regarding equalizing tax on goods/services.

Don Stypula reported on a presentation to be made to the House Transportation committee and the Governor's proposed \$13 million decrease in EDFC funding.

7. Adjourn – 9:45