



GVMC Legislative Committee

8:30 a.m. Wednesday February 9, 2011 – Metro Council Offices

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval of Minutes from the December 9, 2010 meeting**
- 3. Debrief of January 24, 2011 Meeting with Legislators**
- 4. Issues Update**
 - a. SB 34 – Elimination of Personal Property Tax**
 - b. State Budget – To be presented Thursday February 17**
 - c. Revenue Sharing – Projected impacts**
 - d. Legislation to Increase Authority and Powers of Municipal Emergency Financial Managers**
 - e. Elimination of Tax Credits and other Economic Development Inducements**
- 5. Local Option Taxation – Process for establishing GVMC policy position**
- 6. Prognosis for Achieving Grand Valley Metro Council's 2011 Legislative Priorities (attached)**

**GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

December 9, 2010

8:30 a.m.

GVMC Offices
678 Front Ave., Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

MINUTES

1. Call To Order

Chair Rick Root called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Present:

Sam Bolt	City of Wyoming
Denny Hoemke	Algoma Township
Jim LaPeer	Cannon Township
Elias Lumpkins	City of Grand Rapids
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Don Stypula	Grand Valley Metro Council

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION – To Approve the Minutes of the November 2010 GVMC Legislative Committee. MOVE – Hoemke. SUPPORT – LaPeer. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Issue Update with Summer Minnick of the MML

Summer Minnick of the MML reported on activities in Lansing. The MML has had a pretty aggressive agenda going into the lame duck session. They got about half of what they were seeking in the six day session.

- Sewer infrastructure funding, clean Michigan funding
- TOD package allows communities to do Transportation Oriented

- Design and raise money to do.
- 5550 HB allows communities to refinance bonding debt without having to show lower interest rate payments.
 - Didn't get 2 inch rule for municipal sidewalk, but it should be easier to get next year.
 - Didn't get on-line public notice
 - Didn't get town/gown DDAs around universities.
 - Didn't get gas tax increase.
 - SB 77 was made a mess of. The issue was related to filing of homestead exemptions with the goal of getting banks to get rid of foreclosed properties quicker and relieve the tax burden of those trying to purchase.
 - The bill on PA 312 we are trying to prevent from being enacted as instead of providing relief to PA 312, it expanded it.

Sam Bolt asked if we will see any true reform on PA 2113.

Summer Minnick stated yes, we plan to work on that right after the new year.

Don Stypula asked if there would be movement to amend Act 7 & 8 regarding intergovernmental cooperation.

Summer Minnick said yes, we also have that ready to go as of the first of the year.

Denny Hoemke asked if the medical marijuana law would be overturned.

Summer Minnick answered the hard part to that is that it would require a 2/3 vote. We are working on it, but it will be a big mountain to climb.

5. Legislative Breakfast

The legislative breakfast will be held on January 24 at 9:00 a.m. in the River room in the Riverview building. Don Stypula will put out a notice on the cancellation of the regularly scheduled legislative meeting.

Rick Root noted there will be a continental.

Don Stypula will get notices out to legislators along with GVMC's legislative priorities and will also send this out to the full membership.

6. Adjourn – 9:40



The Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

2011-2012 Legislative Priorities for 96th Michigan Legislature

State Tax Policy and Local Fiscal Stability

- a. **Revenue Sharing:** The Grand Valley Metro Council supports the reauthorization of the formula for distributing the statutory portion of state shared revenues in a manner that restores revenue sharing payments to Michigan counties and fully funds the state's historic revenue sharing obligations to Michigan's cities, villages and townships.
- b. **Tax Restructuring and Inducements for Economic Development:** The Grand Valley Metro Council supports the restructuring of Michigan's tax code to provide a more predictable and stable tax environment for businesses; to more closely match the changing nature of Michigan's economy; to provide inducements for retaining businesses and attracting new investments; and to provide adequate revenues to support critical state and local government services.

Intergovernmental Cooperation

- c. **Elimination of Obstacles for Multi-Jurisdictional Service Sharing:** The GVMC supports amendments to current state laws that remove statutory obstacles faced by Michigan counties, cities, villages and townships desiring to form service sharing partnerships. In pursuit of that goal, GVMC seeks amendments to several existing state statutes that will make it easier for counties and communities to share resources and more efficiently deliver critical local services:
 - 1. 1967 Public Act 7 – Urban Cooperation Act
 - 2. 1967 Public Act 8 – Intergovernmental Transfer of Functions and Responsibilities Act
 - 3. 1969 Public Act 312 – Compulsory Binding Arbitration
 - 4. 1989 Public Act 292 – The Metropolitan Councils Act

Unfunded State Mandates

- d. The GVMC steadfastly opposes the imposition of unfunded state mandates on counties and local units and strongly encourages the Legislature to adopt the recommendations cited in the 2010 report of the Legislative Commission on Statutory Mandates.

Transportation Funding

- e. **State and Federal Funding:** The GVMC supports a substantial increase in both state and federal funding for transportation infrastructure improvements, public transit operations and regional planning activities through Metropolitan Planning Organizations.