



### **January 10th Board Meeting**

Our next Board of Directors Meeting will be on Thursday, January 10th at 8:30 am in the Kent County Commission Chambers. Like always, free parking is provided by Kent County.

Two new members will be sworn in at the meeting. Thad Taylor, the new City Manager of Cedar Springs will join us as the representative of his community. Also, the Board will be asked to accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee to appoint Mark Lemoine, of Spectrum Health, for a three year position as a Member at Large.

While Thad is new to the area, Mark has worked with GVMC in the past. Prior to joining Spectrum Health in their governmental affairs department he worked at both Meijer and the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce in similar positions. In those roles he served on several GVMC committees and also attended our meetings. We welcome Thad and Mark to our Board of Directors.

We also will be asking for formal approval to pay the long-awaited MDOT audit invoice. As you will recall, there were three issues that arose out of two MDOT Audits that were conducted a few years ago. The audits covered the time period from 1995-2009. This invoice is for \$364,922 and covers our

GVMC transportation and planning activities between 1995-2004. A second invoice which includes a \$159,000 settlement has not yet been received. Both of these settlements are in our budget and funds are available for payment. Finally, as you know, in early 2012, the REGIS audit of \$165,000 going back to 1999-2001 was settled at no cost and put behind us. Hopefully, in early 2013 the last remaining issue of these audits will be resolved.

Also on our agenda, Jim Miller of GCSI will provide us with an "insider" view of the last days of the legislative session. In the final hours of the lame duck session hundreds of bills were approved. Those bills included major items we have all heard about like Right To Work and Personal Property Tax Reform, as well as, many others. It was truly a historical session and those involved say it is one that will be remembered for a very long time.

Jim was in the Capitol throughout the marathon final session and he will bring insight as to how the process worked, the role our region played in the final hours and what to expect when the new legislature begins working in 2013. I have asked Jim to leave plenty of time for questions and discussion from our members.

### **GVMC Presentations**

I have now presented GVMC updates to over 20 of our member communities and many service clubs. If you would like me to speak at your board meeting, service club or professional association, do not hesitate to contact me. I am pleased to join you in sharing the GVMC story!

### **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

#### **Please Send Us Your Email Addresses!**

Please send copies of the email addresses for all your township and city elected and appointed officials. This will give us the opportunity to review our membership lists and make sure we have everyone's emails correct.

Our Weekly Update has a current circulation of approximately 350 per week. We are happy to send it to anyone you would like including elected officials, staff, members of boards and commissions, etc. You just have to let us know who you want it sent to.

Please send your updated email information to Gayle McCrath. Her email address is [mccrathg@gvmc.org](mailto:mccrathg@gvmc.org)

*Thank you for your assistance*