



Metro Council Continues to Grow

Four new members were sworn into office at our GVMC Board Meeting including representatives from two new Metro Council member communities. Tom Noreen from Nelson Township and Julius Suchy from the Village Sparta are both new members and represent new communities. GVMC now includes 38 municipal governments including counties, cities, townships and villages. Also, joining the Board are Bruce Brown from the City of Belding and Jim Holtvluwer representing Ottawa County. We welcome our new members and new communities to GVMC!



DAS Tower Consortium Formed

After today's Board of Directors meeting a group of our members met to discuss an emerging issue for local government in our region. Several GVMC communities have been asked to allow Distributed Antenna Systems to be located in their public rights of way.

GVMC will be facilitating a consortium of members to work together to deal with this emerging issue. DAS systems are used by cell phone and internet companies to create smaller networks using telephone type poles which then communicate with the larger more macro cell towers we are all familiar with.

Placement of multiple new 30-40 ft. poles provides coverage in areas not easily served or where space or zoning restraints may make placement of larger tower structures difficult.

This effort provides our members with an opportunity to work collectively to seek common solutions and responses to this emerging issue while sharing costs. The cost will be divided equally among the participating members. Together the group will create templates that could be utilized by participating communities to respond to DAS provider applications, a guide which could allow by license or franchise the installation of poles in locations that are approved in advance by the local government, and a standardized response letter along with a METRO Act permit.

Collectively, the group will work together to reduce cost and develop a common solution and consistent regional approach to this emerging issue. If you are interested in participating, please contact Gayle McGrath at mccrathg@gvmc.org

