



March 8, 2013

**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Monday March 11th**

Our next Board of Directors Meeting is on Monday, March 11th at 10:30 at the Calvin College Prince Center. Our luncheon guest, Congressman Bill Huizenga will be joining us for the Board meeting.

As in the past, we will have time for members of the Board to ask our guest questions and hear his comments on critical issues that face our country. Our time with the Congressman is planned as an open discussion format so please have your questions ready for the Congressman.

In addition, we will have a financial report from Chris Brown and updates on upcoming events. If you have any questions about Monday's Board Meeting, please feel free to contact me.

**Discussion on Long Term**  
**Funding for Roads**  
**Continues**

The Legislature and Governor continue to discuss long-term funding for repair of Michigan's Roads and Bridges.

As you know, the Governor has proposed an increase in the gas tax and registration fees to generate additional state dollars for road repairs. Also, some legislative leaders are considering options to increase the state sales tax to 7 or 8 percent which will also require a state-wide vote. The plan would exempt sales tax on gasoline.

Both of these proposals would aim to generate additional revenues to be used to repair Michigan's deteriorating roads and bridges. Studies indicate that our current deficit of \$1.2-\$1.4

billion per year will increase to a total of \$25 billion if we don't take action soon to make necessary maintenance improvements to the system. GVMC and our communities continue to monitor this situation and provide any detailed local information that is requested by the Governor or our legislators.

**DEADLINE MONDAY**  
**MARCH 11TH**

**GVMC FREE SEMINAR**  
**CRISIS AND STRATEGIC**  
**COMMUNICATIONS**

Thursday March 14

East Grand Rapids City Hall

10:00-1:30

This Free Seminar will cover Strategic and Crisis Communications. It will be facilitated by Kelly Rossman-McKinney of Truscott Rossman one of Michigan's most successful communications firms. **We invite all GVMC members to attend and bring your Board Members and key staff.**

Lunch will be Provided

RSVP to Gayle at [mccrathg@gvmc.org](mailto:mccrathg@gvmc.org)

**LGROW Announces 10th Annual Grand River Forum**

LGROW will be hosting it's 10th Annual Grand River Forum and Spring Meeting on **Thursday, April 25th, 2013** at the East Grand Rapids Community Center. Presentations will include the Grand River Restoration Project, City of Grand Rapids Water Quality Index, and changing water levels and what this means for the Lower Grand River Watershed community. There will also be watershed updates and updates on other LGROW activities.

This event will be from 9:00-11:30am and will include breakfast. The event is **free** and open to anyone. If you are interested in attending please RSVP to [Katherine.Collen@gvmc.org](mailto:Katherine.Collen@gvmc.org) or 616-776-7601.

