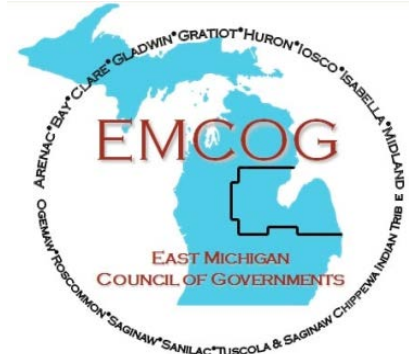


EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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East Michigan Council of Governments
Full Council Meeting
Friday, September 8, 2017
The Garfield Inn
8544 Lake Street, Port Austin, MI

DRAFT Minutes

Chairperson Moffit called the meeting to order.

The roll was called and a quorum was present.

The Chair welcome all to the Garfield Inn and Huron County.

Agenda Approval: Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Myers, to approve agenda as present. Motion carried.

July 14, 2017 Minutes: Moved by C/Mrzeda, seconded by C/Methner to approve July 14, 2017 Full Council minutes as written. Motion carried.

Reports:

Chairman's Report – The Chair deferred his report until Council member reports.

Director's Report

The Director reported the following:

- Bay Region Non-Motorized update has started.
- All MDOT programs are moving along and on target for year-end close-out.
- Accompanied the Chair and Bill Ernat to Chicago for a Grant Administration meeting with EDA staff for the City of Gladwin project.

Treasurer's Report – presented by Zygmunt Dworzecki.

Moved by C/Byard, seconded by C/Myers to accept and file the Treasurers report.

Transportation Staff report

A written report from Dave Engelhardt is attached as part of the record.

Hazard Mitigation Staff report

A written report from Mr. Ernat was also available and attached as part of the record. As part of an overview, Bill reported that:

- FEMA Chicago representatives came to our office asking if EMCOG would be their local contact.
- We have agreed and will be awaiting word as to their decision.

RPI Update

Jane Fitzpatrick reported that:

- Letter of Support requests were sent within the 8-counties for our 2018 RPI application. It's the final year of appropriation funding for this program.
- We intend to do a similar program this year. We are requesting funding for re-granting or a mini-grant program. Last year we utilized \$100,000 of our funding for that. We received 15 applications with a SMT sub-committee doing the selection. They selected 8 projects and there was a press release announcing the awards.
- Those funded included: Greater Gratiot & Middle Michigan Development Corporation to do a study of US-127, Saginaw Intermediate School District for their regional program "Inspire", City of Beaverton DDA for the Ross Lake Trailhead, Gladwin Conservation District for a Children's Garden Project, Cass River Greenway for Regional Marketing of the Cass River Greenway, the City of Standish funds to purchase Playground Equipment for the City Park and Beaver Township for "Placemaking through Play".

A. NEW OR Unfinished Business (All action items)

2018 Budget and Work Program:

Moved by C/Byard, Seconded by C/Dworzecki to approve Full Council proposed 2018 budget and work program (can be amended at any time during the year). Motion carried.

2017 final budget revision:

Moved by C/Dwzorcki, Seconded by C/Myers to authorize the Executive Committee to review and approve the final 2017 budget revision by 9/30/17. Motion carried.

2018 PR-5 RPI application Resolution of Support:

Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Smith to approve EMCOG Resolution 18-1 in support of the 2018 PR-5 Regional Prosperity Initiative application. Unanimous roll call vote. Motion carried.

2018 RPI Application Cover Letter and Transmittal:

Moved by C/Dworzecki, Seconded by C/Mrdeza to authorize Chairperson, Robert L. Moffit and Executive Director Sue Fortune to sign and submit the cover letter transmitting the 2018 PR-5 RPI application to the State of Michigan when due. Motion carried.

2018 MEDC/RRC Technical Assistance:

Moved by C/Dworzecki, Seconded by C/Mrdeza to authorize a contract with MEDC to assist/advise communities with Redevelopment Ready technical assistance. Contract amount: \$25,000. Motion carried.

City of Beaverton Hazard Mitigation Plan update:

Moved by C/Dworzecki, Seconded by C/Byard to authorize a contract with City of Beaverton to provide staff assistance in updating the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan. Contract: Not to exceed \$3,000 Motion carried.

Saginaw County Road Commission EDA grant assistance:

Moved by C/Dworzecki, Seconded by C/Stefanko to approve entering into a contract with the Saginaw County Road Commission to provide staff assistance with their EDA grant. Not to exceed \$10,000. Motion carried.

2017-2018 RLF Plan Certification:

Moved by C/Redmond, Seconded by C/Byard to authorize Chairman's signature and submission to USDOC/EDA. Motion carried.

MICHIGAN FEDERAL PROJECT REVIEW

No projects for review.

EMCOG Full Council member reports

Bob Redmond (Bay County)– Currently work on the County budget

Torrie L. McAfee (Buena Vista) – working on waste water issues, Asset Management Plan and trying to find funding to demolish hotels.

Bob Balzer – Gladwin County EDC: The hospital is working on expanding in separate locations. Lots were purchased in the industrial park for a current manufacturer's expansion. The City of Beaverton has a big project with Saint Cobain which is rumored to be worth up to 25 million in investment and with possibly 50-60 new employees. Another manufacturer has purchased the old Simpson Industries. Other manufacturers are expanding or looking to expand. Also in the middle of working with skilled trade training funds applications.

Rosalie Myer – (Roscommon County EDC) - The Village of Roscommon is pursuing Re-development Ready Community certification and have hired a part time person to work on this project. A meeting is coming. We are having Michigan Cares for Tourism coming Sept 18th & 19th and will be working on the CCC Museum, a group of about 200 tourism professionals who volunteer – coming to Roscommon we have different activities - canoeing and kayaking for them.

Gary Stefanko (Roscommon) – Hazardous waste recycling will be the 1st Saturday after Labor Day and Memorial Day at Roscommon County Road Commission.

Bill Mrdeza (City of Mt. Pleasant) - The City of Mt. Pleasant has an RLF for the City of Mt. Pleasant. MEDC released the funds and we have Northern Initiatives contracted with MEDC to administer that. The City is working to partner with them. The City has a kick-off breakfast scheduled in October. Northern Initiatives primarily works with the banking community and the City is trying to get a meeting together with the banking community. We are doing a total re-write of Zoning Ordinance and the public comment period for the draft was August 24th. Hope to have the final draft done at end of September. There will be a public hearing at the City Commission. The Planning Commission will have a special meeting to review and make recommendations moving forward. Next year will be the 2018 Master Plan update. In terms of Medical Marijuana, the State is looking at rules and regulations and licensing by the end of this year. Our little Airport partnered with the local EAA chapter (Experimental Aircraft Association) so we are now home for Local Chapter 907 for EAA. Hoping to increase interest in flying and involvement boost the airport – Wings & Wheels coming up later this month.

The Chair asked about The Bike Race. Bill stated they hadn't had the Road Race for the last couple years. They have Cycle Cross Race which is in its 3rd year, it's a little different. It's still road bikes but it is off-road. Huge sport. Unfortunately, one of our local cyclist was hit and killed about 2 months ago. It was a great loss to the cycling community. We're re-naming The Cross Race in his name. The race will be held on December 2nd.

Bob Moffit (City of Gladwin) – Recently saw signs in Ohio regarding legalized medical marijuana which is about to take effect in their state and if you're watching at all; it appears this opt-in they've been talking about is primarily about large grow operations and bigger dispensaries. Just be careful. Discussion followed. MML is having a fall conference in a couple weeks in Holland and they are having a class on the Colorado experience, because it appears in November of next year there will be a petition to make it a recreational drug. Just keep in mind that whatever you're doing now, in 18 months it may not matter. The City is currently dealing with a solar company project. There is also a Low-income housing project coming in with 49 apartments. The Fall Toolbox for MEDA will be held in Frankenmuth. Also keep in mind that the Annual Meeting is always good, and it is next August. Discussion followed.

Brian Smith (Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe) – Hops processing feasibility study will be done in 2 weeks. Early indication is there is an over-supply right now so getting a multi-million-dollar processing plant may not be feasible, but we are going to structure the document when these indicators come down, so we can re-visit the document anytime. Saganing Casino expansion project is going well. Doing site work and getting other things together. As part of this project, they had to put in an electrical sub-station so instead of Consumers owning it, they own it themselves. He also found an energy buyer for an energy desk that reports to him, so this person will oversee buying all the energy/de-regulated energy off the grid for the Casino. Discussion followed.

Tracy Byard (Clare County) – Finalizing the 2018 budget which will be adopted the 20th. Also in the middle of union negotiations which should be done before the end of the month. Per the requirements of the Michigan Indigent Defense Council, counties have to come up with an Indigent Defense Plan for indigent individuals who come through their courts. She is writing it now.

Zygmunt (Tuscola County) – Columbia Township is now on Phase II for Windmills. Reviewed the LAMP report and provided comments to SVSU for finalization. This was done for the Partnership for the Saginaw Bay.

Steve Erickson (Tuscola County EDC) – Caro Center is staying in Caro and are moving forward with their new facility. When the facility is done, there will be 50-75 more jobs. Getting ready to spend their \$600,000.00 EPA Grant as of September 30th. There are several big projects, including the Vassar Foundry in the works. There is a purchase agreement from a company from Canada that would like to come in and re-develop the property. There is also a lot going on in agriculture including a \$300 million-dollar project. No further information for now.

Jay O'Farrell (Iosco County) – The City of Tawas City looking at re-building their Pier (1940). There are currently three plans to look at. Phase 1 (of 7) of the Iosco Exploration Trail has been approved and will be put together probably next spring.

Kathy Methner – Currently unemployed but working on the Gladwin Industrial Park & a road project. Still engaged with RRC in Farwell as they are one of the communities that doesn't have the manpower to self-assess. There was discussion with Bill Mrdeza regarding wind power in Isabella as there are several initiatives ongoing in Coe Township, Wise Township etc.

Vickey Sherry, Communications Director with Tuscola County EDC also a certified grant administrator for the CDBG program. Currently administering 6 CDBG Grants, 4 are ICE grants. Currently assisting with Tuscola County Vanderbilt Park ramp from the DNR. In partnership with Bay County, Chippewa Tribe, Consumers

Energy, Hampton Township for a phragmites removal grant from the Michigan DNR. Getting ready to gear up the EPA grant as Steve said I'm the Project Manager for that. Getting ready to release RFQ's for our environmental consultants soon.

Public Comment

The Director informed the Council that former Chair Hal Hudson passed away today and that the Region would be sending a condolences card. She also thanked Zygy and Steve for hosting this meeting in such a lovely facility. She also acknowledged that they deserve special recognition as they have over the years driven hundreds of miles to make our meetings in other sites.

Robert Redmond – Question: Does anyone know of a contracted private vendor recycling Monitoring program? He would like to talk to such a company. Do they have any monitoring to make sure that recycling is being done?

Zygy advised to check with the company that does it. To not be penalized, they have to prove how much they have recycled.

There being no other business to come before the Council, the meeting was declared adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne