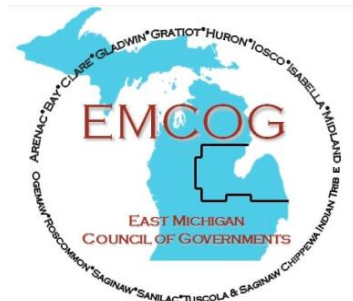


EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

3144 DAVENPORT AVENUE, SUITE 200, SAGINAW, MI. 48602
PHONE: 989-797-0800, FAX: 989-797-0896
WWW.EMCOG.ORG



EMCOG FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Friday, July 8, 2016

Iosco County Regional Education Service Agency (RESA)

Kirtland Classroom

27 North Rempert Road, Tawas City, MI 48763

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by the 2nd Vice Chairperson

Welcome to Iosco County RESA – Jay O’Farrell

C/O’Farrell welcomed the Council to Iosco County and provided a brief overview of the meeting site – the Iosco County RESA building which is used for vocational training and is extremely valuable to the area. This facility has been here since about 2006. It is a great deal and is anticipated that there will be increased use in the future.

The Chair asked that everyone to introduce themselves. A quorum was present.

Motion by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Stefanko to approve the July minutes. C/Methner noted two corrections to the minutes – page three Waldo Road should be Walden Road and Russ Alwood’s name should be corrected. With corrections noted, the motion carried.

Motion by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Vicky Sherry to approve the revised agenda with presiding chairperson Kathy Methner listed. Motion carried.

Public Comment Period

No one wished to be heard.

Staff Reports

Transportation – David Engelhardt

Rural Task Force Program – Dave reported that all rural projects have been submitted to MDOT. As such, they should be obligated and funded. If so, we will have used all of the funding that was available. We have one issue looming in the Saginaw Bay area because Bay County projects went-over and Saginaw is the last one coming in, it is possible they are going to run into a ceiling, but we will deal with it.

Transit Coordinated Plan - Program staff have sent in our final comments on the PR-5 plan. This plan should be coming out for dissemination in a week or two. Once that is in place, there will be a follow-up meeting with all of the transit agencies and whomever else is interested to see what the will of the group

is in terms of EMCOG helping to assist in better coordination of services. How that plays out depends on what the motivation is of the transit agencies are and the other agencies that are involved.

Local Safety Programs – MDOT approached us this year indicating they want a local road safety program by RPI area with initial meetings being handled via MDOT (they call these meetings their Rural Elected Officials Meetings). Safety was introduced as an issue and there was discussion of the safety program and plan that is going to be developed. There is going to be a meeting in the next month or so for any and all that are interested to help develop that plan. If you have a specific interest or know somebody that is involved or wants to be involved in the safety aspect of transportation, please let me know so we can invite them. Discussion followed.

Hazard Mitigation, CWPP, Iron-Belle Trail – William Ernat

Hazard Mitigation – All of the final plans submitted to Michigan State Police for approval. They have sent them back with comments and all comments have been addressed and re-submitted. MSP has approved two counties (2) Clare and Roscommon. These plans have been sent on to FEMA for Michigan State approval. The other three are still waiting Michigan State Police approval. Sanilac's application is still pending. Gratiot County submitted their application in June.

Roscommon Wildfire Protection Plan – currently 80 to 90% done. All chapters are being finalized. All the mitigation actions were approved at the last meeting. When finalized, they will be sent down to DNR for their final approval. The deadline on this program is September 2016.

Iron Belle Trail – Staff have been meeting with the four counties Tuscola, Saginaw, Bay and Arenac to develop contacts with the ultimate goal to finalize the trail in those 4 counties.

REPORTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **Chairman's Report** – Kathy Methner

C/Methner reported on having attended the recent Re-Development Ready Communities Training. Also attending was C/Chasey. Participating in this training puts us in line for communities in our region to become re-development ready communities. Mt. Pleasant is a Re-Development Ready community. Harrison is a Rising Tide community, which is the same process as Re-Development Ready communities. If anyone is interested, this is a good program that assists you in coordinating your zoning ordinances with your master plan, identifying developable properties, etc. All kinds of good things for your community are included: i.e., web-site design, transparency. In Harrison, we have been working on this for 9 months because we are a Rising Tide community. As a result, Harrison just found out because of that they are getting their Master Plan update free. It's a really good program and you get a lot of state assistance if you become re-development ready certified. I have been assisting Coleman in Midland County to become re-development ready, my hometown. I have been working with Midland Tomorrow to help Coleman. Discussion followed.

* **Director's Report** – Sue Fortune

The Director plans on attending the MAR Annual Conference in Detroit. Time was also spent in June assisting the City of Gladwin with their EDA proposal. There is an action item further on in the agenda that relates to continuing assistance. Your USDA representative, who is assisting Gladwin with this, will be here for your Red Team meeting. It would be good to ask her any questions you might have, because they are putting up the loan money that the city is going to use as their match to EDA. Discussions are ongoing with EDA on our grant and there are a couple action items on the agenda in this regard. This has been an extremely challenging grant process for this cycle.

It was noted that regarding the master plan and zoning ordinances, for anyone who doesn't believe that eventually you are going to have to have this all coordinated; abandon that thought. The intent of the coordinated planning that Jane has been involved in was that these types of plans should be coordinated in order to have a seamless order to your planning projects. When the Hazard Mitigation plans were being updated, Bill emphasized that even your H/M process should be integrated into your Master Plans.

* Financial Report – C/Dworzecki reviewed the Treasurer's report (also sent with the agenda). Kathy Methner questioned if there was any activity with within the Revolving Loan Fund. The Director reported that we have loaned out approximately \$350,000 in the last 3 months. Discussion followed.

Motion by C/Sherry, seconded by C/O'Farrell to accept and file the Treasurers' report. Motion carried.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

I. Old Business

Housing Lease: Motion by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/O'Farrell to approve entering into a two-year lease with our current landlord, with a look in 9 months for another facility in case of sale. Motion carried.

2. NEW Business:

DRAFT 2017 WORK PROGRAM & BUDGET: Motion by C/Sherry, seconded by C/Dworzecki to authorize and distribute the proposed 2017 DRAFT Work Program and Budget to member units when complete for review and comment. Motion carried

2017 EMCOG – ECM PR-5 REGIONAL PROSPERITY INITIATIVE GRANT: Motion by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Sherry to authorize EMCOG staff, in concert with the ECM-PR 5 Collaborative, to apply for a 2017 Regional Prosperity Initiative grant as detailed in the 2017 Executive Budget and Legislative boilerplate. Motion carried unanimously.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES TO ALL EMCOG DOCUMENTS: Motion by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Kroczaleski to draft and approve a Resolution stating that any of the five (5) duly elected Officers are authorized to sign legal documents, letters, Resolutions, contracts, awards etc. Acknowledging that in most cases, this will be the Chairperson; further that in the case of checks, any two officers may sign or one officer and the Executive Director. On a roll call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

2016-2019 EDA NON-FEDERAL SHARE AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES AND COMMITMENT: Motion by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Kroczaleski to authorize the Chairperson to sign any required documentation relative to this grant opportunity including commitment of non-federal share. Grant breakdown is \$157,884-EDA and \$105,256 – EMCOG. Motion carried. Roll Call Vote – all Ayes.

2016 TRANSIT MOBILITY PLAN: Motion by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Rodriguez to authorize staff to apply for a Transit grant from MDOT - \$2,000. Motion carried.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO CITY OF GLADWIN: Motion by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Sherry to authorize the Executive Director to provide technical assistance to the City of Gladwin with their EDA application for an amount not to exceed \$8,000.00. Motion carried.

3. MICHIGAN FEDERAL PROJECT REVIEW

Motion by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Sherry to approve project reviews for member projects thus authorizing their submission to the applicants and granting agencies and to acknowledge and assign numbers for the non-member applications. Motion carried.

4. Commissioner/Local elected official reports/updates

Gary Stefanko: A tour of empty buildings in Roscommon was held on 6/25. There were some serious lookers; the owners did a clean-up beforehand. The family fishing event was scheduled for the same weekend as the MDNR free fishing weekend cover all three lakes; all three chambers participated; having an economic outlook study done in Sept re Trails and Iron Belle Trail.

Jay: In East Tawas there is much activity around the dock; DNR is reconstructing the dock and other amenities; Also there are several festivals coming up; Iosco Co Fair in Hale, Whittemore Recreation grant will be submitted to put together the town square part including bathrooms, gazebo. etc. He noted it is difficult to find local contractors. The gazebo is being built in Pennsylvania by the Amish and must be shipped in as they could not find a local contractor who could meet the grant requirements – thus forcing them to go out of state.

Vicki Sherry: Currently 36 projects are being handled between Steve and Vicki including but not limited to working in partnership with SBCI on a DNR grant to remove phragmites at Vanderbilt park; another grant for Vanderbilt Park to improve ADA campground facilities; first phase of two water trails; currently working on three (3) master plans including two entities that have never had a plan before; one Township is a challenge with decreased population; one community is well on its way to getting a grocery store or two; two are ag producers of organic products. MDARD and USDA grant writing for this;

Zyggy: Negotiations are underway with Millington regarding the incubator kitchen but are not finalized. They are looking for another building for the food hub. Two townships are fighting with wind farms that are coming in regarding on-going ordinance issues including intrusion of property and restriction of access to property owners.

Kathy Methner: The City of Harrison's new City Hall is under construction; move in is expected at the end of October; The current city hall has been sold to the lumber company next door. City of Clare also recently broke ground on a new athletic complex:

Mandi: West Branch is starting up a facade program; Spicer was chosen as the architect; eight (8) storefronts will be dressed up. This is a 50/50 match program. Back to the Bricks is coming to West Branch. RPI 3 mini grants: applied for two; received one for the Vertical Asset Inventory. The County millage is up for renewal on August 2nd; The EDC is anticipating losing \$15k from her budget; could lose local 911 etc. This is a restoration millage in light of a \$1.3 million budget shortage.

Brian Smith: The Tribe has received \$75,000 from USDA for their Hops activity. Will be establishing a committee which will include EMCOG. Lee Shirey (EDA) met with the tribe for informational purposes. The meeting included the Tribe's two grant writers met as well.

Erik Rodriquez: A Traditional Pow Wow was held on Father's Day weekend. There were no competitions; the big Pow wow will be coming up in Isabella County on the last weekend in July. This is a bigger competition Pow Wow with national attraction. The Tribe is also partnering with the Lake Huron Discovery Tour group. This also provides exposure for their 5k run on October 6th.

Adam K: The EDC held a strategic planning session last week; Bonnie Zoia from MSU Extension facilitated this. The County is also working with Connect Michigan; surveys are out; a local tech guy (breakthrough side business) has been the champion; numbers have spiked; using Facebook advertising to get out the word; County: The Heritage Route Discovery Tour will be starting at Saganing Tribal Center next week.

Brenda Bachelder: Will be transitioning back to Roscommon County Michigan Works; in the process of interviewing for MiWorks/EDC Director for Arenac County.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS - None

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne