

EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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MINUTES OF THE EMCOG REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM Meeting date: Friday, JANUARY 16, 2015

12:30 p.m.

The Bancroft Building
107 S. Washington
Saginaw, MI 48607
989-776-9000

APPROVED: March 6, 2015

Attendees:

RED Team: Bob Balzer, Zygy Dworzecki, Steve Erickson, Garrett Geer, Mark Hitchcock, Steve Jonas, Gary Kellan, Pat Killingbeck, Kathy Methner, Bob Moffit, Bill Mrdeza, Jay O'Farrell, Bill Rhode, Ann Richards, Carol Wetzell

EMCOG: Jane Fitzpatrick, Dave Engelhardt

Guests: Erine Adams, Michigan Works Region 7B, George Bailey, Gratiot County Commissioner, Bill Bohlen, Roscommon Village Manager, Christine Greve, SBDC at Delta, Adam Kroczaleski, Arenac County Commissioner, Frank Starkweather, Tom Starkweather, Gary Stefanko, Roscommon County Commissioner, Tom Stephenson, Connect MI.

1. Call to order, welcome and introductions

Meeting was called to order at 12:33 p.m. by RED Team Chair Kathy Methner

2. Review and Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with no changes

3. Review and Approval of November 7, 2014 RED Team Minutes

The minutes of the November 7m 2014 RED Team meeting were approved with no changes.

4. Chairperson Updates: Kathy Methner

There were no further updates from what was presented during the Council meeting.

5. Updates from EMCOG:

5.a. RPI Update: Jane Fitzpatrick

The East Central Prosperity Region 5 prosperity plan was approved on December 16, 2014 with a “roll out” presentation to numerous stakeholders at SVSU on December 17th. The EMCOG RED Team received a copy of the plan along with the approved plans for RPI-3 and RPI-6. These plans will be resource documents for the RED Team re-write of the EMCOG 5 Year CEDS during 2015.

The RPI-5 Strategic Management Team is currently prioritizing the strategies within the plan. Once this is done TIP Strategies, Inc. will produce an implementation matrix and timeline. They are also working on an organizational matrix of the RPI-5 Region economic and community development organizations and the roles and responsibilities of each, along with gaps that may exist.

EMCOG is waiting for notification of the status of the application for a second year of funding.

5.b. U.S. Department of Commerce EDA Guidelines Revisions

Jane Fitzpatrick provided a brief summarization of the recently released regulatory revisions from the Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration regarding the CEDS contents and EDA policy board (RED Team) membership requirements. Today she will limit discussion to the committee membership changes. The revisions to the CEDS document contents will be on the March 6th, 2015 agenda. The revisions ease up on March 6, 2015 agenda. The policy board membership must demonstrate that the members are broadly representative of the principal economic interests of the region including:

- Private Sector;
- Public Officials;
- Community Leaders;
- Private Individuals;
- Representatives of Workforce Development Boards;
- Representatives of Institutions of Higher Education;
- Minority and Labor Groups; and
- Other Groups Specific to the Regional Focus

Jane will send out the membership criteria to the RED Team members for review and recommendations for expanding the membership where necessary to address the various stakeholder requirements.

5.c. SPROUT Lab Initiative Update

Three RED Team members will be training to be facilitators for the Rural Entrepreneurship Course in Bay City in March/April of 2015 (dates to be announced):

Bob Balzer, Garrett Geer and Mark Hitchcock. The 2-day Ideation Boot Camp is on February 12th and 13th in Mt Pleasant. Promotional materials were provided to the meeting attendees to help spread the word. It was suggested that a press release be developed to assist with the outreach efforts of the RED Team. Jane will contact GVSU to have one prepared.

6. RED Team Membership Status and Recruitment: Kathy Methner and Jane Fitzpatrick

The RED Team was provided with a list of members. Discuss focused on ways to get more of the members engaged; some have not attended meetings in over a year. Many options were discussed. The general consensus is that the attendance be addressed in the EMCOG Bylaws at the same time that other changes are made to comply with the revised regulations from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration. Also a list of members was passed around the table and those members who were present were asked to put a check next to their name if they wished to remain on the RED Team. There were several first time and regular guests at the meeting who also indicated that they would like to be members. In total the RED Team grew by seven new members.

7. 2015 CEDS Status Update Review and Approval: Jane Fitzpatrick and RED Team

Jane Fitzpatrick noted that the draft CEDS was posted and distributed for public comment from December 15th, 2014 through January 15th, 2015. During time period she received two comments. One comment (from a RED Team member) requesting that the language in the CEDS strategies make a stronger statement about the TLAG committee being a resource for the RED Team's development of a new CEDS. Another comment included the addition of one project. A motion was made by Bill Mrdeza and supported by Zygy Dworzecki to approved the 2015 CEDS status update to include the two changes. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Connect Michigan Program Updates Including Cyber Security: Tom Stephenson, Connect Michigan

The Connect Michigan initiative will be continued through the Public Services Commission and will include mapping, the community engagement program and survey work. Gladwin County will be certified as "connected" at a ceremony on March 11th. Bay Future is working with Dan Manning on the community engagement program.

The FCC has increased broadband speed targets from 4 Mbps(millions of bits per second) download/1 Mbps upload to 10 Mbps download/1 Mbps upload. This will make more areas within our region eligible for FCC Connect America Funding.

<http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/connecting-america>

The MEDC has started a mapping program of all fiber optics in the state. The first round is complete with about 40% of providers participating. The second round of data collecting will result in a higher percentage as provides begin to want to be including in the maps.

Chemical Bank is offering free seminars of cyber security with a focus on businesses. Other banks are doing this as well. Contact either Chemical Bank or your local bank for information; the only cost is for the facility cost and providing equipment for powerpoint presentations.

Tom Stephenson will provide Jane with a copy of his powerpoint presentation for distribution to the RED Team.

9. Other: Parking Lot Items

(discussion items requested by RED Team members and/or guests during the meeting)

No additional items were added for discussion

10. Updates from RED Team Members and Guests

Pat Killingbeck, Arenac County EDC

The Arenac County EDC is updating their bylaws; the medical facilities in Au Gres are both open now and work is proceeding on a 24-28 unit assisted living facility.

Christine Greve, Great Lakes Bay SBDC

2014 was a good year with lots of traction in their landing activities.

Kathy Methner, Middle Michigan Development Corporation & Michigan Works

The MMDC applied for a promise zone for Clare, Isabella and Gladwin counties. They just received word that the proposal has been received and that they are the only rural group from Michigan to apply out of 17-18 applications nationwide. They should hear about decisions in the Spring.

Steve Erickson, Tuscola County EDC

In addition to updates at the earlier Council meeting: the EDC as made a video about Tuscola County which is uploaded on YouTube. Also Tuscola County is going to try for a local EDC millage on February 24th.

Zygy Dworzecki, Tuscola County Planning Commission

Three townships are zoning for windmill farms. He is working on a business plan for the food hub.

Ann Richards, Oscoda Township DDA

The Wurtsmith Business District now has over 1,600 jobs with about 850 of them attributed to Kalitta Air. The DDA has secured an USDA grant for an indoor/open air farmers market.

Gary Kellan, Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport

Thanked the RED Team for once again giving the airport project the number one CEDS score. Today is the first “roll-in” of a plane into the new Kalitta hanger and they are already turning away work. He will be pursuing EDA funding for supporting infrastructure for more hanger construction.

Erine Adams, Kirtland Community College

Deferred to her update at the earlier Council meeting. The Roscommon campus will be revamped for skilled trades training.

Bill Bohlen, Village of Roscommon

Discussion of a Passport Grant for Wallace Park; they are moving forward with the SPROUT program including a prize component of providing empty building space for a winner.

Bob Moffit, City of Gladwin

They have created a board for the Beaverton/Gladwin Bike Pathway and Bob is the chair.

Adam Kroczaleski, Arenac County Commission

Newly elected to the Arenac County Commission and works for Representative Joel Johnson who is chair of the Committee on Workforce and Talent Development.

Tom Starkweather, Arenac-Appraisers

Is working on brownfields for the Landaal Packaging Systems Warehouse project in Bay City.

Frank Starkweather, Saginaw Bay Water Trail Alliance

Is chair of the Bay City Planning Commission which is about to start an update of the 5 year master plan.

Mark Hitchcock, MSU Extension, Iosco County

Working on a tourism team “first impressions”; he will be evaluating programs from around the country that he can tweak and implement within Michigan communities. He will be looking for a pilot community for which he will be offering 10-12 hours of facilitation based on observations.

Bill Mrdeza, City of Mount Pleasant

The city’s new planner will start working on Monday, January 26th. The city’s Recreation Director has left to take another job. The city will be advertising for a recreation and sports director.

Steve Jonas, Saginaw Future

Thanked EMCOG for selecting The Bancroft for today’s meeting location. The building renovation was a \$5.0 million investment from out of state and used to be Section 8 housing. Also the Saginaw News Building is going to be redeveloped for and indoor farmers market and other uses. Delta College is building a campus downtown as well.

11. Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the RED Team the meeting was declared adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Jane Fitzpatrick

NEXT MEETING: March 6, 2015

2015 RED TEAM MEETING SCHEDULE

MONTH	TYPE	TIME	LOCATION
January 16, 2015	Full RED Team	12:30 pm	The Bancroft, Saginaw
March 6, 2015	Full RED Team	12:30 pm	Room 317, City Hall, Bay City
May 1, 2015	Full RED Team	12:30 pm	Riverwalk, City of Gladwin
July 10, 2015	Full RED Team	11:00 am	Iosco County (specific site TBD)
September 11, 2015	Full RED Team	12:30 pm	Houghton Lake Library
November 6, 2015	Full RED Team	12:30 pm	Tuscola County (specific site TBD)

RED Team meetings begin at 12:30 PM following 10:00 AM Full Council meetings. Lunch will be available at the meeting site at approximately 11:30 AM for those who wish to participate prior to the start of the RED Team meeting. The lunch cost is \$10.00 per person unless otherwise specified for a particular meeting.

NOTE: Members of the public are always welcome at any EMCOG RED Team meeting.