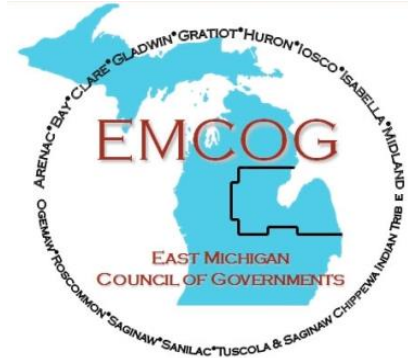


EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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East Central Michigan Prosperity Region 5

Strategic Management Team Meeting

September 22, 2015

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m

Morey Technical Education Center

Room 108

MMCC, Mt. Pleasant Campus

2600 S. Summerton Road

Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

MINUTES

The meeting convened at 10:05 a.m. Scott Govitz, MMCC, welcomed the ECM PR-5 Collaborative Strategic Management Team members to their Mt. Pleasant campus. Each member introduced themselves and identified the entity they represent.

Stakeholders Present:

Natasha Allen	Region 7B Michigan Works	Workforce Development
Jay Anderson	BCATS	MPO/Transportation
Maja Bolanowska	Midland Area Transportation Study	MPO/Transportation
Karrie Ballard	Education and Training Connection	Adult Education
David Callejo Perez	Associate Provost, SVSU	Higher Education (Telephone)
Jennifer Carroll	Director of Corporate Services, Delta College	Higher Education (Telephone)
Roger Coles	Interim Associate Vice Provost, CMU	Higher Education
JoAnn Crary	President, Saginaw Future, Inc.	Economic Development (Telephone)
Sara Dimitroff	City of Bay City	Economic Development
Matt Felan	President, Great Lake Bay Region Alliance	Private Sector
Garrett Geer	Dir. Of Bus. Development/AKT Peerless	Private sector/Non Profit (Telephone)
Scott Govitz	Director, M-TEC, MMDC	Higher Education (Telephone)
Bill Henderson	Aircraft Precision	Private Sector
Brad Kaye	City of Midland	Local Government
Lynn Knapp	Education and Training Connection	Adult Education (Telephone)
Dexter Mitchell	Manager, Buena Vista Charter Twp.	Local Government (Telephone)
Ed Oberski	Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works!	Workforce Development
Donald Schurr	President/GGDC	Economic Development (Telephone)

State Agencies/Departments

Other Attendees

Katy Hintzen – MSU Sea Grant Hazardous Storms Assessment

EMCOG:

Sue Fortune	Executive Director
Jane Fitzpatrick	Program Manager – Economic Development/RPI Project Coordinator
David Engelhardt	Program Manager – Transportation (Telephone)

Projects Update:

Jane announced that Item 4 on the agenda – RPI-5 2016 grant application – discussion of a potential region-wide project concept would be moved up to Item 2 with the GLBRA update to follow.

1. David Callejo Perez of SVSU provided an overview of a potential project for consideration our Year 3 RPI application. The project includes a deeper economic development analysis to quantify available regional talent resources in the region. This is done utilizing various data sources and drilling down into that information at levels not generally readily available. This essentially allows a look at the granular data. There was discussion, questions and considerable input from attendees. Mr. Perez asked that any specific questions on the concept be sent to him at any time. This potential project evolved from discussions that suggested that economic developers in the area are losing potential site visits because they do not really know the extent of the available talent pool.

2. GLBRA Initiatives Update – Matt Felan

Mr. Felan reported that the GLBRA is morphing into three (3) basic focus areas. These include but are not limited to:

1. Regional assistance/attraction efforts

A FAM tour was conducted in PR-5 for three site consultants. Part of the tour included a helicopter fly-over of Dow, the Saginaw River, etc. Continuing efforts will be ongoing for more on-site visits.

2. Talent development through STEM

Recommendations were made from the final study. There are currently four (4) STEM networks including MMCC, SVSU, Delta and CMU. GLBRA has been notified that they have received a grant from the STEM Funders Network in the amount of \$10,000. Also creating a STEM Pipeline website which will focus on best practices and will be transactional, user friendly and separated by county. www.stempipeline.com.

3. Transportation and Infrastructure

This activity is centered on:

- a) Deep River Dredge of the Saginaw River; look at the economic impact
- b) MBS Airport – fighting for routes is most important along with better infrastructure (roads/route) to the airport
- c) Advocate for completion of US-127 as a freeway

Mr. Felan stated that GLBRA is proud to be an aggressive entity and that they liken their work to building a car. A question was raised if when finished would that car be a 4 seater or an 8 seater because if the activity is not for 8-counties of RPI-5, then a two tiered system will have been created.

Mr. Felan stated that the Board feels that they do not want there to be dissolution of major investor funding outside the 4 counties and uncertainty of the RPI boundaries once the current Governor is gone. He encouraged people to look at what they are doing because there are out-lying counties that have not put in any financial support to GLBRA but are included in their activities and efforts.

Future structuring potential was also discussed to ensure that all of the 8 counties receive benefit.

3. Kathy Hintzen – Michigan Sea Grant

Ms. Hintzen provided an overview of her program along with a handout. Jane Fitzpatrick of EMCOG is on the Steering Committee. This is a NOAA funded program is studying the effects (economic/other) of extreme storms along our coastline and throughout the Saginaw Bay Watershed and how to enhance readiness and sustainability. A sign-up sheet was distributed for those that would like to be part of this ongoing effort. An online survey will also be available as well as information on the Michigan Seagrant website.

Project Updates:

Center for Excellence:

- TIP Strategies, Inc. of Austin, Texas was here in September and visited with met with the Center of Excellence Task Force at SVSU Bay Future, GLBRA, Gladwin County EDC and others. They will ab here on October 27 -28 to continue their discussions with stakeholders, meet with the Center Of Excellence Task Force and make a presentation to the Strategic Management Team.

Target Market Analysis

- The RFP has been developed and approved. It was sent out 2 weeks ago and a consultant will be selected by mid-November.
- EMCOG is the grantee
- This is expected to be approximately a 9-month process
- Jane provided a written overview of the project to the Strategic Management Team last month.

Transit Mobility Study

Dave Engelhardt/EMCOG provided an update:

- A Regional workshop will be held 9/20/15 at the MDOT Bay Region office in Saginaw. Further updates will be provided.
- If you have any additions or corrections to the list, please get that information to Dave by next week.

MEDC Region 5 Collaborative Business Marketing Plan

JoAnn Crary reported – via telephone

- As a result of their marketing effort, they now have a lead.
- Everyone is collaborating and working together to make good things happen.

Other:

Jane Fitzpatrick (EMCOG) attended a meeting with Annette Rummell and other visitors and convention bureau/chambers at the GLBVCB office in Saginaw. Two items were of significant interest to the group – Transit and Seasonal population. The next meeting will be in November with Roger Coles of CMU.

Ed Oberski (Workforce Development) – on 10/1/15 there will be a 5-county Michigan Work Force Development agency name change. As an FYI - the 6-county 7B WFD group has appealed the State's decision calling for their dissolution. Currently awaiting the results of that appeal.

Maja Bolanowska (MATS – Midland) – Now in the process of preparing the Long-Range Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). There will also be an Open House on 10/14/15 for individual input to this process.

Jennifer Carroll - Delta College – Currently is working in partnership with Workforce Development. Have received training funding and there will be an upcoming free STEM Festival.

There being no other business to come before the group, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Sue

Sue Fortune
EMCOG
October 21, 2015