

EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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FULL COMMISSION ORGANIZATION

Friday, January 19, 2018

10:00 a.m.

City of Saginaw - Andersen Enrichment Center
120 Ezra Rust Saginaw, MI 48601

DRAFT MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chairperson Moffit.

Lori Rittenberry, Director of the Andersen Enrichment Center welcomed everyone to the facility and invited all to view the Saginaw Public School children's Art show before leaving.

Introduction of New Members and Guests

Erin Adams is in attendance today.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Moved by C/Dworzecki, second by C/Mrdeza to approve agenda. Motion passed.

Review of November 2017 Minutes for approval

Moved by C/Dworzecki, second by C/O'Farrell to approve the November 3, 2017 minutes. Motion passed.

Program Updates

Transportation Programs – Dave Engelhardt

- The Rural Task Force (RTF) program is moving along and issues continue to be resolved. We are doing well on utilizing all of the money within each individual RTF. There are considerable staff changes going on at MDOT. The RTF scope of work for the Regions continues to grow.
- The HPMS (Highway Performance Monitoring System) materials have finally been received from MDOT. These will be soon sent out to the ACT 51 agencies for their review.

Additional discussion followed.

- The Bay Region Non-Motorized plan update and map; Meetings have been held to capture any additional available or updated data for non-motorized facilities. Staff has also met with Dan Hoffman of Saginaw GIS as they are doing the Bike Map update portion of the contract.
- The next step will be to look at the written plan for gaps in the data.

RPI – Prosperity Region 5 - Jane Fitzpatrick

- o We are currently in our fourth year of funding.
- o We have requested the maximum for Tier One funding (or \$250,000)
- o Funding levels will be established at the end of the month (January)
- o We requested funding for staff facilitation, marketing/promotional materials to tell the story, as well as \$185,000.00 for the mini grant program; talent assessment.
- o This is the final year of funding pending changes/support in Lansing.

Special Projects Status Report and updates - Bill Ernat

- Bill provided an update on communities adopting the Hazard Mitigation plans: FEMA has issued new guidance for local units within any of the five counties in terms of adopting the county's plan. If you are a local unit within the 5 Counties of Arenac, Gladwin, Iosco, Isabella or Roscommon you can adopt a Resolution doing so without extra work being done. If anyone is interested, please contact Bill.
- Staff has been meeting with Gratiot monthly and they are moving along.
- We are awaiting work on the last two (2) applications that were submitted - Saginaw Chippewa Tribe and Bay County
- IBT - 8 applications submitted to DNR on January 5th. Bill is on the committee that gets to select 3 priority projects.

If anyone has any questions or desires additional detail on any items discussed, please contact Bill.

REPORTS

Chairman's Report - Chairman Moffit

- Enjoyed serving as chair
- Staff has been working hard – very proud of them
- Will be attending MME - Managers Conference January 30th through February 2nd in Ann Arbor
- Will also be attending the Rural Council meeting in April. This conference is sponsored by CEDAM.
- MAR appointment – We need to appoint an alternate to the MAR Board as it is difficult for the Chair to attend the meetings due to scheduling conflicts.

Moved by: C/O'Farrell, seconded by C/Dworzecki to appoint Bill Mrdeza as 2018 MAR alternate. Motion passed.

Director's Report – Sue Fortune

- The report was sent with the agenda.
- Very pleased to announce that Bill Ernat is now a full-time employee in charge of special projects. He's doing a fabulous job.
- Have asked Jane to attend the NADO conference in March. There is a special CEDS training as part of this conference and she will be attending that session as well.
- Updated the Council on Chairman Schuster's transportation infrastructure updates at the federal level.
- Currently contacting all the Cities and Villages requesting updated contact information for ACT 51 internet reporting.

Bob Moffit

Announced that the City of Gladwin Treasurer has taken another position as City Manager of Auburn (Bay County).

Financial Report – C/Dworzecki

The Treasurer's report was sent with the Agenda. It was reviewed for Council members by the Treasurer. Moved by C/Byard, seconded by C/Altman to accept and file the Treasurers report. Motion passed.

Election of Officers.

The Nominating Chair reported that the current officers except for the 2nd Vice-Chair have all agreed to serve in 2018. They are:

Chairperson – Robert Moffit
1st Vice Chairperson -Steve Erickson
Secretary - Donald J. O'Farrell
Treasurer - Zygmunt Dworzecki

The position of 2nd Vice Chair is open as Kathy Methner has retired. William (Bill) Mrdeza has agreed to serve as 2nd Vice Chair.

There were 3 calls for additional nominees.

Hearing none, it was moved by C/Redmond, seconded by C/Myers to adopt the following slate of officers for 2018. Motion carried.

Chairperson – Robert Moffit
1st Vice Chairperson - Steve Erickson
2nd Vice Chairperson – William (Bill) Mrdeza
Secretary - Donald J. O'Farrell
Treasure - Zygmunt Dworzecki

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 18-01: Resolution authorizing appropriate signatories to all EMCOG legal documents,

Moved by C/Byard, seconded by C/Dworzecki to authorize appropriate signatures to all EMCOG legal documents, checks contracts, letters, Resolutions, contracts, awards or financial instruments. Roll call vote, Motion passed. ***Resolution 18-01 is made a permanent part of the minutes.***

2018 GRANT OPPORTUNITIES:

Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/O'Farrell to authorize for staff to review, prepare and apply for **USDA grants** in 2018 if applicable and match requirement can be met. Motion passed.

Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Mrdeza to authorize staff to review, prepare and apply for **DEQ/DNR grants** in 2018 if applicable and match requirement can be met. Motion passed.

RED TEAM submission of CEDS:

Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Bachelder to authorize the RED Team and EMCOG staff to finalize and submit the 2018 CEDS Annual Performance Report to EDA Chicago with copies to be provided to Full Board after submission for review, filing and distribution. Motion passed.

MICHIGAN FEDERAL PROJECT REVIEW

Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/O'Farrell to approve project reviews for member projects thereby authorizing their submission to the applicants and granting agencies and to acknowledge and assign numbers for the non-member applications. Motion passed.

Commissioner comments, reports, items of concern, etc.

Jay O'Farrell: Iosco County is moving forward on GIS and MSU will be the lead agency on this. The county will cover 50% of the costs and the townships and cities will cover 50%. There was a Townships and Cities meeting last night with MDEQ regarding the recycling initiative start-up. The Natural Resources Commission in Iosco County is taking the lead and there will be a representative from each city, township and the county on a committee. This came about because of the RED Team meeting in Port Austin in September.

Bill Mrdeza: The Medical Marijuana ordinance movement in the city has slowed down a bit with the intent to let others move ahead and then learn from them. The City is waiting on more time/information and to learn from others. The draft ordinance is being developed, but they do not anticipate being ready for issuing licenses until summer. The City is being respectful of opinions/positions of its neighbors such as the Tribe and CMU. Other initiatives in the City: the draft zoning ordinance which may be up for a vote this Monday. There has been considerable pushback from local developers regarding the proposed rezoning of the area north of campus. The city is also working on RRC certification; there are 4 items left to be addressed including the zoning ordinance.

Zyggy Dworzecki: Steve and Zyggy were recently in Pittsburgh for an EAP Brownfield summit. They attended the financial seminars. The following items were shared: When communities get bonds for projects, don't "renege" because there is a 20 year wait to be eligible again. When a business comes into your community, don't give them the house - just give them what they need, perhaps just an access road. Find out what the company needs: don't give them anything else and stick with it. The project will go faster and the community isn't stuck if a company disappears. Also, if you give tax abatements, don't be overly generous and get everything in writing.

Erine Adams: Currently there are many changes at the college, which is restructuring again. The new addition

for occupational trades will open in 2019: a \$40K addition for skilled trades. Erine may get a faculty contract and still take on the new job training program which is a \$3.2 million program. The college is #1 in terms of tuition stability as their income source.

Robert Redmond: Bay City Housing Commission is applying for grants and tax credits, for 5 blocks in the city including old brick manufacturing site, two unused schools, former roofing and lumber yard, for multi-family housing. The City Market renovation of former JC Penny building now has 2 dozen vendors. The Chemical Bank building refurbishment is moving along. The City of Bay City bought property in the Marquette Industrial Park area and will move their DPW staff and operations there. Pinconning Township has enough money to pay for 3 deputies/two cars and a K-nine unit for drug detection. This will be used countywide for school initiatives.

Kasey Zehner: The RPI-5 US I27 draft report is out for review; the final will be done in a couple of months. This project was partially funded by the ECM PR-5 Mini-grant program.

Brenda Bachelder: Rosalie is working on project coordination and the partnership for Workforce/ED in Roscommon County in preparation for her retirement. There is nothing official yet regarding the MichiganWorks/Roscommon County EDC Partnership but is anticipated shortly.

Torrie McAfee: THE BVCT planning commission did send an ordinance for approval to the Board for five (5) marijuana facilities. The public hearing is on Feb 1st at 6 pm.

Sandy Aultman: Gladwin County approved their 2018 budget which is in the black; it was in the red last year. Also, the 2018 approved budget included raises. A new Veterans Director has been hired. The County is going to pursue the position of county administrator. The County has applied for two USDA grants for vehicles for code enforcement and maintenance. The Gladwin County Council on Aging is seeking a millage increase. Two townships have opted into the medical marijuana ordinance. The County is struggling seriously with their Drain Commissioner and Equalization Departments.

Bob Moffit: currently working on a 30-acre solar farm; working on RRC, working with MDEQ regarding water rates, etc.

Tracy Byard: The County is switching to new software for financials.

Erik Rodriguez: With recent council elections there are six (6) new members which is a 50% change.
Renovations/expansion: The Soaring Eagle Casino renovations started in December. There are seven (7) phases to be completed by September 23rd of this year. The Saganing Hotel addition is projected to open in the summer of 2019 and anticipates creating 200+ new jobs. They are conducting a study for competitive wages. The Tribe is working with the State regarding fresh water wild rice and setting the standard for the State of Michigan on 950 acres - Tawas Lake – Iosco County. They are working with the City of East Tawas for protection of wild rice. The result of the Hops Study: there is an over-supply out there so the Tribe is not proceeding.

Noted: Blinda Baker is retiring as the City of East Tawas Manager.

Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Moffit to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Adjournment at 11:14 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne

Lynne Parker