

EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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Minutes of the ECM PR-5 Strategic Management Team

Date, Time and Location:

January 24, 2017 | 10:00 a.m.

Saginaw Future, Inc. | 515 N. Washington | Saginaw, MI 48607

Participants:

Jay Anderson	Bay City Area Transportation Study (BCATS)
Doug Bush	Gratiot Isabella RESD
Jennifer Carroll	Delta College
Brian Chapman	City of Vassar
Roger Coles	Central Michigan University
JoAnn Crary	Saginaw Future, Inc.
Ed Oberski	Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works
Frank Delano	Dow Chemical/Bay County
Christina Dillard	Buena Vista Charter Township
Philip Grimaldi	Saginaw County MPO (SMATS)
Lyn Knapp	ETConnection
Josh Ode	SVSU
Erik Rodriguez	Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Carl Ruth	Saginaw County Board of Commissioners
Don Schurr	Greater Gratiot Development Corporation
James Wheeler	Greater Gratiot Development Corporation

Agency Representatives:

Guests:

Maureen Daugherty	Mid-Michigan Transp. Connection & Roscommon County Transp.
Jamie Forbes	The New Ezekiel Project, Saginaw
John Winfrey	Merit Network , Central Michigan

EMCOG

David Engelhardt	Program Manager – Transportation
Jane Fitzpatrick	Program Manager – Economic Development/RPI Coordinator
Sue Fortune	Executive Director – EMCOG

1. Welcome and Introductions

The East Central Michigan Prosperity Region 5 (PR-5) Strategic Management Team meeting convened at 10:05 a.m. with introduction of all participants.

2. Review and Approval of Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda. Moved by Ruth, seconded by Carroll to approve the agenda as drafted. Motion carried

3. Meeting Schedule for 2017

The 2017 Proposed Meeting Schedule was sent out with the agenda. There was discussion of who could potentially host our meetings. Ed Oberski stated he could host in locations within five (5) of the eight (8) counties. Ms. Dillard indicated that Buena Vista Charter Township could host in February. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe offered to host as did the Greater Gratiot Development Corp. in Ithaca. The Bay-Arenac ISD and SVSU were also offered as potential sites. Jane will confirm with all and send out a meeting schedule with location information.

4. RPI Application for 2017

Jane reported that we have not yet heard what our funding level will be in 2017 but an announcement is expected shortly.

5. Presentation and Discussion: Merit, John Winfrey, Central Michigan Member Engagement Manager (www.merit.edu)

Mr. Winfrey provided an overview of the Merit Network and its history including past and present projects. He is fairly new to the organization and is doing extensive outreach through groups such as this. Of note was an increased emphasis on broadband networks, cyber-security etc. He stressed that Merit's goal is to connect agencies. There was extensive discussion among the meeting participants Mr. Winfrey distributed a brochure on the Network and urged all to visit their website.

6. Great Lakes Bay Transportation Summit: Jamie Forbes, The New Ezekiel Project

Ms. Forbes provided an overview of the New Ezekiel Project noting it is a faith based activity. She also discussed the January 27, 2017 Transportation Summit that will be held at SVSU and urged everyone to attend. A flyer for the Summit was distributed as well as a link to their website. www.TheEzekielProject.com Ed Oberski questioned if they were working with EMCOG on the project. Jane indicated that EMCOG is a partner for the summit and transit initiatives.

7. REMI Population Forecasts: 2017 to 2045: Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane distributed the latest data from REMI (Regional Economic Models, Inc.) on county demographic forecasts noting that these are done every three (3) years. The University of Michigan uses the REMI modeling to develop demographic and economic development data for MDOT. The 3 year update (2017) was just released in January of 2017 (last update was in 2014). There are several data sets. The first one which is summarized in the handout includes population forecasts by age groups for the PR-5 region as a whole and for each county. The age breakouts in the handout were selected by Jane to demonstrate changes in some major age groups to provide a resource for planning purposes.

Christina Dillard of Buena Vista Charter Township asked if more detailed data breakdowns could be obtained. Jane will check with our MDOT State Demographer to find out the schedule for release of more detailed data.

8. “The Prolonged Recovery of Michigan’s Taxable Values” (www.crcmich.org) : Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane provided an analysis of data from the Citizens Research Council on their recent report, “The Prolonged Recovery of Michigan’s Taxable Values.” Copies of the analyzed data, developed as a comparative table, were distributed and members were directed to the CRC website (www.crcmich.org). The report explains why Michigan’s taxable value has been so slow to recover from prior to its single state recession in 2001 followed by the Great Recession of 2008-2009.

Jane invited those attending the meeting to come to the January 27, 2017 RED Team meeting to hear Eric Luphner, President of Citizens Research Council of Michigan presenting the report. She also reminded the attendees that she had distributed the report a couple of weeks ago.

9. OTHER PROJECT UPDATES:

9.a. Residential Targeted Market Analysis (TMA): Jane Fitzpatrick

The final documents are on our EMCOG website: The documents include each county reports plus, per the request of this group, a 3 page summary document (with numerous tables) for each county and the 8 county regional workbook. The final county reports (dated December of 2016) now include a collage of photographs for each focus area plus suggested sites for residential units. MEDC has asked Jane how useful the documents are; she will be sending out an email asking for feedback over the next month.

There was an inquiry as to whether Jane could do a presentation on THE TMA to the Saginaw City Council. Jane reported that due to the complexity of the data and assumptions that the report contains she is not comfortable with doing an indepth presentation but would alert the consultant of the city’s desire for on, She also noted that the consultant has quoted a cost of \$2,000 to prepare a presentation for a specific county or city.

9.b. Regional Transit Mobility Strategy: Dave Engelhardt

Dave Engelhardt (EMCOG) provided an update on the process to date. Final plans are available and it appears to be that everyone is doing what they can with the money they have. EMCOG will be developing a summary of the Strategy Plan after all Phase III meetings have been held. The consensus across the region is that there is a need for better coordination and connection as well as improved software.

Dave will be attending the Transportation Summit on 27th and will be participating in a regional roundtable discussion on this and other topics.

9.c. Centers of Excellence: Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane reported that Scott Govitz is working on re-engerizing the Plastics focus area. Erik Rodriguez reported that they are working on Agricultural/Hops focus and are in receipt of proposals per their RFP. EMCOG is waiting on notice of the level of funding for PR-5 for 2017 regarding further funding to facilitate the focus area champions.

9.d. Quantifying Talent Study with SVSU: Jane Fitzpatrick

The project steering committee met with the SVSU team on Thursday, January 19th to review much data that has been collected and organized for 2-year and 4-year colleges and universities and certification programs. The data will be useful in a number of ways beyond the scope of this project. The next steps is to draft a written report which is being worked on now.

9. e. MEDC Region 5 Collaborative Business Attraction Plan: JoAnn Crary

JoAnn updated the attendees on the report which was unveiled in December 2016. At this time, Matt Felan of the Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance is in Germany to view businesses engaged in flexible packaging. They are also looking at agri-business. They have entered into a 2nd contract with Silverlode to identify 100 companies that are growing. The PR-5 RPI grant from 2016 in support of this initiative has resulted in the purchase of flash drives that will be available for distribution to potential businesses.

9.f. Iron Belle Trail Facilitation: Dave Engelhardt

EMCOG's facilitation of the Iron Belle Trail siting project continues into 2017. Bill Ernat, EMCOG Regional Planner, is the point person on this project with Dave Engelhardt assisting. EMCOG staff assisted in writing five (5) mini-grants for areas along the potential trail location.

10. Updates from Strategic Management Team Members and Guests

Don Schurr – Greater Gratiot Development Corporation

Don reported that there will be a new wind farm in Isabella and Gratiot counties. Also, the boat plants are expanding.

Jennifer Carroll – Delta College

Their Diesel Fast Start program continues and is so popular that they are offering a second training.

JoAnn Crary – Saginaw Future Inc.

Saginaw Future's 24th Annual Awards luncheon will be held February 17th with Mike Richardson, President of Nexteer as the keynote speaker.

Erik Rodriguez, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe

There will be a new 148 room hotel at the Saganing Casino. Additionally, their new sub-station is scheduled to go online in October 2017. Updates to the main casino in Mt. Pleasant are also planned.

Jamie Forbes – The New Ezekiel Project

Jamie reported on their work with the Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy on a pollinator project in the City of Saginaw

Ed Oberski – Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works

Ed reported that December was their biggest month ever in terms of job placement – 1,300 job openings filled. Ed does not have a precise breakdown at this time, but noted that in the past jobs filled tended to break down with the largest percentages in services and healthcare, followed by manufacturing at about 10%. Those three sectors tend to make up about 60-70% with the remainder split among many industries like IT, construction, auto repair, transportation, etc.

Josh Ode – SVSU

Reported that they are now offering a Masters in Social Work degree – their first class will be this fall.

Brian Chapman – City of Vassar

Reported on their pollinator gardens project initiative.

There being no other reports or business, the meeting concluded at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue

Sue Fortune

February 7, 2017, amended February 24, 2017

The Strategic Management Team is the RPI-5 Tier 1 Collaborative. A collaborative consists of two or more parties working together. There are three important characteristics of a collaborative organization:

1. A networked and non-hierarchical organization structure;
2. A culture of openness, honesty and trust, and
3. Engaged and valued stakeholdersⁱ

Meeting Guidelines

- * Participate in good faith, and in an effort to promote collective learning and good communication
- * Be honest, open-minded, and respectful when offering and listening to differing points of view. Disagree judiciously and respectfully.
- * Respect time commitments in the agenda, maintain focus on the issues and objectives at hand.
- * Be mindful of comment length and the importance of encouraging participation from everyone in the group. Agree briefly.
- * Be respectful regarding use of smart phones and other technologies.

2017 East Central Michigan Prosperity Region 5 Strategic Management Team Meeting Schedule

MEETING DATE	TYPE	TIME	HOST/LOCATION
January 24, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Saginaw Future Inc. Saginaw, Michigan
February 28, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Buena Vista Charter Township
March 28, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	TBD
April 25, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	TBD
May 23, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	TBD
June 27, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	TBD
July 25, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	TBD
August 22, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	TBD
September 26, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	TBD
October 24, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	TBD
November 28, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	TBD
December , 2017			No Meeting

NOTE: Members of the public are always welcome at any Strategic Management Team meeting

ⁱ <http://community.aiim.org/blogs/angela-ashenden/2013/04/16/what-is-a-collaborative-organisation>