

EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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FULL COMMISSION ORGANIZATION

Friday, January 27, 2017

City of Saginaw - Andersen Enrichment Center
Saginaw, MI

DRAFT MINUTES

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

The roll was call and a quorum was present.

Introduction of *New Members* and *Guests*

The Council welcomed the return of William Mrdeza to the Full Council along with Robert Redmond now representing Bay County.

November 4, 2016 Full Council Minutes

Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Byard, to approve November 6, 2016 Full Council minutes.
Motion carried.

Program Updates

Transportation Programs – Dave Engelhardt

Dave provided an update on the status of the Rural Task Force work throughout the 14-county Region. Most of the Task forces have met and are making good progress on their applications and projects for 2017. The Data base of programs is being updated and will be back up in about 2 weeks. Work is underway on the Small Urban projects for this year. Staff has also been in discussion with MDOT regarding an update to their Bay Region non-motorized plan and bike maps. Discussion followed.

RPI – Prosperity Region 5 - Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane reported that we expect to hear soon from the State regarding our 2017 Application.

Iron Belle Trail and Special Projects – Sue Fortune

Staff work continues on this important project and a staff report was distributed prior to the meeting as

part of the agenda packet. Bill has been working with Dave on the IBT project.

The five (5) Hazard Mitigation Plans are complete. We are waiting to sign a contract with Sanilac County to update their Hazard Mitigation Plan. Regarding Community Wildfire Protection Plans, which go hand in hand with the Hazard Mitigation Plans, funding for these plans can be made available if someone wishes to pursue them and DNR is advised in advance. Clare, Gladwin, Iosco and Arenac have indicated an interest in the next round of funding to be included for Community Wild Fire funds.

We have been advised all Local units of Governments must pass individual resolutions adopting their County's Hazard Mitigation plan to be individually eligible to apply for disaster funds. Discussion followed.

REPORTS

Chairman Moffit - Reported that he would like to recommend appointment of an alternate to the Michigan Association of Regions (MAR) bi-monthly meetings. He often faces a meeting conflict and having an alternate would be helpful. Moved by C/O'Farrell, supported by C/Methner to appoint Steve Erickson as Robert Moffit's alternate to the MAR Policy Board. Motion carried.

The Chair also reported that he is on the board for MME which will be in meeting next week in Kalamazoo for their annual conference. Among the discussion items likely will be the matter of counties taking DDA money. Work continues on the City of Gladwin EDA grant and things are going well.

Director's Report – Sue Fortune reported that in November, work concentrated on the 2017 RPI application submission as it was due December 1, 2016. In December, she met with Bay County regarding returning to EMCOG membership which proved to be valuable and worthwhile.

The EDA grant for City of Gladwin was finalized and submitted. In January staff participated via Zoom in the MAR meeting. Work continues on updating the website as well as ensuring that all Administrative requirements for access to Grants.Gov and Grants-On-Line are up to date.

Financial Report – C/Dworzecki (enclosed)

C/Dworzecki reviewed the Financial report for the Council. It was moved by C/Erickson, seconded by C/Mrdeza to approve and file the financial report. Motion Carried.

Report of the Nominating Committee:

C/Dworzecki, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported that each of the existing officers have indicated a desire to continue serving. He requested any other nominations from the floor three times. Hearing no other nominations from the floor, it was moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Byard to put forward the current slate of officers as the 2017 nominees. Motion carried.

Unanimously elected 2017 EMCOG officers:

Robert L. Moffit – Chairperson

Steve Erickson – 1st Vice Chair

Kathryn (Kathy) Methner – 2nd Vice Chair

Zygmunt Dworzecki – Treasurer
Donald (Jay) O'Farrell - Secretary

NEW BUSINESS

Signatures to all EMCOG legal documents: 2017 RESOLUTION 17-01:

Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Erickson to authorize any of the duly elected Officers to sign all EMCOG legal documents, checks, contracts, letters, commitment of local share, bank signature cards, etc. recognizing that in most cases it will be the Chairperson. Additionally, that any one of the Officers plus the Executive Director can sign accounts payable checks. On a roll call vote - Motion Carried.

2017 USDA – MDNR/DEQ grant opportunities: (This motion covers 2 specific grant program authorizations)

Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/O'Farrell, to authorize staff to review, prepare and apply for a) USDA grants in 2017 if applicable and match requirement can be met and b) apply for DEQ/DNR grants in 2017 if applicable and match requirement can be met and to authorize staff to prepare and apply for EDA additional planning funds in 2017. Motion Carried.

AMENDED 201-2019 EMCOG EDA Partnership Planning grant amendment – 2017 RESOLUTION – 17-02

Motion by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Methner to authorize the EMCOG Full Council to approve an invitation from USDOC/EDA to submit an amended request for increased funding to our 2016-2019 Grant award. Total amendment request - \$34,744 in federal funds matched by an additional \$23,163 in local share for a total revised grant of **\$321,047** (original awarded funding - \$263,140.00). In accordance with EDA's invitation; further, the resolution stipulates that the additional local share is available and unencumbered and authorizes the Chairperson to sign all documents, letters, etc., including the required declaration of additional local match availability and commitment. Motion carried by roll call.

2017 CEDS update finalization and submittal:

Moved by C/Mrdeza, seconded by C/Methner to authorize the RED Team and EMCOG staff to finalize and submit the 2017 CEDS update to EDA Chicago with copies to be provided to Full Board after submission for review, filing and distribution. Motion Carried.

2017-2018 MDOT Non-Motorized Plan and Bike Map update: Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Mrdeza to authorize staff to apply for MDOT non-motorized funding to update the MDOT Bay Region Non-Motorized Plan and Bike Map. Amount of funding, scope of work and project length to be determined based upon upcoming discussions with MDOT Bay Region Planner. Motion Carried.

MICHIGAN FEDERAL PROJECT REVIEW –

Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/Erickson 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.

Commissioner comments, reports, items of concern, etc.

Jay O'Farrell (Iosco County) – reported that Perchville will be this weekend and that there is an issue with Iron Belle Trail in Iosco County. Two (2) bridges over AuSable River are slated for reconstruction at the same time and one is the proposed IBT route. Discussions are ongoing as how to resolve this. A decision must be made by July.

Steve Erickson (Tuscola County) – work continues on a \$5 million-dollar grocery store project for Cass City along with a 13-million-dollar processing plant. Two locations are being explored. Working with MDOT to see what the incentives will be. It's a company that is coming from out of state.

Zyggy Dworzecki (Tuscola County) – reported they had to replace 400 motors on wind-mill farms in Fairgrove, Akron and Columbia Townships. Elmer Township denied the permit for wind mills because of noise issues.

Kasey Zehner (Gratiot County) - work is continuing on the County's Master Plan update which will be done this spring. Another wind park is planned for Gratiot County and part of Isabella County and work continues on the ZFS project.

Corey Schmidt (City of Marlette) – reported that in the Thumb region, 4 communities were selected for the MSU First Impressions Program. This is a Michigan State University Extension Office program.

Eric Rodriguez (Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe) – reported that the Tribe will break ground July 1st of this year on a new project at the Eagles Landing Casino in Arenac County. This project includes adding a 148-room hotel including restaurant and is anticipated to add 200 more jobs to Arenac County. The Tribe is also working with Michigan Community College and Middle Michigan Development Corporation and waiting to hear on the Hops Feasibility study. They should receive word within the next 2 weeks on hiring the consultant.

Robert Belleman (Saginaw County) – reported that they are busy preparing for the State of the County, State of the City address which is February 2nd at the Dow Event Center. They are also looking at budgetary issues and recently participated in Saginaw Future's Strategic Planning Process.

Adam Kroczaleski (Arenac County) – There is developing excitement in Arenac County regarding the Iron Belle Trail. The US-23 Heritage Route Authority plan to be the owners of the trail in terms of maintenance however the EDC is the applicant for the mini-grant because they had the cash up-front and the Heritage Route does not. The Heritage Route is in the process of applying for 501c3 status and will be starting an endowment fund along with Bay Area Community Foundation.

The County also passed a letter of support for the Omer to Au Gres portion of the trail and the design work which will be done. The County is working on getting the Township and cities to also do letters of support for the DNR to lease right of way from Lake State Railway for the Pinconning to Omer portion of the trail.

The County is also looking at moving the County Fairgrounds property and discussion on that continues. There is a Fair Board meeting coming up Tuesday and the new spot we are looking at is right along the

program. He thanked Kathy Methner for teaching board ethics. There is also other good news in Gladwin - a hospital-based multi-million Medical Center, located on M-61 east of town, was announced yesterday.

The Director took a moment to recognize the recent DNR trust fund awards in Clare, Gladwin, Midland, Huron Counties. Highly recommend you check out the 21st Century Infrastructure Report.

Bob Moffit – Again, welcome back to Bay County. Our next meeting is March in West Branch.

Adjournment 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Parker