

EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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East Central Michigan Prosperity Region 5

Strategic Management Team Meeting

August 25, 2015

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m

Michigan Works!

1409 Washington Street

Midland, MI 48642

MINUTES

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. Ed Oberski, Great Lakes Bay WRD Director, welcomed the ECM PR-5 Collaborative Strategic Management Team members to their Midland campus. Each member introduced themselves and identified the entity they represent.

Stakeholders Present:

Ed Oberski	Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works!	Workforce Development
Natasha Allen	Region 7B Michigan Works	Workforce Development
Jay Anderson	BCATS	MPO/Transportation
Maja Bolanowska	Midland Area Transportation Study	MPO/Transportation
Roger Coles	Interim Associate Vice Provost, CMU	Higher Education
Josh Ode	Associate VP for Academic Affairs (SVSU)	Higher Education
David Callejo Perez	Associate Provost, SVSU	Higher Education
Lyn Knapp	CEO/ETC	Adult Education
JoAnn Crary	President, Saginaw Future, Inc.	Economic Development (Telephone)
Scott Govitz	Director, M-TEC, MMDC	Higher Education (Telephone)
Jennifer Carroll	Director of Corporate Services, Delta College	Higher Education (Telephone)
Garrett Geer	Dir. Of Bs. Development/AKT Peerless	Private sector (Telephone)
Donald Schurr	President/GGDC	Economic Development (Telephone)
Bill Henderson	Aircraft Precision	Private Sector
Brad Kaye	City of Midland	Local Government

State Agencies/Departments

Brenda Flory – MEDC

Rex Ainslie – MDNR

Other Attendees

Tom Begin – Consumer Energy (Telephone)
Sara Dimitroff- City of Bay City Economic Development
Micki Gibbs, Midland county Great Start Collaborative Director, Midland Co. ESA
Sheryl Presler, Superintendent, Clare-Gladwin RESD

EMCOG:

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

Projects Update:

Jane provided an update on the 2015 RPI project today. This included the following:

Center for Excellence:

- TIP Strategies, Inc. of Austin, Texas was once again hired to assist in facilitation of the Center of Excellence Project which was identified by the SMT Collaborative as being the priority item for our 2nd year funding;
- A Task Force has been formed
- A Catalog is being developed
- Other tasks to be completed

Target Market Analysis

- This is a Prosperity Region (8-counties) based housing project
- EMCOG is the grantee
- We have received letters of commitment from all participants
- An RFP is being developed and should be out by 10/1/15
- A Vendor List of consultants has been supplied by MSHDA
- This is expected to be approximately a 9-month process
- Jane will provide an overview of the project to all that are interested.

Transit Mobility Study

Dave Engelhardt/EMCOG provided an update:

- A list of providers has been developed and distributed to the group
- There will be a meeting on September 30, 2015 (1:00 – 4:00) at the MDOT Bay Region Office in Saginaw.
- If you have any additions or corrections to the list, please get that information to Dave by next week.

GLBRA STEM

Matt Phelan was not present however Scott Govitz provided a brief overview via the telephone.

- There are four (4) colleges are working together to develop and recommend a strategy
- Each are working on independent parts of the project
- The recommendation(s) will be sent on to GLBRA between 10/1 and 10/15.
- Jane noted that the Mid-Michigan Community College Team, which she is a member of has been great.

MEDC Region 5 Collaborative Business Marketing Plan

JoAnn Crary reported – via telephone

- This marketing endeavor was funded by MEDC for \$75,000
- A consultant has been selected (site consultants)
- September 16-September 18th will be spent doing a Fam trip of the Great Lake Bay Region (8-County) highlighting our highway, rails, trails, ports, etc.
- The goal is to transition to GLBRA to do marketing for all of us.
- Three examples will be provided (for possible consideration)

Jane asked if the intent is for GLBRA to continue on an 8-county regional basis or just four (4). JoAnn noted that GLBRA will remain as a 4-county entity but some of their initiatives will go beyond (including economic development).

There was extensive discussion following regarding GLBRA participation, etc. Comments included but were not limited to:

- Is a 2-tiered structure being developed
- There should be 8-county coverage
- GLBRA should not present themselves as representing the entire region unless they cover the entire 8 counties
- Future funding tracks are concerning

A question and suggestion was made to see if Mr. Felan could come back to the ECM PR-5 SMT group next month – or whenever it works out for him – to bring us up to date. Jane will follow up with Mr. Felan.

Other Projects

Dredging

A question was raised regarding why this should be a priority project. JoAnn explained that it has been identified as a priority project to raise awareness as well as noting that GLBRA has identified its advocacy as a priority. She then provided background on the studies including, how long it is expected to take, funding, etc.

3. Michigan Works Update for RPI-5 – Ed Oberski

Ed provided an overview of the ongoing consolidation efforts being undertaken within Michigan in terms of workforce development. There were originally 25 WFD regions. Three years after each Region was encouraged by the State to consolidate, there were 24 regions.

Federal legislation changed 7/1/15 and the State saw an opportunity to move forward with continued consolidations. In our Prosperity Region, one (Central Area) dissolved itself, and Region 7B is appealing the decision to force their consolidation.

Ed, on temporary leave from GLB Michigan Works!, has been working to bring about consolidation of the existing WFD entities within ECM PR-5 into an 8 county group. At the end of July 2015, efforts to date fell

apart. He noted that he has encountered considerable suspicion from the counties with regard to agreeing (via required MOU's) to the State's directive. Region 7B has appealed the decision to force their consolidation to the State. If that appeal is denied, the matter will then likely be appealed upward to the federal level (USDOL). In the meantime, a number of scenarios could play out. Currently, efforts remain underway to consolidate PR-5 WFD groups into an 8-county entity. There was lengthy discussion.

RPI-5 2016 Grant Application – Discussion of scope of work and identification of potential projects

Jane reported that the Executive Committee will be reviewing what has been currently discussed. We anticipate receiving less funding this year than last but are looking at approximately \$75,000 for a sustainable project in 2016 along with funding to keep the RPI process moving forward.

Following lengthy discussion, the consensus was that the project should be focused on Workforce and Talent identification the scope of which will be identified prior to the application submission (12/1/15).

Updates from SMT members and Other:

- Rex Ainslie (MDNR) – There will be an upcoming public information meeting on a Recreational Trail authority in Gladwin County. In 2 weeks there will also be a Midwest Birding Symposium sponsored by the Michigan Audubon Society. It will be held at the Double Tree from September 9th through the 13th.
- Jane Fitzpatrick – will be attending an upcoming Great Lakes Visitors Bureau meeting to go over strategies, etc.
- Bill Henderson – September 23 – 24th, the Michigan Manufacturers are holding a meeting in Mt. Pleasant.
- Natasha Allen – On October 1st there will be a session on Skilled Trades – please contact Natasha for additional information.

There being no other business to come before the group, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Sue

Sue Fortune
EMCOG
September 15, 2015