

East Michigan Council of Governments

3144 Davenport Avenue, Suite 200, Saginaw, MI. 48602

Phone: 989-797-0800, Fax: 989-797-0896

www.emcog.org



EMCOG FULL COUNCIL & RED TEAM MEETING
Friday, September 14, 2018
Saganing Outreach Center/5447 Sturman Road
Standish, MI 48658

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by Chairperson Robert Moffit. Members were welcomed to Arenac Saganing Outreach Center.

The roll was called, and a quorum was present. The Chair also recognized MEDC's Tribal Representative Tom Durkee and welcomed all to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan's Saganing Outreach Center in Standish, Michigan.

Review and approval of the agenda.

There were no changes to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by C/ Mrdeza, seconded by C/Dworzecki to approve July 13, 2018 Full Council minutes. Motion Carried.

Reports

Chairman's Report – The Chair again welcomed all to the meeting and noted that being retired was good.

Director's Report – The Director reported that during the period July – August she had worked on the following: MAR meeting-Lansing, completion of the RLF Plan, work on the 2019 Budget, held an Executive Committee Meeting, continued the Personnel Manual update, completed the RPI VI Application, Executed the RRC Contract extension, renewed EMCOG's SAM registration and attended a meeting in Cass City on the benefits of EMCOG membership. Work was also undertaken on the Asset Management Culvert Project pilot. Copies of the DNR's Outdoor Initiative Impact are also available for anyone that would like one.

Treasurer's Report – presented by C/Dworzecki

Moved by C/Mrdeza, seconded by C/Kroczaleski to receive and file the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Integrated Economic Development Reports:

Transportation Staff report – The Transportation staff report was previously mailed with the agenda. Dave Engelhardt did report further on: The status of the A/M Culvert Inventory Project, the new TIP for Rural task force and small urban areas and learning to use the new MDOT data base called Job Net. There will be training on the new process. The Director also added that it appears the Governor will be getting involved in the ongoing road construction/labor issue.

Special Projects Report – The Special Project staff report was previously mailed with the agenda. Bill Ernat reported further on: That he will be meeting with AuGres next week as there are issues with Omer/AuGres area trail and the Bay County Hazard Mitigation application is in the approval process. Work continues on the MDOT Non-motorized Bike Plan and map update. The contract has been extended through April 2019.

ECM PR-5 & Other Projects - Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane reported that 18 projects were funded in under our RPI Mini/Micro grant program. The 2019 RPI application has been submitted and funding for the continuation of these programs was included in that application. She also reported on the EDA Disaster Supplemental for 2018, the Michigan infrastructure Asset Management Pilot Executive summary, the status of the Michigan Infrastructure Council (MIC) and the Water Asset Management Council along with the Michigan Broadband Roadmap.

Presentation: Bob VanWert of the Saginaw Indian Tribe of Michigan

Mr. VanWert reported a Tribal Projects update indicating that they are on pace with the hotel construction expansion project budget and should be able to open mid to late summer next year. The hotel will have 148 rooms including 8 suites, a 200 seat restaurant, a 100-seat lounge and 300 slot machines on the floor. The Utility Core is currently running at 75-80% installed. They will soon have their own sub-station construction. The Chair also stated that finding the talent pool for the hotel and other expansions at Saganing Eagle is a challenge noting that there will be 170+ positions available for which recruitment will be required. The bulk of the hiring will occur in March and April of 2019.

The Tribe is now on its own water system in Arenac County. The all-inclusive, self-contained treatment and supply system was built 6 years ago. White's Beach in Standish Township will also be hooking up to the SCIT water system. Discussion followed.

2019 Work Program and Budget

Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/O'Farrell to approve of the proposed 2019 budget and work program with adjustments as needed. Motion carried.

2018 Budget revision

Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/O'Farrell to authorize the Executive Director, with assistance from the Chairperson to finalize the 2018 budget revision by 9/30/18 along with any remaining fiscal year program requirements. Motion carried.

Resolution 18-2 – 2019 ECM PR-5 RPI application

Moved by Dworzecki, seconded by O'Farrell that the EMCOG Full Council approve Resolution 18-2 in support of the 2019 PR-5 Regional Prosperity Initiative application which will also include an Integrated Asset Management budget item. **Roll Call vote Yes All (8) – No (0) Motion carried.**

2019 RPI Application Cover letter

Moved by C/Mrdeza, seconded by C/Dworzecki to authorize Chairperson, Robert L. Moffit and Executive Director Sue Fortune to sign and submit the cover letter transmitting the 2019 PR-5 RPI application to the State of Michigan when due. Motion carried.

ECM RLF 2018 Plan Certification

Moved by C/Dworzecki, seconded by C/O'Farrell to authorize the Chairman's signature and submission to USDOC/EDA of the 2018 RLF Plan Certification. Motion carried.

MICHIGAN FEDERAL PROJECT REVIEW

Moved by C/Dworzecki, Seconded by C/Mrdeza 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 carried.

EMCOG Full Council member reports

Wanda Dziwura, USDA-Rural

USDA is approaching the end of the fiscal year. During this year a significant amount of money went out for water and sewer community programs.

Bob Balzer, Gladwin County Economic Development Corporation

Bob is continuing his role to work with projects that Bob Moffit started, including bike pathways. He is seeking to secure a piece of industrial park property for a local manufacturer to do a significant expansion; The official ground breaking for St. Gobain plastics has happened: this will be a \$23M expansion He and the City and others are working on infrastructure funding to support this expansion. The Governor was in Gladwin County for the Rising Tide Community Program.

Mary Bourbina, City of Zilwaukee

She has been in her position as the city manager for 4 months. She has nothing to report and is here to "take it all in".

Randall Claramunt, MDNR Lake Huron Basin Coordinator

Mr. Claramunt reported that there were 6 million angler hours in 2000. The number has dropped to less than 2 million recently. It is believed that millennial women are going to drive the angler movement. The Lake Sturgeon program has started including an Adopt a Sturgeon program. A grant exceeding \$1 million grant has been awarded to restore reefs in the Saginaw Bay. Kids can paint a rock as part of the restoration of the Reef which will consist of two acres of fish habitat spawning areas in the Bay. They are also pursuing an Atlantic Salmon and Coho Salmon program in Lake Huron next year. Discussion followed.

Tom Durkee, MEDC Tribal Economic Development

The MEDC Tribal Economic Development office has been operating since 2011 in support of 12 federally recognized tribes in Michigan. There is only \$1.3 million in funding statewide, but it can be used as match for federal and state monies.

Adam Kroczaleski, Arenac County Commission

There is not much to report on as everything is currently in a holding pattern.

Lisa Barna, Arenac County EDC and Michigan Works

The fairgrounds relocation feasibility study is being done at this time. They will first determine which property is best.

Jay O'Farrell, Iosco County Commission

Road construction on US 23 is ongoing. The Mill Street bridge work will be coming to a completion soon which will stop the rerouting of traffic and create links into the bicycle path. EMCOG helped Iosco a great deal with the grants.

Bill Mrdeza, City of Mt Pleasant

The City is working through the hurdles regarding a proposed medical marijuana processing plant. Also, there is a development agreement with a company out of Lansing for the property next to City Hall. American Mitsubishi is looking at a possible plant expansion in the area and is seeking incentives through MEDC. The city is in the RFP process for a new master plan, hoping to start this year yet with a mid-2020 adoption. The Mid Michigan Pathways Trail is being built primarily along US 127 from Ithaca to Clare. Some segments such as the Shepherd to Mt Pleasant segment are done. The City is in the final stages of the RRC certification process.

Zygy Dworzecki, Tuscola County

There is talk of a processing plant for soybeans with a rail spur in Indianfields Township.

Dave Rowley, MSU Extension

The full Citizen Planner program will be offered in Mt Pleasant - starting on September 27th Extension is working on a fiscal sustainability 6-part program to hopefully be ready by January 2019. A new land division class will be held in East Lansing on October 2nd. Extension is also currently developing a planning and zoning for alternative energy program.

Mandi Chasey, Ogemaw County EDC and Michigan Works

She is a Secord Lake grouchy resident due to the lowered water levels. The Ogemaw County Manufacturing Day is October 5th with a technology focus. The County Economic Outlook is October 23th with a healthcare focus. A daycare survey has been sent out as priority of the West Branch Rising Tide Initiative. Housing is another priority. A mini grant from NEMCOG through the Prosperity Region 3 initiative is funding an agriculture directory.

Bob Moffit, Former Manager, City of Gladwin

Bob reminded everyone that the next meeting of the EMCOG Council is November 2nd. He noted that retired in July from City of Gladwin. He is working with Jerry Nelson of the City of Standish on a number of items including a DDA plan for Standish.

There being no other business to come before the Council, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Parker
Recording Secretary