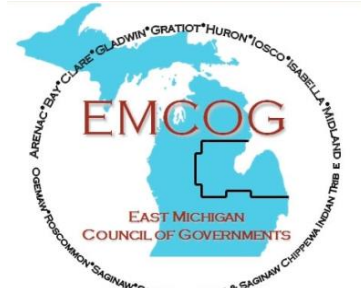


# EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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## Minutes of the ECM PR-5 Strategic Management Team

### Date, Time and Location:

February 28, 2017 | 10:00 a.m.

Buena Vista Charter Township Hall | 1160 South Outer Drive | Saginaw, MI 48601

### Participants:

Natasha Allen	Michigan Works 7B
Maja Bolanowska	Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS)
Doug Bush	Gratiot Isabella RESD
Jennifer Carroll	Delta College
Roger Coles	Central Michigan University
Chris Dillard	Buena Vista Charter Township
Scott Govitz	Mid-Michigan Community College
Ed Oberski	Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works
Dan Peterson	EightCAP Inc. and MichiganWorks
Don Schurr	Greater Gratiot Development Corporation
James Wheeler	Greater Gratiot Development Corporation

### Agency Representatives:

Nicole Alexander	Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency, Region 5
David Rowley	MSU Extension Govt. and Public Policy Educator (PR-5 and PR-6)

### Guests

### EMCOG

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

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am. Introductions were made for those present as well as those calling in.

### 2. Review and Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with no changes.

### 3. Discussion of PR-5 Funding and Programs for 2017: Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane provided a recap of the PR-5 Tier 1 structure and a handout of a line item review of our revised and approved budget for 2017 of a total of \$180,897 from the application which was for \$250,000. The priority of the Strategic Management Team for 2017 is re-granting (a Mini-grant program) which has

been reduced from the \$160,000 requested in the application to the approved amount of \$100,000. Jane asked for input from the group as to how to structure this program and offered that establishing a sub-committee to determine criteria as well as the prioritization process has been working well in other regions and could be an option for PR-5.

It was also noted that Placemaking is one of our five (5) identified goal areas which has also been working well in other RPI regions.

There was discussion among the group. It was also note that William (Bill) Mrdeza, Mt. Pleasant Economic and Community Development Director, who is a member of the SMT but not able to attend the meeting today, has volunteered to be on a sub-committee if that is the option the SMT chooses.

Jennifer Carroll of Delta recommended establishing a subcommittee to establish and expedite the process and volunteered to also be on such a committee.

Ed Oberski stressed that the Committee needs to ensure good geographic balance and expressed concerns about an applicant also being a member of a deciding committee or group. There was discussion on this including whether the sub-committee or the SMT as a whole would score the applications and whether or not to limit or restrict the applicants.

Following discussion, the following SMT members volunteered to be on the Mini-grant subcommittee:

- Don Schurr
- Bill Mrdeza
- Jennifer Carroll
- Scott Govitz
- Natasha Allen
- Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane suggested that the subcommittee determine the mechanics of the process first and that the SMT group as a whole select the projects for funding. This seemed to be the consensus of those in attendance. Jane will also do a Doodle survey as to time, place for the sub-committee meeting but will first send out a notice to all of the SMT to see if anyone not present at today's meeting would like to be a part of the sub-committee.

#### **4. Quantifying Talent Study Status Update: Jane Fitzpatrick**

The first draft (120 pages) is complete and includes an individual profile for each county. Revisions are underway based on comments provided by the project Steering Committee. The group will be convening to meet for review of final revisions. SVSU is in the process of preparing a summary of talking points for the study which will be distributed to the Steering Committee for review. The study should be done by the end of March/first of April. A small amount of money is left over from 2016 to set up benchmarks as a future activity.

#### **5. U of M REMI Economic & Demographic Data: Jane Fitzpatrick**

Since 1994 the University of Michigan Institute for Research on Labor, Employment, and the Economy has produced long-term economic and demographic forecasts for MDOT, the MPOs and the Regional Planning Agencies. The latest data forecasts were released in January of 2017. EMCOG now has data sets with forecasts through 2045 for each of the fourteen EMCOG counties. The data sets plus the report "*Economic and Demographic Outlook for Michigan Through 2045*" are all available on the EMCOG website ([www.emcog.org](http://www.emcog.org)). There are five data sets for each county:

- Population Forecasts Through 2045
- Household Forecasts Through 2045
- Employment Forecasts Through 2045
- Shipments (Sales) Through 2045, and
- Income and GDP Through 2045

EMCOG anticipates receiving population and household data breakouts by Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZ) within the next couple of months. Don Schurr noted that he would like to be able to report to elected officials where they are “on the slope” in both Michigan and compared region to region. He asked if such an analysis be done. Jane stated that such a study would be very useful and would take some time to compile. Further discussions are anticipated.

## **6. OTHER PROJECT UPDATES:**

### **6.A. Target Market Analysis: Jane Fitzpatrick**

This project is complete and all of the county documents plus the regional resource guide have been posted on the EMCOG website. EMCOG would like to receive feedback as to the report’s usefulness.

### **6.b. Rural Transit Mobility: Dave Engelhardt**

Dave 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 and next steps after all Phase III meetings have been held. The consensus across the region is that there is a need for better and more uniform coordination and technology which would include improved software.

EMCOG staff participated in the Transportation Summit on 1/27/17 and we are awaiting the results of that summit from The New Ezekiel Project.

Maja noted that they have also concluded in Midland, where they are doing a significant transit study, that a regional approach is the best way to go.

### **6.c. Centers of Excellence: Jane Fitzpatrick**

Jane reported that the PR-5 budget for 2017 includes funding to push forward the focus areas. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe’s Hops feasibility project is underway. Scott Govitz reported that MMCC is having internal discussions with agriculture producers and how turf management could be integrated with plastics. It was noted that MSU has a Turf Management program which is a 2-year graduate program.

### **6.d. MEDC Region 5 Collaborative Business Attraction Plan:**

Don Schurr, Greater Gratiot Development Corporation, noted that since the strategy was rolled-out in December of 2016 there are plans for trips to Europe and other areas. There will also be more work with Silverlode Consulting in terms of marketing. Jane asked if the report was public. Discussion indicated that while it is not secret there is a desire to not disseminate the report. It was suggested that we invite Matt Felan to our next meeting and request a small written summary for the group as we look at our strategy to make sure we are consistent with what has been developed.

### **6.e. Iron Belle Trail Facilitation: Dave Engelhardt**

EMCOG’s work on this project continues for four counties: Arenac, Bay, Saginaw and Tuscola.

**6.f. MDOT Bay Region Non-Motorized Plan Update: Dave Engelhardt**

EMCOG staff are in the initial stages of establishing a work plan and budget for this MDOT requested project.

**7. UPDATES FROM STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT TEAM MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

***Dave Rowley – MSU Extension***

Mr. Rowley introduced himself and stated that he is covering Prosperity Regions 5 and 6 for MSU Extension. He is located in Mt. Pleasant in the Isabella County Building and has expertise in governance, land use and tax specialties.

***Don Schurr – Greater Gratiot Development Corporation***

Don reported that there are many projects ongoing in Gratiot County with wind being the most substantial focus. Work also continues on the Zeeland Farm Services project. The plant site will be east of Ithaca and there is an expectation of 300 trucks per day with a fully operational date set for Fall of 2018. This is complicated by the work ongoing on US-127. Also boat manufacturing expansions are expected to create 100 new jobs over the next 2-3 years with facilities in St. Louis and Alma.

***Jennifer Carroll – Delta College***

The Diesel Fast Start program continues and is so popular that Delta is offering a second training.

***Scott Govitz – Mid Michigan Community College***

There is a new program being developed in conjunction with the Great Lakes Bay STEM initiative.

***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. These are primarily service jobs (60-70%) followed by manufacturing (10%) and the balance spread among transportation, auto repair, etc.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other reports or business, the meeting concluded at 11:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sue Fortune  
March 2, 2017

NOTE: the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 10:00 am at SVSU

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 stakeholders<sup>i</sup>

**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	SVSU (specific site TBD)
April 25, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Clare-Gladwin RESD
May 23, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Michigan Works Midland, Michigan
June 27, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Gratiot-Isabella RESD
July 25, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Michigan Works Clare, Michigan
August 22, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Michigan Works Gladwin, Michigan
September 26, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Ziibiwing Center Mt Pleasant
October 24, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Bay-Arenac ISD
November 28, 2017	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Michigan Works Midland, Michigan
December , 2017			<b>No Meeting</b>

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

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