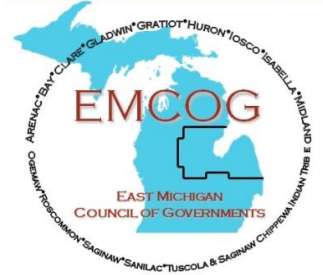


EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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Minutes of the EMCOG REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (RED) TEAM Approved September 8, 2017

Meeting Date: Friday, July 14, 2017

Meeting Time: **11:45 A.M.**

Location: East Tawas City Hall | 760 Neuman St. | East Tawas, MI 49343

Attendees:

RED Team	Sandra Aultman, Blinda Baker, Bob Balzer, Lisa Barna, Tracy Byard, Mandi Chasey, Zygy Dworzecki, Steve Erickson, Gary Kellan, Pat Killingbeck, Kristi Kozubal, Kathy Methner, Robert Moffit, Bill Mrdeza, Rosalie Myer, Jay O'Farrell, Erik Rodriguez, Gary Stefanko
EMCOG	David Engelhardt, Bill Ernat, Jane Fitzpatrick
Guests	Wanda Dziwura, USDA Rural Development Area Specialist; Jonathan Jarosz, Executive Director, Heart of the Lake; Patty O'Donnell, MDOT Transportation Planner

1. Call to order, Welcome and Introductions

The RED team meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by Chair Kathy Methner. Attendees introduced themselves.

2. Review and Approval of Agenda

Zygy Dworzecki moved and Steve Erickson supported a motion to approve the agenda as proposed. The motion carried.

3. Review and Approval of May 5, 2017 RED Team Minutes

A motion to approve the May 5, 2017 minutes as presented was made by Zygy Dworzecki and supported by Bill Mrdeza. The motion carried.

4. Chairperson Updates: Kathy Methner

Kathy announced that her retirement date is September 1st of this year. Pam O'Laughlin has been hired to replace her. Kathy will remain as chair of the RED Team until her current term is up at the end of the calendar year.

5. *Fun Hogs and the Experience Economy*: Jonathan Jarosz, Executive Director, Heart of the Lakes

Jonathan gave an engaging presentation of the power of the outdoor experience and what incredible assets we have here. His presentation included two videos to start and end the discussion: one focused on wind surfing in the Tawas Bay and the other focused on fly fishing in the Midland area. To quote from Heart of the Lakes...*"At the core of our work is an understanding of people's connection to land and water – how it enriches our lives, defines our sense of place, and provides for our most vital needs."* www.heartofthelakes.org His closing comments included the following:

- The new Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) draft is coming out soon for public review and comment. (the current SCORP covers the years 2013-2017) We are advised to provide comment; it is key for state funding
- Parks and Recreation Plans: take a look at your local plans and note who wrote them; are the plans serving your community?
- Embrace the outdoor recreation cluster as part of your economic development strategy.

6. Updates from EMCOG:

6.a. Prosperity Region 5 Mini Grants: Jane Fitzpatrick

EMCOG received fourteen applications totaling \$240,000 in requests for the \$100,000 in funds. The PR-5 Strategic Management Team grant subcommittee (6 members) reviewed and scored each project. Rankings were compiled and the subcommittee is meeting on Monday, July 17th to review and formulate recommendations to the full Strategic Management Team which will meet on July 25th to finalize the grant awards. Announcements will be made by August 1st.

6.b. Regional Water Strategy: Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane highlighted actions since the May 5th RED Team meeting. The Steering Committee met on May 12, 2017. The meeting included the following:

- A discussion with Jon Allen (Director of the Office of the Great Lakes) of the connection between our efforts in the region and the Statewide Water Strategy.
- A presentation by Dr Al Steinman of GVSU on Watershed Management Frameworks with two options for the Steering Committee to consider.
- A discussion of governance structure and Saginaw Bay Water Strategy issues with Jon Allen and Al Steinman;
- A discussion of an opportunity to apply for foundation funding; and
- A discussion of next steps: schedule a meeting in July/August to develop initial funding proposal concepts.

6.c. Hazardous Storms/Resiliency Initiative: Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane summarized the outreach priorities based on the survey results from the May 5th RED Team meeting and noted that what the steering committee thought was going to be a difficult task of getting the attention of stakeholders does not appear to be an issue after the recent storm events. The RED Team priorities are:

1. Increase awareness of extreme storms and their consequences as a significant threat to community health, safety and economic stability particularly among decision makers.

2. Promote tool that help local communities assess risks to their critical infrastructure. There are several tools available to help communities determine if the actual risk of damage to critical infrastructure is as low as the perceived impact would suggest.
3. Host workshops to introduce regional stakeholder to available planning tools related specifically to watershed needs including public health impacts of extreme storms, stormwater management, and accurate forecasting for flooding and high winds.

Next Steps: Planning is underway for a workshop for local officials/planners/others sometime in early December.

6.d. State of the Bay 2017 Conference: Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane referred to the registration and agenda materials and noted that there is still time to register at www.stateofthebay2017.org but that space on the Appledore is limited so it is a first come first serve for the after conference reception and sail.

6.e. Hazardous Mitigation Plans: Bill Ernat

Bill referred to his report in the Council Agenda packet. Copies were distributed to the RED Team.

6.f. Iron-Belle Trail Facilitation : Jane Fitzpatrick for Bill Ernat

Bill referred to his report in the Council Agenda packet. Copies were distribution to the RED Team.

6.g. Regional Transit Mobility: Dave Engelhardt

Dave reviewed the executive summary for this initiative with the RED Team. The executive summary was provided as a handout.

6.h. Regional Non Motorized: Plan and Maps: Dave Engelhardt

EMCOG is now under contract with MDOT to update the plan and maps for a 15 county area. He will be looking through existing parks and recreational plans and non-motorized plans to build an inventory. At some point he will be asking for input from the RED Team and others.

6.1. 21st Century Infrastructure Report: Michigan Infrastructure Asset Management Advisory Board: Jane Fitzpatrick

The next full steering committee meeting is August 4th.

7. Other: Parking Lot Items

(Discussion items requested by RED Team members and/or guests during the meeting)

No additional items were added for group discussion.

8. Updates from RED Team Members and Guests

Zygy Dworzecki, Tuscola County (At Large)

There will be an opportunity to provide comments on the Lake Huron Lakewide Action & Management Plan (LAMP). Zygy will send the information to Jane to send out to the RED Team.

Patty O'Donnell, MDOT Transportation Planner

Patty distributed copies of the 2017 MDOT road construction map for the Northern Region.

Wanda Dziwura, USDA Rural Development

Wanda distributed a handout with information regarding a Rural Community Assistance Program "Rural and Small Systems Sustainable Utility Management" workshop to be held on July 18th.

Gary Stefanko, Roscommon County Commission

Noting marijuana issues in the county he distributed materials for the Roscommon County alcohol and drug prevention program and website link: www.get-the-facts.org/choice.

9. Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the RED Team the meeting was adjourned by Chair Kathy Methner at 1:40 pm.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: September 8, 2017 at 11:45 a.m. The Garfield Inn, Port Austin

2017 RED TEAM MEETING SCHEDULE

MONTH	TYPE	TIME	LOCATION
January 27, 2017	Full RED Team	11:45 am	Andersen Enrichment Center Saginaw, MI
March 3, 2017	Full RED Team	11:45 am	Michigan Works West Branch, MI
May 5, 2017	Full RED Team	11:45 am	Riverwalk Place Gladwin, MI
July 14, 2017	Full RED Team	11:45 am	City Hall Council Room East Tawas, MI
September 8, 2017	Full RED Team	11:45 am	The Garfield Inn Port Austin, MI
November 3, 2017	Full RED Team	11:45 am	Roscommon Area District Library Roscommon, MI

RED Team meetings begin at 11:45 a.m. following 10:00 a.m. Full Council meetings. Lunch will be available at the meeting site upon adjournment of the Council meeting at approximately 11:30 a.m. for those who wish to participate prior to the start of the RED Team meeting. The lunch cost is \$10.00 per person unless otherwise specified for a particular meeting.

NOTE: Members of the public are always welcome at any EMCOG RED Team meeting.

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.