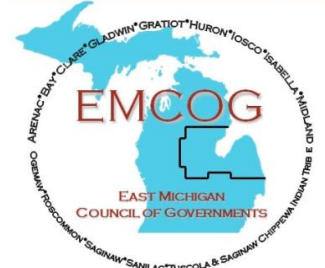


EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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Approved Minutes of the July 9, 2021

EMCOG REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (RED) TEAM

Meeting Date and Time: Friday, July 9, 2021 at Noon

Location: This was a virtual meeting accessible from a computer, tablet or smartphone

Attendees:

RED Team	Brenda Bachelder, Bob Balzer, Ed Bergeron, Tracy Byard, Terri Close, Frank Clouthier, Zygy Dworzecki, Jamie Forbes, Scott Govitz, Trevor Keyes, Sheryl Presler, Jim McBryde, Bill Mrdeza, Michael Nunneley, Pam O'Laughlin, Carl Ostentoski, Robert Redmond, Joel Vernier, Nicole Wilson, Bill Wright
EMCOG	Jane Fitzpatrick, Bill Ernat, Cynthia Edwards, Cody Bodrie
Guests	Chelsea Beckman, MEDC; Heath Bobick, MI EGLE; Maja Bolanowska, MATS; Mary Bourbina, City of Zilwaukee; Claire Bunker, MiSTEM Network; Brady Cameron, R.C. Hendrick & Son; Dylan Hellus, Governor's Office; Jackie Morgan, USDA-Rural; Karen Moore, Gladwin County Commission; Tim Muckenthaler, Roscommon County Commission; Rodney Nanny, Union Township; Laura Ogar, Bay County; Amos O'Neal, Representative, 95 th District; Bryce Paulsen, USDA Rural; Robert Schneider, Roscommon County Commission; Clara Sherman, MiWorks 7B and Develop Iosco; Lee Shirey, Department of Commerce EDA; Ryan Smith, BCATS; Jason Wentworth, Representative, 97 th District; Dale Wiltse, City of Au Gres

- 1. Call to order, Welcome, Introductions:** Robert Balzer, RED Team Chair
The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm. A quorum was confirmed and those present introduced themselves.
- 2. Review and Approval of Agenda** (action item)
A motion was made and supported to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed with none opposed.
- 3. Review and Approval of May 7, 2021 RED Team Minutes** (action item)
A motion was made and supported to approve the May 7, 2021 RED Team Minutes. The motion passed with none opposed.

4. **Chairperson Update:** Robert Balzer

Bob noted that he frequently reaches out to this group and to Jane Fitzpatrick for resources and wants to thank those who respond to him. The latest outreach had to do with public art. Also he noted that the ARPA funds are coming out and he wants to hear from those here how they are planning to spend the ARPA money and also how broadband is being planned. He noted that we may start a hybrid meeting format in September with a combination of in-person and virtual options.

5. **Representative Jason Wentworth, Speaker of the House** - Representing District 97

Representative Wentworth gave a comprehensive overview of existing and emerging issues within the district and the region and state including his focus areas. There was time for Q and A with an invitation to contact his office.

6. **Governor's Office Update** - Dylan Hellus, Bay Regional Liaison for Governor Whitmer

Dylan's comments focused on the ARPA funding for MI Jump Start – a focus on the Main Street Initiative. Through the MI Economy Jump-Start there will be an additional \$300 million pot of money to go to local governments to use at their discretion. He also noted that Huron County was added to the Governor's most recent disaster declaration. Representative Amos O-Neal (District 97) noted that he is optimistic about the bi-partisan support right now.

7. **U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration** - Lee Shirey, Economic Development Representative for Michigan.

Lee's comments were focused on the \$30.0 billion of ARPA funds that EDA received. Among the expanded list of funding priorities for the ARPA funds the big one is "equity" and disadvantaged and underserved communities. The six Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs) with different areas of focus will be released next week. The core NOFO will be for Economic Adjustment Assistance which has been a focus since the 1970's. There will be a strategic focus for states, tribes, workforce, coal-impacted communities, tourism and outdoor recreation, and industry sector work. EDA will be making major investments to move industry sectors forward. Lee cannot talk about the NOFAs until they are released but did say that the money must be awarded by September of 2022. **Final notes: Local municipalities ARPA money cannot be used for EDA project match and EDA grants cannot be matched with other federal grants except CDBG.**

8. **EMCOG Data Hub and Website Survey** – Cynthia Edwards, EMCOG

Cynthia provided a recorded presentation of the GIS data hub she is developing and the COVID Hub that is now available on the website. She also discussed the online survey that is now active to solicit comments and suggestion/critiques of the existing website and suggests for redevelopment of the website.

9. CEDS Implementation Update – Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane noted that the implementation matrix is becoming melded into the work on the GIS Data Hub and asset management data collection and grant development through CARES and ARPA. There will be more time to work on this now that the multiple FEMA meetings have come to an end. The result of those meetings which focused on long term strategies will also be incorporated in the CEDS and recovery plans moving forward.

10. Integrated Economic & Community Development Activities: EMCOG Staff

Jane noted the written reports which had been sent out prior to the meeting. The only item emphasized from the report from her and Cynthia Edwards is the information regarding the 2020 Census data release dates. Also regarding the ALICE data, Representative O’Neal requested a report of Saginaw County. There were no questions on the other staff reports.

11. Partner Updates

Chelsea Beckman, MEDC

Chelsea noted that the City of Gladwin is now a Redevelopment Ready Community (RRC).

Michael Nunneley, GLB and NE Region SBDC

The SBDC has added two consultants to work with small businesses in the Saginaw Bay area.

12. Good of the Order

Zyggy Dworzecki, Member at Large (Tuscola County)

Zyggy noted the Windows new security update.

Bill Mrdeza, City of Mt Pleasant

Bill noted that the city’s EDA grant project is now complete.

Representative Amos O’Neal - House District 95

Representative O’Neal is holding a community coffee meeting on July 15th with representatives from MEDC and the Michigan Bankers Association for the purpose of discussing ways to maximize tax credits.

13. Adjourn

There being no further business, the RED Team meeting was adjourned at 2:42 pm

2021 RED TEAM MEETING SCHEDULE

MONTH	TYPE	TIME	LOCATION
January 15, 2021	Full RED Team	Noon	Virtual Meeting*
March 5, 2021	Full RED Team	Noon	Virtual Meeting*
May 7, 2021	Full RED Team	Noon	Virtual Meeting*
July 9, 2021	Full RED Team	Noon	Virtual Meeting*
September 10, 2021	Full RED Team	Noon	Virtual Meeting*
November 5, 2021	Full RED Team	Noon	TBD

*Contact jfitzpatrick@emcog.org for information.

RED Team meetings begin at Noon following 10:00 AM Full Council meetings. **Unless a virtual meeting**, lunch will be available at the meeting site upon adjournment of the Council meeting at approximately 11:30 AM for those who wish to participate in lunch 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.