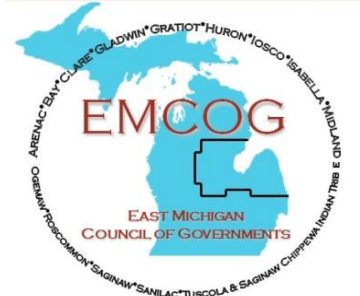


# EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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**Approved Minutes of the  
EMCOG REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (RED) TEAM  
( a joint meeting with the EMCOG Council – Council Minutes on action items will be in a separate  
record of minutes)**

Meeting Date: Friday, May 3, 2019  
Meeting Time: 10:00 am  
Location: Riverwalk Place | 777 West Cedar | Gladwin, MI 48624

Attendees:

<b>RED Team</b>	<b>Bob Balzer, Tracy Byard, Zygy Dworzecki, Heath Kaplan, Gary Kellan, Pat Killingbeck, Bill Mrdeza, D.Jay O’Farrell, Bob Redmond, Brian Smith, Joel Vernier, Bill Wright</b>
<b>EMCOG</b>	<b>David Engelhardt, Bill Ernat, Jane Fitzpatrick, Sue Fortune, Lynn Parker</b>
<b>Guests</b>	<b>Ed Bergeron, Roscommon County EDC; Yvonne Broderick, City of Pinconning; Stephanie Buffman, Arenac County EDC/MiWorks; Terri Close, Hampton Twp.; Paula Gromak, USDA-Rural; Dawn Hoder, City of Pinconning; Steve Jonas, Saginaw Future Inc.; Dena Kish, USDA-Rural; Alexander Nikoloff, MDOT; Pam O’Laughlin, Middle MI Development Corp; David Rowley, MSU Extension; Chris Shannon, City of Gladwin; Donna Samyo, Hampton Township, Robert Stalker, Municipal Management Consulting; Harold Woolhiser, Arenac County Commission</b>

**PRESIDING: William R. Mrdeza, EMCOG Council Chairperson**

- A. Call to Order** *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*
- B. Roll call and determination of Council quorum, welcome and introductions:** *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*

**C. Approval of Agenda:** *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*

**D. Review of March 1, 2019 minutes for approval:** *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*

**E. Program Updates**

1. Chairman's Update – *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*
2. Director's Update – *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*
3. Financial Report – *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*

**F. Staff Reports: Written**

1. Transportation Programs: *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*
2. Integrated Economic Development Activities *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*
3. Special Projects updates & Iron Belle Trail: *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*
4. PR-5 2019 Grant program: Jane Fitzpatrick: *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*

**G. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

1. Authorization to submit the 2019-2020 MDOT Transportation Planning Work Program with appropriate officer signatures to contract when offered. **(Action)** *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*
2. Authorization to submit the 2019-2020 MDOT Rural Task Force Management Work Program with appropriate officer signatures to contract when offered. **(Action)** *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*
3. Authorization to submit the 2019-2020 Asset Management Work Program with appropriate signatures to contract when offered. **(Action)** *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*
4. Authorization to enter into MOU's with those municipalities desiring to prepare local Asset Management Plans in 2019 and 2020 in accordance with TAMC guidelines. **(Action)** *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*
5. Authorization to submit a 2019-2020 Work Plan to MDNR for Iron Belle Trail funding and to authorize signatures when approved. **(Action)** *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*

6. Authorization for the Chairman to sign a contract with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe for EMCOG staff to prepare a Hazard Mitigation Plan for Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan properties in Isabella and Arenac County(ies). **(Action)** *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*
  
7. Authorization for EMCOG staff to prepare and submit Hazard Mitigation proposals for member units if so selected. **(Action)** *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*
  
8. Requesting approval for Letters of Support
  - **Proposed EDA grant for Bay Area Water Treatment Plant project – Bay County Caro Center – Tuscola County:** *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*
  
- H. **MICHIGAN FEDERAL PROJECT REVIEW** (included - copies will also be available – **(Action item)** *(See EMCOG Council Minutes)*)
  
- I. **UPDATES ON USDA AND MDOT FUNDING PROGRAMS**
  1. **MDOT – Alexander Nikoloff, Grant Coordinator, MDOT Office of Economic Development**

Alex gave an overview of the Transportation Office of Economic Development Programs, the Non Motorized Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and the State Infrastructure Bank Loan Program (SIB). He provided handouts and will share his powerpoint presentation with EMCOG for distribution.
  
  2. **USDA – Paula Gromak, Area Director for Caro and West Branch Offices and Dena Kish, Area Specialist, Caro Office**

The presentation consisted of a discussion of numerous loan and grant programs for single house repairs, water and sewer disposal loans, drinking water, storm systems, sewer systems, community facilities and others. The handouts will be distributed electronically by EMCOG.

**J. Good of the Order/Public Comment**

***Bill Wright, Partnership for the Saginaw Bay Watershed***

Bill reported on the rolling out of information and signage regarding “Not to Feed the Algae”. Also he demonstrated the MiSEA Grant summer camp song about ‘Wally Walleye’.

***Steve Jonas, Saginaw Future, Inc.***

There is space available at the Tech Park in Thomas Township. He also indicated that demonstration of available talent is becoming more and more important to site selectors.

***Zygy Dworzecki, Tuscola County Planning Commission***

Reporting on behalf of the Tuscola County EDC: they are working on the issue regarding the future of the Caro State Hospital.

***Bob Balzer, Gladwin County EDC***

Bob welcomed Chris Shannon, the new Gladwin City Manager

***Chris Shannon, City of Gladwin***

Chris acknowledged Heath Kaplan, City of Beaverton Manager and noted that the two cities are working together on initiatives. The City of Gladwin is in the process of redoing the master plan, parks and recreation plan and city website.

***Brian Smith, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe***

The new hotel at Saganing Eagle is set to open in late summer/early fall. The Tribe has built their own substation and is now their own utility which will open up opportunities to buy wholesale energy. The Tribe now has an agreement with Whites Beach to provide water and sewer service. This will address/mitigate issues that this area has had in the past.

***Tracy Byard, Clare County***

The County is starting up their budget process right now. Quantifying talent is also an issue for them as it is becoming important to know the types of talent in the area. The Prosecutor’s Office received a \$306,000 two-year grant to fight the opioid epidemic.

***Joel Vernier, Gladwin County Commission***

Regarding lake levels in the county, there is a letter of intent from the Four Lakes Task Force to purchase the dams and lake bottoms (except Sanford lake bottom). The lake level for Wixom has been raised by 4 inches per day and is now restored. Lake levels are set by

the State. There is a request this afternoon at the Midland County Courthouse for a special assessment district approval. Gladwin County will then have three more dams under its ownership.

***Pam O’Laughlin, Middle Michigan Development Corporation***

The historic depot in Clare is now open. The City of Clare is looking to extend the rail trail through the city. The SBD recognized the Heart of Michigan café in Clare as one of the 2019 small businesses of the year. Construction is in progress on US10 and 127.

***Dave Rowley, MSU Extension***

Dave provided a handout of numerous upcoming webinars and classes.

***Bill Mrdeza, City of Mt Pleasant***

Bill referenced the Cadillac Lofts project, a redevelopment of a city block in downtown Cadillac, noting that the City of Mt Pleasant is also working with the same developer to redevelop the property next to the city hall. This is approximately a \$16.0 million investment that will bring in the much needed middle income housing, Bill noted that making these projects affordable to developers is very difficult without local government assistance.

**K. Any Other Business**

No further business was brought forward.

**L. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the joint EMCOG Council/RED Team meeting was adjourned by EMCOG Council Chair Bill Mrdeza at 12:57 pm

## 2019 **RED TEAM** MEETING SCHEDULE

MONTH	TYPE	TIME	LOCATION
January 18, 2019	Full RED Team	11:45 am	Andersen Enrichment Center Saginaw, MI
March 1, 2019	Full RED Team	11:45 am	Bay County Community Center Bay City, MI
May 3, 2019	Joint Council & RED Team	10:00 am	Riverwalk Place Gladwin, MI
July 12, 2019	Full RED Team	11:45 am	Warrior Pavillion – Van Etten Lake Oscoda, MI
September 13, 2019	Full RED Team	11:45 am	Saganing Tribal Center Standish, MI
November 1, 2019	Full RED Team	11:45 am	City Hall City of Mt Pleasant

RED Team meetings begin at 11:45 a.m. following 10:00 a.m. Full Council meetings (Note: the exception is the May 3<sup>rd</sup> joint meeting which starts at 10:00 am). 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 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.