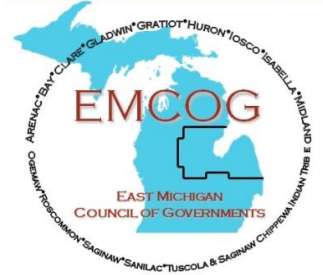


EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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Minutes of the EMCOG REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (RED) TEAM Approved July 14, 2017

Meeting Date: Friday, May 5, 2017

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

Location: Riverwalk Place | 777 Cedar Ave. | Gladwin, MI 48624 | www.riverwalkplace.net

Attendees:

RED Team	Erine Adams, Brenda Bachelder, Bob Balzer, Lisa Barna, Mandi Chasey, Zygy Dworzecki, Christine Greve, Gary Kellan, Pat Killingbeck, , Kathy Methner, Robert Moffit, Bill Mrdeza, Jay O'Farrell, Erik Rodriguez, Bill Wright
EMCOG	David Engelhardt, Jane Fitzpatrick
Guests	Maureen Daugherty, Roscommon Co. Transit; Nicole King, Roscommon Co. Transit; Kip Kronk, MSU Extension/MI SEA Grant; Ryan Londrigan, MDEQ; Jackie Morgan, USDA Rural; Chris Olson, City of Beaverton; Pam O'Laughin, Clare Area Chamber of Commerce; Diane Suvada, Sawmill Incubator, Roscommon

1. Call to order, Welcome and Introductions

The RED team meeting was called to order at 11:50 am by Chair Kathy Methner. Attendees introduced themselves.

2. Review and Approval of Agenda

Jane Fitzpatrick requested the addition of additional item 7.h, a discussion of the State of the Bay conference. Zygy Dworzecki moved and Jay O'Farrell supported a motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried.

3. Review and Approval of March 3, 2017 RED Team Minutes

A motion to approve the March 3, 2017 minutes as presented was made by Bob Moffit and supported by Bill Mrdeza. The motion carried.

4. Chairperson Updates: Kathy Methner

The Chair deferred her comments until the Updates from EMCOG members and guests portion of the agenda.

5. Regional Resiliency Project: Coastal Storm Hazards Stormwater Runoff, and Risk Reduction Strategies: Kip Cronk, MSU Extension, MI Sea Grant

Kip Kronk presented a refresher overview of the study and showed a video of the flooding in Bay City from a storm event a few weeks ago. He reviewed the Survey Results and Outreach Recommendations that the RED Team assisted with during 2015-2016 and distributed a handout that attendees were to fill out ranking the recommended strategies from the survey results. (the survey summary was included in the agenda packet). The ranking results will be compiled to determine next steps for this regional project.

6. East Central Michigan Prosperity Region 5 Mini Grant Program: Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane distributed copies of the Mini Grant Call for Projects announcement and provided an overview of what the grant committee (a sub-committee of the PR-5 Strategic Management Team) is working on. The packet will be sent out by May 15th. The grant application will be a short form, no more than 4 pages including attachments if necessary. Applications are due by June 15th; the review and ranking by the Strategic Management Team completed by the end of their July 25th meeting; and announcements of awards August 1st. A match is required but is not defined. The grant size is \$2,000 to \$20,000 but smaller or larger grant awards will be considered on a case by case basis. The sustainability of a project is a priority, along with furthering the PR-5 Strategy.

7. Updates from EMCOG:

7.a. Regional Water Strategy: Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane is a member of a steering committee which is focusing on the feasibility and interest to develop a regional water strategy based on the statewide strategy that came out in 2015-2016. Mike Kelly, Brad Jensen, Kip Kronk, Charlie Bauer (MDEQ regional) and Jane are meeting with Jon Allan (Office of the Great Lakes) and Dr. Alan Steinman on May 11th for our initial discussion.

7.b. Regional Transit Mobility: Dave Engelhardt

Dave is finishing up Phase III of the initiative to identify what the providers want to do. A report will be completed prior to the next RED Team meeting.

7.c. Hazardous Mitigation Plans: Jane Fitzpatrick for Bill Ernat

Bill provided a report in the Council Agenda packet and left copies for distribution at the RED Team meeting.

7.d. Iron-Belle Trail Facilitation : Jane Fitzpatrick for Bill Ernat

Bill provided a report in the Council Agenda packet and left copies for distribution at the RED Team meeting.

7.e. Regional Non-Motorized Plan and Maps: Dave Engelhardt

EMCOG is working with MDOT to update the plan and maps.

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

A regional pilot for a statewide asset management system was a priority recommendation of the 21st Century Infrastructure Commission. Governor Snyder announced in his 2017 State of the State address that this pilot, and a statewide asset management system, is instrumental in ensuring Michigan residents have safe, reliable and affordable infrastructure systems. The Governor signed Executive Directive 2017-1 On Monday, April 3rd creating the pilot and calling for the advisory board to help provide guidance on implementation of the pilot. Jane Fitzpatrick of EMCOG has been appointed to the advisory board. The pilot will be implemented in both West MI Shoreline Region and SEMCOG jointly and work to develop recommendations on how to create a regional asset management process and system across asset classes. At a minimum the advisory committee will meet quarterly to help inform the ongoing regional efforts and help to identify opportunities to deploy the regional systems statewide. A kick off meeting was held on Thursday, April 27th in Lansing for the purpose of discussing the key concepts of asset management; provide an overview of the objectives of the pilot; hear from regional leaders; and discuss the pilot governance, the work plan and next steps.

7.g. A.L.I.C.E. (Asset Limited, Income Constrained Employed) 2017 Update

The winter, 2017 update of the United Ways of Michigan Asset Limited, Income Constrained Employed (A.L.I.C.E.) is available at www.uwmich.org. EMCOG will be compiling a summary document by county and region with a comparison of the 2015 and 2017 analyses. The 2017 report does not include sustainable budgets; the research team will be making this data available in the near future. The Affordable Care Act impacts have been added in the 2017 update and assume that at the Survival income level A.L.I.C.E. households cannot afford to get their own insurance and therefore pay the penalty which is reflected in the increased health costs. Vehicle insurance is not factored into household costs for either 2015 or 2017 and would have to come out of Miscellaneous Expenses, along with clothing, cell phone, etc. Cell phone costs have been added into the Sustainable budget (but not included in the A.L.I.C.E. Survival budget) as it is recognized that a cell phone is a necessary expense in order to work, etc.

7.h. State of the Bay 2017 Conference: Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane is a member of the planning committee for this event. It has been three years since the last conference. The conference will be a one day event on September 27th at the Doubletree Hotel and Conference Center in Bay City.

8. 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.

9. Updates from RED Team Members and Guests

Zygy Dworzecki, Tuscola County (At Large)

Steve Erickson, Tuscola County EDC, could not attend the meeting due to a meeting with a potential buyer of a foundry in Vassar with the potential of creating 100 jobs. Cass City lost its bid for a grocery store. The Tuscola EDC is looking at the feasibility of purchasing the historical church building that is across the street from its office and turning it into an arts center.

D. Jay O'Farrell, Iosco County Commissioner

The recent Iosco County/MDOT Whittemore Road bridge replacement project has resulted in an announcement from National Gypsum that they will be bringing in two more shiploads to the Alabaster sheet rock plant.

Pat Killingbeck, Carrollton Township

The Township is looking at the feasibility of dredging the Saginaw River a little deeper to service a riverfront business.

Lisa Barna, Arenac County EDC and MichiganWorks

There are 6-7 new businesses considering moving into Arenac County. Lisa is part of the Listening Tour through the Rifle River Prosperity Network. Also the EDC is partnering with townships to compile local ordinances in order for the EDC to function as a "one stop shop".

Gary Kellan, Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport

They are taking a "run" at three discretionary pots of money from MDOT and the FAA for a \$9.0 million runway rehabilitation project.

Mandi Chasey, Ogemaw County EDC and MichiganWorks

They have finished up their Vertical Asset Inventory (broadband) which was showcased at their 2017 Business Expo. Mandi participated in a Wall Street Journal interview on rural poverty.

Jackie Morgan, USDA-Rural

USDA Rural has funded approximately \$80.0 million in the region in 2016. She reminded those present that for eligible applicants they can always finance the difference when partnering with EDA and other federal grant programs.

Erine Adams, Kirtland Community College

Kirtland Community College is experiencing much success at the new location. They are in the development stage of a new division: workforce/community schools. The West Branch location will be re-tooled for this. Improvements at the Roscommon campus are going on to accommodate corporate retreats, leadership building and also some additional office space such as for a foundation center; and a data space that a non-profit can utilize to find resources and money. It will offer training and support services for non-profits.

Bill Wright, Saginaw Transit Authority & Regional Services (STARS) and Partnership for Saginaw Bay

STARS has scheduled the first of two public hearings on May 23rd to gather public input regarding proposed route restructuring. They are hoping to put the new system in place in August. STARS is also getting new additions to their fleet.

Partnership for Saginaw Bay committee is drafting new de-listing criteria to replace the state criteria. Saginaw Bay has never been de-listed so it cannot be removed from the 303D list. The standard being developed would be based on the percentage of days that the beaches might be closed due to contamination during the swimming season.

Chris Olson, City of Beaverton

They are working on a number of industrial expansion possibilities.

Maureen Daughtery, RCTA /MMTC

Roscommon Transit is developing a volunteer driver program for medical transport with an anticipated cost of 20% of the private provider services. However, there is still an issue regarding poorer patients. They will need active participation in order for this to work. A non profit is being established for this program.

Brenda Bachelder, MichiganWorks

Brenda is reporting for Rosalie Myers, Roscommon County EDC: There is a lot of activity (development work) on the Iron-Belle Trail at this time. Four startups are coming into Roscommon including the Sawgrass. Michigan Works is also busy with all of this.

Erik Rodriguez, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

They are moving forward with the HOPS feasibility study and have hired a consultant from the Empire Michigan area to do the analysis. Brian Smith is forming a steering committee. A groundbreaking celebration will be held on July 1st for the Saganing 140 room hotel and gaming expansion. Also the Tribal Council is working on prioritizing updates to the marketing of Soaring Eagle and gearing up for the summer concert series.

Bob Balzer, Gladwin County EDC

There are six manufacturing related businesses looking to start up within the next six months in Gladwin County with job creation of about 25 jobs each. There are also some expansion projects in the works. MichiganWorks in Gladwin County has developed a tech education course that will be offered during the month of May.

Bob Mofitt, City of Gladwin

He is expecting the EDA grant award sometime in June. He is also working with MDNR on a land transfer to the county which will allow for 1.5 miles of the Gladwin to Beaverton trail connection.

Bill Mrdeza, City of Mount Pleasant

The city is going through the Redevelopment Ready Certification (RRC) process and should be certified by early in 2018. The new Capital Improvement Plan is now out for city commission review, and the first review of the character based code is done and has been released for public comment. The City is working with the Tribe to coordinate responsible development activities on land on which structures were recently demolished. Also the city recently hosted an MML Save My City event with the cities of Clare and Alma.

Christine Greve, SBDC at Delta College

They are seeing an increase in the number of start-ups and she encourages all to refer folks to them. Their services are free of cost and can help the economic developers do their job rather than competing with them. They are all about a long term relationship and commitment with the start up businesses. Christine also announced that she will be retiring July 31st.

Kathy Methner, Middle Michigan Development Corporation / MichiganWorks

She recently attended an equal opportunity (EEO) conference in Detroit. Regarding hiring practices her advise is to be careful as the practices relate to EEO. When there is a finding of discriminatory practices in a lawsuit the average award is \$250,000. Harrison Rising Tide: the city is about 75% complete in work toward RRC certification. It is looking at the education facilities in the city and is proposing a bond issue to upgrade their schools.

10. Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the RED Team the meeting was adjourned by Chair Kathy Methner at 1:45 pm.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: July 14, 2017 at 11:45 a.m. East Tawas City Hall

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	Tuscola County EDC Caro, 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.