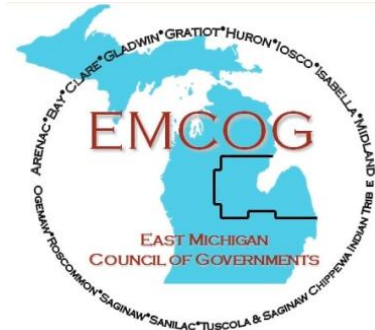


# EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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## Minutes of the RPI-5 Strategic Management Team

### Date, Time and Location:

November 27, 2018 | 10:00 a.m.

Saginaw Future Inc. | 515 N. Washington, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room | Saginaw, MI 48603

### **SMT Participants:**

Jennifer Carroll	Delta College
Scott Govitz	Mid Michigan College
Heath Kaplan	City of Beaverton
Melissa Kesterson	Midland Area Community Foundation
Josh Ode	Saginaw Valley State University
Chris Rishko	GLB MichiganWorks!
Brian Smith	Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Jim Wheeler	Greater Gratiot Development Corporation

### **Agency Representatives**

Rex Anslie	MDNR
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### **Guests**

Brian Chapman	City of Vassar
Eric Fielbrandt	Frankenmuth Kayak Adventures
Jamie Furbush	Frankenmuth Convention & Visitors Bureau
Bill Zehnder	Cass River Greenway
Bob Zeilinger	Cass River Greenway

### **EMCOG**

Jane Fitzpatrick	Program Manager – Economic Development/RPI
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## **AGENDA**

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting was called to order by Jane Fitzpatrick at 10:04 am. Attendees present and calling in introduced themselves.

### **2. Review and Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved with no changes.

- 3. 2017 Mini Grant Project Updates:** – Regional Marketing of the Cass River Water Trail Initiative: Bob Zeilinger, Chairman of the Cass River Greenway, Jamie Furbush, Frankenmuth Convention and Visitors Bureau, Bob Zehnder, Cass River Greenway, Eric Fielbrandt, Frankenmuth Kayak Adventures

A 2017 PR-5 Mini Grant supported the development of an interactive Cass River Trail website to promote the water trail to the community, the region and to a broad national or worldwide audience. The Water Trail passes through Tuscola and Saginaw Counties, utilizing three rivers, the Cass, Shiawassee and Saginaw, and passes through the Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge. The Cass River Greenway formed in 2007 by a group of residents. Nearby communities soon came in with their support. Initially the group's focus was on three areas: habitat, improving water quality along the river and recreational opportunities. Recreational opportunities have been the primary focus on the 36 mile Cass River Greenway. The next step is to obtain the National Water Trail Designation (<https://www.nps.gov/watertrails/status>) The designation requires implementation of best practices including communication and promotion. EMCOG and WIN provided the funding to support the new website to do such. Jamie Furbush gave a demonstration of the website. Bob Zehnder and Erik Fielbrandt discussed the opportunities for accessing the Cass River Greenway. The website is [www.cassriverwatertrail.org](http://www.cassriverwatertrail.org)

- 4. 2018 PR-5 Mini and Micro Grants Update : Jane Fitzpatrick**

Jane referred to the report that she distributed electronically on November 26<sup>th</sup> (hard copies were also available at the meeting) that included a summarized status report of each of the mini and micro grant awards that were made in August, 2018. To date all but one grant recipient have provided a report by the November 1<sup>st</sup> due date which is one of the deliverables for each of the signed grant award contracts. The status reports are used to provide information to the State of Michigan on RPI activities.

- 5. 2019 Regional Prosperity Initiative Grant Application Status and Meeting Schedule:  
Jane Fitzpatrick**

There is no information to date on the status of the 2019 grant application. EMCOG is anticipating that they will receive some information during the first week in December. Jane distributed the proposed meeting schedule for 2019. It reflects the same schedule as for prior years; the fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m.. It was agreed by those present that the group should stick with the same schedule for 2019. Jane will be sending the schedule out with a request for hosts for the meetings.

- 6. Michigan Water Asset Management Council (WAMC): Jane Fitzpatrick**

Jane reported that the WAMC met for a second time in November. The Council is working through a set of bylaws and also the numerous recommendations in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Infrastructure Pilot Project Study to identify those recommendations that the WAMC will focus on. The next meeting is on January 24, 2019.

## 7. Other Project Updates from Team Members and Guests:

### *Jennifer Carroll, Delta College*

Delta's Women's Soccer Team is participating in the National Championship games this week. Delta Corporate Services hosted an apprenticeship week last week. There were events geared toward students and another geared toward parents.

### *Brian Smith, Saginaw Chippewa Tribe*

In addition to continued progress on the hotel in Standish they are completing a \$25 million remodel in the Mt Pleasant casino. Renovating the hotel there is the next priority. They will be establishing a business park in Standish in which they will be providing their own power and water. There are some projects that are close to the public announcement stage. Three are in the Standish area. They will be looking to Delta for skills training.

### *Rex Anslie, MDNR*

Rex referenced the Cass river log jam that was mentioned during the Cass River Green Way presentation, noting that the ash tree die off is happening everywhere. He identified several factors and issues including barriers to removal, funding issues and general knowledge about how to rectify the problems. Huron Pines is meeting with DNR to look at options for rectifying and assistance including help in advise the legislators who allocation the money and assuring use of the appropriate funds. Huron Pines is interested in GIS opportunities for this type of assistance. Rex will speak with Dave Engelhardt of EMCOG about this.

### *Heath Kaplan, City of Beaverton*

Gladwin is having the same problem with log jams. Beaverton has to shoot the logs out of their dam. Regarding the EMCOG funded Ross Lake Trail Head project: the delay remains because the sewer lift station is right where the canoe/kayak launch is proposed to be and the work on the lift station needs to be done first. The St. Gobain expansion is underway. Heath noted to Josh that St Gobain could be included in the next welcome Home event at CMU.

### *Chris Rishko, Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works*

They are expanding their industry clusters model to expand beyond the initial healthcare cluster into IT, manufacturing and construction. They are also looking at at expanding the school work programs to Gratiot and Isabella counties. They are currently focusing on 16-18 year olds in Bay and Arenac counties. The last phase of the Marshall Plan for Talent successful applicants was announced. They are working with the Saginaw ISD and Gratiot-Isabella RESD which are moving to next step in the application process..

### *Josh Ode, SVSU*

Josh gave an update on the Coming Home event that was held on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Ground breaking for the new College of Business and Management occurred about a month ago. They are planning to be in the building within 18 months.

***Jim Wheeler, Greater Gratiot Development Corporation***

The Zeeland Farm Services project development is ongoing with a projected startup in October of 2019. Production estimates are processing of 40 million bushels per year. The statewide totals are 90 million bushels grown per year

***Melissa Kesterson, Midland Area Community Foundation***

Melissa provided some information regarding the 2020 Census and changes in how the census will be conducted. The number of people that will be working on the census has been reduced. A postcard will be sent out via USPS that will identify options for participating including online participation or requesting a packet. This process raises concerns about the ability of the under-served populations being able to participate and the impacts on eligibility for dollars coming into an area. Michigan non profits and foundations are creating census hubs to try to get the word out about the census.

**8. Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

**NOTE: There is no December meeting**

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>

**2018 East Central Michigan Prosperity Region 5  
Strategic Management Team Meeting Schedule**

MEETING DATE	TYPE	TIME	HOST/LOCATION
January 23, 2018	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	<b>Full Meeting Canceled</b>
February 27, 2018	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Middle Michigan Development Corporation Mt Pleasant
March 27, 2018	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	<b>Full Meeting Canceled (sub committees will be meeting in March)</b>
April 24, 2018	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Clare-Gladwin RESD
May 22, 2018	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Mid Michigan Community College Mt Pleasant Campus
June 26, 2018	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	<b>Full Meeting Canceled (sub committees will be meeting in June)</b>
July 24, 2018	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Michigan Works Harrison
August 28, 2018	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Michigan Works Midland
September 25, 2018	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Michigan Works Gladwin
October 23, 2018	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Beaverton Activity Center
November 27, 2018	RPI-5 Strategic Management Team	10:00 am	Saginaw Future Inc. Saginaw
December , 2018			<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>