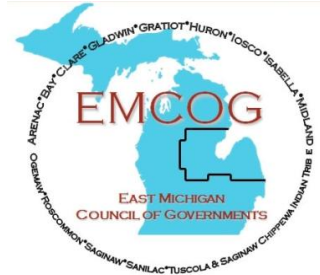


# EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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## APPROVED MINUTES OF THE EMCOG REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (RED) TEAM

Meeting Date: Friday, September 11, 2020

Meeting Time: Noon

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

### Attendees:

RED Team/ CEDS Steering Committee	Bob Balzer, Ed Bergeron, Mary Bickel, Stephanie Buffman, Tracy Byard, Frank Cloutier, Zygy Dworzecki, Steve Erickson, Tom Mayan, Jim McBryde, Katherine Methner, Bill Mrdeza, Jay O’Farrell, Robert Redmond, Joel Vernier, Kasey Zehner
EMCOG	David Engelhardt, Bill Ernat, Jane Fitzpatrick, Sue Fortune
Guests	George Aultman, Vantage Plastics; Charlie Bauer, MI DEGLE; Chelsea Beckman, MEDC & Infuse GLBR; Terri Close, Hampton Township; Brandle Haywood, FEMA; Alyho Hill, FEMA; Elizabeth King, MEDC RRC; Timothy Little, FEMA; Jon Lynn, FEMA; Dan Manning, Connect MI; Jeff Marcell, TIP Strategies, Inc.; Michael Martin, FEMA; Debbie Powell, Cass City; Annette Rummel, GLBVCB; Lori Schuh, Clare County VCB; Elizabeth Scott, TIP Strategies, Inc.; Tom Stephenson, Connect MI; Dwight Townes, FEMA

- 1. Call to order, Welcome and Introductions:** Robert Balzer, RED Team Chair  
 The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm
- 2. Review and Approval of Agenda**  
 The agenda was approved with no changes.
- 3. Review and Approval of March 6, 2020 and July 10, 2020 RED Team Minutes**  
 The minutes of both the March 6<sup>th</sup> and July 10<sup>th</sup> Red Team meetings were approved with no changes.
- 4. Chairperson Update: Robert Balzer**  
 As a note on September 11, Bob read the EMCOG description/mission and noted his celebration of what we are doing as a 14 county region, being thankful for the unity that EMCOG brings.

**5. Integrated Economic Development Activities:** EMCOG Staff (highlights of written reports sent out prior to the meeting).

Staff members each gave a brief summary and where appropriate update of the reports that were distributed in the agenda packet prior to the meeting.

**6. 2020 CEDS Update – Presentation of Proposed CEDS:** TIP Strategies, Inc.

Bob introduced Jeff Marcel and Elizabeth Scott from TIP Strategies Inc. Jeff Marcel recognized the CEDS Steering Committee and also Jane Fitzpatrick and Sue Fortune for their “hard work and grit” Jeff then recognized Elizabeth Scott of TIP Strategies Inc. as the project manager. Jeff and Elizabeth then used a powerpoint presentation to give an overview of the CEDS document sections including the SWOT analysis, data analysis and findings and goals (the five pillars) and strategies. As noted, through meetings with the CEDS Steering Committee the last pillar is “economic development” which leverages the work of the other four pillars. Key points were made during the presentation to acknowledge moving toward economic recovery strategies post pandemic and other events such as the flooding disasters of May, 2020. The next steps will be completed in January of 2021 and include a dashboard and implementation workshop. Participants were encouraged to read the document and think of what role they would like in the implementation phase. The presentation concluded with comments from the CEDS Steering Committee members, both those participating in the meeting and written comments from those who could not attend.

**7. Good of the Order**

*Zyggy Dworzecki, Tuscola County EDC Board*

Zyggy brought up the challenges of transportation infrastructure within the County and the need to get rail service to help the smaller communities, including a discussion of who to gain support

*Bill Mrdeza, City of Mount Pleasant*

Bill reminder everyone of the importance of the 2020 Census and to do what you can to get full participation.

**8. Adjourn**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm

**NEXT Meeting: November 6, 2020 via gotomeeting.com**

## 2020 **RED TEAM** MEETING SCHEDULE

MONTH	TYPE	TIME	LOCATION
January 17, 2020	Full RED Team	Noon	Andersen Enrichment Center Saginaw, MI
March 6, 2020	Full RED Team	Noon	Historical Museum of Bay County Bay City, MI
May 1, 2020	Joint Council & RED Team	10:00 am	Canceled
July 10, 2020	Full RED Team	Noon	Virtual Meeting
September 11, 2020	Full RED Team	Noon	Virtual Meeting
November 6, 2020	Full RED Team	Noon	Virtual Meeting

In general RED Team meetings begin at Noon following 10:00 a.m. Full Council meetings (Note: the exception is the May 1<sup>st</sup> joint meeting which starts at 10:00 am). For in person 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. July, 2020: EMCOG will be utilizing a virtual meeting format for the remaining meetings of 2020.

***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, utilize the mute function when participating remotely and not speaking.