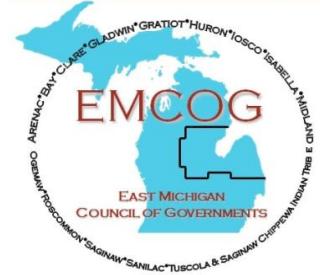


# EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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## Approved Minutes of the EMCOG REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (RED) TEAM

Meeting Date: Friday, September 13, 2019

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

Location: Saganing Eagles Landing Tribal Center | 5447 Struman Rd | Standish, MI 48658

Attendees:

<b>RED Team</b>	<b>Bob Balzer, Stephanie Buffman, Tracy Byard, Zygy Dworzecki, Steve Erickson, Heath Kaplan, Adam Kroczaleski, Bill Mrdeza, Jay O’Farrell, Robert Redmond, Chris Shannon, Brian Smith, Joel Vernier, Bill Wright, Harold Woolhiser</b>
<b>EMCOG</b>	<b>David Engelhardt, Bill Ernat, Jane Fitzpatrick</b>
<b>Guests</b>	<b>Ed Bergeron, Roscommon County EDC; Mary Bourbina, City of Zilwaukee; Mike Duranczyk, Bay County Commission; Tom Durkee, MEDC; Scott Govitz, Mid Michigan College; Jim Hazeltine, Arenac County Road Commission; Jackie Morgan, USDA; Debbie Powell, City of Cass City, Dave Rowley, MSU Extension; Robert Stalker, Municipal Management Consulting; Chloe Updegraf, GLB 2020 Census Hub; Robert VanVert, SCIT; Dale Wiltse, City of Au Gres</b>

### 1. Call to order, Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 pm by Chair, Bob Balzer who welcomed all. All present introduced themselves.

### 2. Review and Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with no changes.

### 3. Review and Approval of July 12, 2019 RED Team Minutes

The minutes of the July 12, 2019 RED Team meeting was approved with no changes.

### 4. Chairperson Update: Robert Balzer

Bob thanked Brian Smith and Bob VanVert for hosting the meeting at the beautiful facility. He deferred any further of his comments to the “Good of the Order” section of the agenda.

**5. Integrated Economic Development Activities:**

Jane Fitzpatrick referred to her September 13, 2019 memorandum to Council and the RED Team that was provided as a handout at the meeting. Highlights include a summary of EDA Opportunity Zone resources; 2019 EDA Grant Process Pointers; an update and status report on the process for developing a new 5-year CEDS document; the announcement of the second Integrated Asset Management Summit scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup>; a reminder of the September 26th State of the Bay Conference which EMCOG is a sponsor of; and an update of the second regional A.L.I.C.E. Summit planned for February 11, 2020.

**6. Other Staff Reports:**

Written reports from Bill Ernat and Dave Engelhardt were available. In addition to the reports Bill Ernat noted that for those counties with hazardous mitigation plans that were approved in 2016 they should start thinking about getting their update process going. Applications will be available soon.

**7. Good of the Order**

***Ed Bergeron, Roscommon County EDC***

Ed gave an update of the status of creating a county-wide Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. The Roscommon County Commission adopted a resolution to move forward with the creation of a county-wide authority last week.

***Mike Duranczyk, Bay County Commission***

Bay County is also in the process of developing a county-wide Brownfield Authority.

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

Joel recognized Bob Balzer as a recipient of the 2019 Shining Star Award at the Michigan Works Annual Conference. He also noted that Gladwin County now has a 2020 Complete Count census committee. A challenge is the large Amish Community. During the 2010 census about 22% of this community population was missed.

***Adam Kroczaleski, Arenac County Commission***

The County Fairgrounds relocation project continues to make progress. A detailed to-scale blueprint is now available. There are some Standish Industrial Park project successes but no specifics are ready to be announced. The Au Gres Harbor project is moving along. An application has been made for a \$150,000 DNR Trust Fund grant to extend electricity and running water at Oasis Lake. A decision is pending.

***Robert Redmond, Bay County***

Bay Future, Inc. secured a \$100,000 grant to make a 200 area parcel redevelopment ready.

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

Gladwin County is going through a rebranding and marketing campaign. The official brand is "Michigan's Back Yard". They are developing short videos and billboards. Bob recognized the great partners at the state and federal level. He recognized Jackie Morgan of USDA-Rural for support on the marketing and branding.

**8. Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Recent and Planned Initiatives in Arenac County**

Brian Smith, SCIT Economic Development Director gave a brief overview of how the Tribe functions outside of the State purview. He then discussed current and future economic development plans for the property and the work to diversify the Tribes economy. They are cognizant of A.L.I.C.E. and will need a high tech workforce.

Next, Robert VanWert, General Manager of Saganing Eagles Landing Casino gave an overview of the history of the development of the recently opened hotel. After decades of planning the ribbon cutting was one week ago. The hotel consists of 148 rooms including 8 suites, a 200 seat restaurant, an 80 seat lounge, a gift shop and some slot machines. The facility created 200 new jobs, most of which have been converted to full time. They are drawing from the tri-county region for their employment base. Brian Smith, SCIT Economic Development Director discussed current and future economic development plans for the property. A tour of the new hotel and an overview of the planned projects onsite was provided at the close of this meeting.

**9. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Bob Balzer at 1:29 pm. Those staying for the tour proceeded to the waiting buses.

**NEXT Meeting: November 1, 2019 at City of Mt Pleasant City Hall.**

## 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 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.