

## Minutes

West Michigan Prosperity Alliance  
Executive Steering Committee  
March 20, 2017

Grand Rapids, MI  
Grand Valley Metro Council Offices

### 1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by John Weiss.

Present:        John Weiss - GVMC  
                  Erin Kuhn – WMSRDC  
                  Rick Chapla – The Right Place  
                  Dave Bee – West Michigan Regional Planning Commission  
                  Steve Bulthuis – MACC  
                  Anne Armstrong – Office of Gov. Snyder

### 2. Public Comment

None

### 3. Minutes

**MOTION – To Approve the Minutes of November 2016. MOVE – Kuhn.  
SUPPORT – Chapla. MOTION CARRIED.**

### 4. Review of 2017 Grant Award and Budget Amendment

The initial 2017 grant request was for \$250,000. However, the amount awarded by the State was approximately \$180,000. A proposed budget amendment was reviewed which would preserve all funding previously obligated in the last round of grant awards. All other line items were reduced to account for the reduction of the award. See below:

<u>Revenues</u>		Amended 2/17	
2016 Carryover	\$56,419.20	\$56,419.20	
2017 Request	<u>\$250,000.00</u>	<u>\$180,879.00</u>	
Total Available	306,419.20	\$237,298.20	77.44234%

<u>Expenses</u>		Amended 2/17
Grant Administration/RPI Leadership	\$32,000.00	\$24,781.55
Funding of 8 Regional Projects	\$70,725.00	\$70,725.00
Region to Region Collaboration	\$2,500.00	\$1,000.00
Regional Economic Analysis / Data Development / Regional Dashboard	\$5,000.00	\$3,000.00
Strategic Planning & Plan Refinement	\$25,000.00	\$10,000.00
Regional Collaboration, Cooperation, RPI Meetings, Collaboration Efforts	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00
Priority Project Support/Financial Assistance/Staff Support of Projects	\$151,194.20	<u>\$117,791.65</u>
	<u>\$306,419.20</u>	\$237,298.20

Since the State was so late in making the awards and has not yet distributed the checks, it is anticipated the timeline in the original grant application will also need to be amended.

**MOTION – To Approve the 2017 Grant Application Amendment as shown above. MOVE – Kuhn. SUPPORT – Chapla. MOTION CARRIED.**

## 5. Asset Management Grant

The group discussed the Governor’s Asset Management Grant which GVMC, the City of Wyoming, MACC, WMSRDC, The Right Place and the City of Grand Rapids applied for jointly. The Governor’s original project scope was only for Kent, Ottawa and Muskegon Counties. The group applied for the grant with the intent to cover all 13 counties in RPI Region 4.

The grant will cover the RPI geographically, but is not an actual component of the Governor’s RPI program, so is not required to be governed by the same Board or regulations.

The deliverables of the pilot project would be accomplished through collaborative & coordinated teamwork in each of the focus areas and would include:

- A complete GIS mapped inventory of all Water/Storm/Waste, Transportation, Energy, Broadband, GIS
- Creation of an Asset Management program and process for each area.
- Cooperation and alignment with SEMCOG’s efforts.

This initial \$2 million project is extremely ambitious and is expected to be expanded statewide eventually.

Although the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Alliance has been awarded the grant, the amount of funding or expected scope has not been determined.

John Weiss will meet with the Governor's office on Wednesday to get more specifics. The Governor's office has planned a meeting on April 3 to release information on the project to the media. The location is yet to be determined, but is expected to be at a current infrastructure project.

John will update the group as more information is available.

## **6. Other**

Steve Bulthuis stated that since he anticipates having less to do with the Asset Management project than some of the other Committee members, he will take the lead on some of the RPI tasks such as reviewing the grant timeline.

RPI Steering Committee Members – discussion was held regarding RPI Steering Committee members and their successors. Each sector included in the RPI (except for At-Large positions) self-selected their representatives. As such, when a representative leaves the Steering Committee, that person's successor at their place of business should not necessarily be their successor on the Committee. The position on the committee is determined by the sector, not the place of business. The sector should review options throughout Region 4 to appoint a replacement.

## **7. Adjourn – 3:30 p.m.**