

Minutes

West Michigan Prosperity Alliance
Steering Committee
August 25, 2017

USS Silversides Museum
Muskegon Michigan

1:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by John Weiss.

Present: John Weiss - GVMC
 Erin Kuhn – WMSRDC
 Steve Bulthuis – MACC
 Jim Sandy – Mecosta County Development Corp.
 Paul Griffith – Michigan Works! West Central
 Dave Bee – West Michigan Regional Planning Commission
 Doug Wood – Orchard View Community Education
 Crystal Young – West Shore Community College
 Kathy MacLean – Ludington Scottville Chamber of Commerce
 Andy Johnston – Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
 Kevin Stotts – TALENT2025

2. Public Comment

None

3. Budget Amendment

John Weiss reported the RPI Executive Committee met and reviewed amendments to various items in the budget. Below are their recommendations:

- \$20,000 was originally approved for communications for the Port of Muskegon. They are nowhere near starting that undertaking, so it is proposed those funds be shifted to the Greenways Coalition Trailway Finding Project which spans the entire 13 county Region 4 area. The money would be used for trail signage to promote wayfinding on non-motorized trails and would be used as a local match to leverage \$50,000 from the State.

- Of the \$117,000 set aside for projects for this fiscal year, the following is recommended:
 - The Watershed Project has been working with Public Sector Consultants on a sustainable funding study. \$10,000 of additional funds are requested to broaden the scope of the work and further analyze the data collected.
 - Kevin Stotts TALENT 2025 requested \$10,000 to put towards the LEADR Exchange, a resource to identify employment best practices, recruitment, development and retention. The funding will help finish and promote the project.
 - \$90,000 is requested to be put towards the Asset Management project to help smaller and outlying communities. GVMC, MACC and WMSRDC are leveraging their transportation dollars towards the project as regulations will allow. However, there are areas within the 13 counties that do not fall within the MPO jurisdictions. This funding would help those communities.

MOTION - To Approve Shifting \$20,000 from the Port of Muskegon to the Wayfinding Project; \$10,000 additional Funding for the Watershed Project; \$10,000 for the LEADR Exchange; and \$90,000 for Asset Management. MOVE - Johnston. SUPPORT - Griffith. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Adjourn