

## GLS REGION V PDC March 24, 2015

The GLS Region V Planning and Development Commission met at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2015, in the Conference Room of the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission (GCMPC), 1101 Beach Street, Room 223, Flint, Michigan.

### I. **INTRODUCTION**

Chairperson Grinnell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### A. **Roll Call**

**Present:** Alan Himelhoch, Derek Bradshaw, Jeffrey Kelley, John Horvath, John Mandelaris, Richard Van Haften, Robert Johnson, Robert McLaren, Sidney Grinnell.

**Absent/Excused:** Gary Roy, Christina Johnson, Charles Van Duren, Mary Ann Ketels, Ryan Doyle, Mike Hemmingsen, Julie Hales-Smith, Ed Benning, Bill Henry, Glynn Fackler, Cheryl Clark and David Hetfield.

**Also Present:** Jason Nordberg, Anna Pinter, Damon Fortney and Debby Compton.

#### **B. Approval of the Minutes of GLS Region V PDC Regular Meeting January 27, 2015**

**Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Robert Johnson, **Seconded by** John Mandelaris, to approve the GLS Region V minutes for the meeting held on January 27, 2015 as submitted.

Motion approved unanimously.

(Approved minutes are on file in the GCMPC office)

#### C. **Approval of the Agenda of GLS Region V Meeting to be held March 24, 2015**

**Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Robert Johnson, **Seconded by** Robert McLaren, to approve the GLS Region V agenda for March 24, 2015 as presented.

Motion approved unanimously.

(Document on file with minutes)

- D.  **Opportunity for the Public to Address the GLS Region V PDC**  
No one spoke at this time.

- E.  **Communications**  
There were no Communications.

## II.

 **ACTION ITEMS**A. **Budget Amendment**

Mr. Bradshaw stated staff is requesting to add \$228,750 in 2015 Regional Prosperity funding to the FY2015 Budget. In addition, he stated staff is also requesting the following items be changed within the budget. Supplies went up, Consultants went up, Public Relations went down and Consultant, other went down.

**Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeffrey Kelley, **Seconded by** Alan Himelhoch, to approve the Budget Amendment as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Documents on file with minutes)

B.  **Financial Report**1. **Report**

Mr. Bradshaw stated there is a paper handout for this as there were a couple of changes after the agenda went out. There were some formula issues and the handouts show the correct information. He reviewed the financial report ending February 28, 2015.

**Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Robert Johnson, **Seconded by** John Mandelaris, to approve the Financial Report ending February 28, 2015 as presented noting that there will be an auditing expense on next year's report as it is done bi-annually.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Documents on file with minutes)

2. **Checks**

**Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Alan Himelhoch, **Seconded by** John Mandelaris, to approve the checks in the amount of \$57,055.86 and to authorize the signing by the proper authorities.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Documents on file with minutes)

C.  **Region 6 Consulting Services Agreements**

Ms. Pinter stated the Region 6 application was funded at a slightly lower amount than requested. The 8.5 % reduction was due to mid-year reductions in state revenue for the 2015 fiscal year. A portion of the 2015 budget is allocated for the Regional Economic Development Collaboration which will continue the great work started by the six economic development leads for the seven counties. Ms. Pinter stated the success of the Regional Prosperity Initiative is due to the leadership of these agencies. We are requesting that the GLS Region V Planning and Development commission approve the Consulting Services Agreements with each of the six economic development agencies. Further discussion ensued.

**Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Alan Himelhoch, **Seconded by** Robert McLaren, to approve the Region 6 Consulting Services Agreements.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Documents on file with minutes)

D.  **Election of Officers**

Mr. Nordberg stated that the three officer positions are up for nominations and opened the floor to nominations.

Recommendations of the Committee are to re-elect the standing officers for another year.

Mr. Grinnell asked if there were any more nominations from the floor. No one spoke at this time. Nominations were closed.

**Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeffrey Kelley, **Seconded by** Alan Himelhoch, to re-elect the standing officers for another year as presented by acclamation.

Motion passed unanimously.

III.  **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. **MAR Update**

Mr. Bradshaw stated Michigan Association of Regions (MAR) has gone through a growing phase the past several years. They hired a part time executive director and they became more aggressive as far as going out and taking a look at how regions fit into the state and what they are used for. They are

working with State and Federal agencies to try to expand their role in the State and the Regional Prosperity Initiative is a good example of this. Discussion ensued.

**B.  Region 6 Regional Prosperity Initiative Update**

Mr. Bradshaw stated he attended the Michigan Education and Economic Summit in Detroit and he had the opportunity to lead two of the sessions on how Economic Development and Education work together. The goal of these sessions was to develop an idea of what we want to do. He stated we have an Accelerate plan for Region 6 so let's start talking about real projects. Specifically on Education; we went through a process and came up with two ideas. One would be to do some digital video/marketing in conjunction with school tours of current businesses that have job openings in the area.

The second part; we picked a couple of economic development focused projects at the last Region 6 meeting that we are going to focus on. The projects were 1) to develop a craft agriculture strategy for Region 6 and 2) create a multi-faceted approach to address the lack of available square footage in Region 6. The details of both projects are still being determined, but the craft agriculture strategy is likely to include enhancement of the Food and Farm Trial that the Huron EDC has developed.

Mr. Bradshaw then mentioned the handout regarding GLS Region V becoming the Workforce Development for all of the Thumb and Genesee/Shiawassee Area excluding St. Clair County. He said the state says there are too many Workforce Development boards and they want to consolidate the boards down to the Regional Prosperity Region Boards. Basically, one option is that the Grant Administrator would become GLS Region V. They would give out the money to each of the existing entities within the same boundaries. There would be approximately \$20 to \$30 million in funding to administer. An Executive Committee would have to be formed and each county in RPI Region 6 would have representatives on this board. Region V has the opportunity to step up and say for this region we can take a look at this. This would go a long way to cementing Regional Prosperity. The downside is the money to administer the \$20 to \$30 million is probably in the range of \$30 to \$60 thousand. It really doesn't give you enough staff to actually go in and do what I would consider proper oversight and each of the counties would still be responsible for any misspending. Further discussion ensued.

C.  **Status of Hazard Mitigation Plan Updates for Genesee & Lapeer Counties**

Mr. Fortney stated all Genesee County local units of government adopted the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update and we received final approval from FEMA. We have received 25 Lapeer County signed resolutions so far with 3 still remaining we are working with to collect. Once they are received and the Plan Update is adopted we can send them to FEMA for final approval.

D.  **Governor's Regional Transit Mobility Initiative Update 2015 Asset Management PASER Training**

Mr. Fortney stated to date staff has collected surveys from 3 major Region V transit agencies and staff also sent a survey to additional entities that provide minor transit services to get further input on this issue. He said staff will use the information from the surveys to draft a narrative of the findings. He stated Phase 1 reports are tentatively due to MDOT by April 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Fortney also stated MDOT is working on providing a one-time payment of \$5,000 to each Regional Planning Agencies (RPA's) for the completion of Phase 1 of the project.

E.  **Region 6 Fiber Optics Report Update**

Mr. Fortney started out with a PowerPoint presentation. He said there are over 15,000 miles of fiber in the region and 55% of Businesses with 50+ employees are within ¼ mile of fiber. He stated the Next Steps are; Final Draft of Fiber Optics Report to be distributed, Marketing Pamphlet, Connect Michigan Community Implementation and the Next Fiber Optics meeting will be held on 4/15/15.

IV.  **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Announcements at this time.

V. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion: Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** John Horvath, **Seconded by** Robert McLaren to adjourn the meeting.

Motion approved unanimously.

Chairperson Grinnell adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p. m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Debby Compton, Secretary  
Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission