



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

300 South Westnedge Avenue · Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

Phone: (269) 385-0409 · Fax: (269) 343-3308 · Email: adams@upjohn.org

Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 2, 2016
MEETING TIME: 11:30 am
MEETING LOCATION: Coldwater Municipal Building
One Grand Street, Coldwater, MI 49036

1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 11:32 am.

2. Attendance

- a. Members Present
 - i. Keith Baker, Robin Baker, Carahaly, Geiger, Hazelbaker, and Reid
- b. Members Excused
 - i. Dunn and Seyburn

3. Action: Approval of the Agenda

- a. Reid made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
 - i. Hazelbaker seconded the motion.
 - ii. **The motion carried.**

4. Action: Approval of the Minutes

- a. Keith Baker made a motion to approve the agenda as amended.
 - i. Reid seconded the motion.
 - ii. **The motion carried.**

5. Citizen Comments

- a. No comments were made.

6. Invoices

- a. None

7. Treasurer's Report

- a. Provided in Packet
 - i. Adams explained the newer format of the Treasurer's Report
 1. The board felt that the report would look better with alternating columns for each project
 - ii. On the whole, the board liked the new format.

8. Transportation/KATS Items

- a. KATS staff outlined their activities for the previous month. That work included:
 - i. Extensive work with the rural task force and the administration of that program
 - ii. Gearing up for the asset management work
 - iii. Beginning to help organize a regional transportation safety plan at the request of MDOT

9. Discussion: Regional Prosperity Initiative

- a. Staff gave an overview of the program for the benefit of the new members.
- b. Staff also described the agenda for the February meeting and outlined some the activities anticipated at that meeting.
- c. Staff gave an overview of the funding to each RPI region to date.

- i. Staff noted that the committee will need to reevaluate its priorities in light of the reduced funding.
- ii. The board discussed the reduced funding and potential strategies going forward

10. Discussion/Action: SMPC Sponsored Retirement Account

- a. The board discussed the SMPC sponsored retirement account. Staff gave an extensive review of the accounts and organizational staffing.
- b. Geiger, acting as the chair, appointed Keith Baker, Carahaly, and Seyburn to a committee to review information relevant to the retirement accounts.

11. Discussion: Promotional Materials

- a. Staff presented a brochure and logo. Staff prepared the brochure and the Barry County Chamber of Commerce prepared the logo.
- b. The board made a few comments about the brochure and logo. Staff will make the revisions and present at a future meeting.

12. Discussion/Action: Barry County

- a. The Board discussed the move of Barry County and its implication on the region. Geiger noted that Barry County wished to move its membership at the start of March.
- b. The Board reviewed a Resolution of Membership Status Change and made a couple of edits.
 - i. Keith Baker made a motion to approve the resolution as amended.
 1. Reid seconded the motion.
 2. **The motion carried.**
- c. The board thanked Geiger for his leadership in the region.

13. Action: Election of Chair

- a. This item was tabled until the March meeting.

14. Staff Report/Other:

- a. Staff noted that SMPC is conducting survey work on behalf of Fabius Township. The survey is to be mailed out just before March 1st.
- b. Reid noted that Kalamazoo Township is in need of a part-time planner/zoning administrator. Reid and staff have had conversations about SMPC providing staffing for Kalamazoo Township.
 - i. The board was interested in this arrangement because it will enable the Institute to hire additional staff and increase SMPC's ability and capacity to offer similar services to other municipalities.
 - ii. Kalamazoo Township is looking to act on a contract in early February.
 - iii. The board wanted to express their support for the contract so they decided to approve the contract "in spirit".
 - iv. Hazelbaker made a motion to approve a contract with Kalamazoo Township "in spirit" for a part-time planner/zoning administrator.
 1. Keith Baker seconded
 2. Reid abstained.
 3. **The motion carried**

15. Board Member Comments

- a. Carahaly was curious if SMPC took stances on legislation. Staff noted that the Michigan Association of Regions (MAR) can take stances on behalf of regions. The board was satisfied funneling our positions through MAR.
 - i. The board discussed Historic Preservation legislation in the Michigan State Legislature

16. Action: Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 1:14 pm

Next Meeting: March 1, 2016
St. Joseph County Building
125 W Main Street, Centreville, MI 49032