



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

300 South Westnedge Avenue · Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

Phone: (269) 385-0409 · Fax: (269) 343-3308 · Email: info@smpcregion3.org

Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 7, 2017
MEETING TIME: 11:30 am
MEETING LOCATION: Lower Level Conference Room
Calhoun County Administration Building
315 W Green St, Marshall, MI

1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 11:50 am.

2. Members Excused

- a. The board reviewed membership as a couple of new appointees since the last meeting.
 - i. Carahaly made a motion to excuse Pangel and Seyburn.
 - ii. Reid seconded the motion.

1. **The motion carried.**

3. Action: Approval of the Agenda

- a. Hazelbaker made a motion to approve agenda with "by-law committee" added below 11e.
 - i. Carahaly seconded the motion.

ii. **The motion carried**

4. Action: Approval of the Minutes

- a. The board discussed a letter from Attorney Martone and if it should be included in the minutes. Members of the board expressed some concern with included sensitive and confidential information in the minutes. Many board members felt that since the letter contained confidential information regarding pending litigation that they should redact the sensitive information from the letter.
- b. Two motions were made but lacked a second.
- c. Carahaly made a motion to redact all information from the letter from Attorney Martone except for the greeting and salutation from the minutes.
 - i. McGraw seconded the motion.

ii. **The motion carried.**

5. Citizen Comments

- a. No comments were made.

6. Financial Report

- a. Staff gave an overview of the year-end financial statement. The expenses outpaced the revenue by roughly \$6,400 due to unforeseen legal and meeting expenses.

7. Transportation/KATS

- a. KATS Staff gave an overview of their activities in January. Most of their activities centered on programming the rural task force. The board had a few questions about the rural task force and how it functions.
- b. The board reviewed its current contract with KATS because the agreement expires at the end of the 2017 fiscal year. Staff wanted to have the board review the contract as soon as possible to allow for proper procedures to be followed if the contract is not extended.
 - i. Some board members had a few questions about the original selection process and performance of KATS to-date.
- c. Carahaly made a motion to approve the invoices from KATS totaling \$13,568.95
 - i. Hazelbaker seconded the motion.

ii. **The motion carried.**

8. Discussion: Regional Prosperity Initiative

- a. Staff gave an overview of the initiative for the new member. Staff also gave an overview of the Talent Match project that is funded through RPI.
- b. Staff also noted that the region received roughly \$185,000 to continue its work and noted its plans for the upcoming year.

9. Discussion: Update from the SMPC Sponsored Retirement Account Committee

- a. Staff gave an overview of SMPC to give some context for the newer members. He noted details regarding the history of the SMPC sponsored retirement accounts.
- b. Staff noted that our attorneys filed a formal complaint in the Kalamazoo County Circuit Court. The complaint should compel the retrieval of the SMPC records. Our attorneys are currently leading an attempt to serve him a court summons related to the complaint.
- C.** After much discussion, the board felt that it would best if Staff met with a local prosecuting attorney to discuss our options. Staff will pursue this.

10. Discussion: Model Ordinance

- a. After a brief discussion, this item was tabled. Carahaly mentioned that many communities may have a need to a model ordinance or policy supporting marijuana dispensaries.

11. Staff Report/Other:

- a. Regional Brownfield
 - i. This items was discussed at the December meeting and staff wanted to update the board. Staff discussed a possible regional brownfield application to the Environmental Protection Agency for all areas within the SMPC geography. Staff is working with a local contractor and a national technical assistance group to move through the application process. The board appreciated this work and encouraged staff to pursue it.
 - ii. Several members of the board noted that any formal work with a contractor would need official approval by the board.
 - iii. Staff will continue the discussion and update the board during the March meeting.
- b. Letters of support
 - i. Staff wrote a letter of support for the Village of Quincy's infrastructure grant to the USDA-RD. The board had a couple of questions about the work. A brief discussion ensued.
- c. Michigan Association of Region Annual Meeting.
 - i. Staff wanted to get approval from the board before committing to spend expenses related to attending the meeting.
- d. SMPC By-Laws Committee
 - i. The board requested that the chair appoint Ault and Carahaly to the committee. The Committee will develop recommendations to the by-laws and bring them to the full board for review.

12. Board Member Comments

- a. None made.

13. Action: Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 1:53 pm.