



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

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September Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, September 1, 2015
MEETING TIME: 2:00 pm
MEETING LOCATION: W.E. Upjohn Institute
300 S Westnedge, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Members Present:** Baker, Byrnes, Frantz, Geiger, Hazelbaker, Reid
3. **Members Excused:** Dunn, Robey, Seyburn, Shaffer, Wheat
4. **Action: Approval of the Agenda**
 - a. *Reid made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.*
 - i. Frantz seconded the motion.
 - ii. **The motion carried.**
5. **Action: Approval of the Minutes**
 - a. *Byrnes made a motion to approve the minutes.*
 - i. Frantz seconded the motion.
 - ii. **The motion carried.**
6. **Citizen Comments**
 - a. None made.
7. **Invoices**
 - a. None
8. **Treasurer's Report**
 - a. Provided in Packet
 - i. The Board discussed the budget statement provided by staff. Board members had a few changes they would like to see in the statement format. Staff will incorporate those changes and present a reformatted statement at the October meeting.
 - b. FY 2016 Budget
 - i. The Board had several questions regarding the budget. Staff and Board discussed budget format and amounts at length. The final version of the budget will be presented at the October Board Meeting.
 - ii. Dues from Barry County was a topic of discussion for some time. At this point in time, the Board suggested that the budget reflect no contribution from Barry County.
 - c. *Reid made a motion to accept the budget statement.*
 - i. Frantz seconded the motion.
 - ii. **The motion carried.**
9. **Transportation/KATS Items**
 - a. Monthly Report Presented at the meeting
 - i. KATS staff provided an update on work performed in August.
 - b. Project Authorizations from MDOT
 - i. Staff explained the project authorizations and that MDOT requires project authorizations for each year.
 - ii. Board members had a couple of questions for staff and KATS staff. A brief discussion ensued.

- c. *Reid made a motion to authorize the Director to sign the project authorization for SPR funds in the amount of \$19,000.00.*
 - i. Baker seconded the motion.
 - ii. **The motion carried.**
- d. *Reid made a motion to authorize the Director to sign the project authorization for MTF funds in the amount of \$34,000.00.*
 - i. Baker seconded the motion.
 - ii. **The motion carried.**

10. Discussion: Regional Prosperity Initiative

- a. Update on Regional Prosperity Meetings
 - i. Staff outlined the project selection criteria and process for the Region 8 Prosperity Committee. Staff mentioned the project proposals and shared how the subcommittee ranked the projects.
 - 1. Staff mentioned that SMPC's food system analysis and inventory received the highest score in the Community Develop project area.

11. Discussion: Water Trails

- a. Update on Water Trails
 - i. Staff gave an update on the water trails including having conversations with local leaders and the National Park Service.
- b. Graduate Students from the University of Michigan
 - i. Staff is in conversations with professors from UM with the hopes to secure assistance from graduate students in creating the water trail.
- c. The board had a few questions about the membership of the steering committee and the process.

12. Discussion: Regional Food System Grant(s)

- a. Update on Grant Applications
 - i. An update was given under RPI update.

13. Staff Report/Other:

- a. Liability Insurance
 - i. Staff noted that the Board Liability Insurance is in need of renewal at the end of September. The rate was similar as last year.
 - 1. *Reid made a motion to authorize the Director to sign the project authorization for MTF funds in the amount of \$34,000.00.*
 - a. Baker seconded the motion.
 - b. **The motion carried.**
- b. St. Joseph County
 - i. Staff noted that they performed work for St. Joseph County in August and will bill accordingly.
- c. EDA
 - i. Staff noted that he had a conversation with the regional director or EDA. He is looking into the process to redesignate our region as a Economic Development District. Staff will report back.

14. Board Member Comments

- a. Baker had a question about board membership. Staff clarified.

15. Action: Adjournment