



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

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Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, July 7, 2021
MEETING TIME: 11:30 am
MEETING LOCATION: Virtual Meeting
<https://www.gotomeet.me/Upjohn> (Audio and Video)
1-877-309-2073 (Toll Free)
1-669-224-3217
Access Code: 422-647-013

1. Call to Order
2. Representative Attendance
 - a. The following representatives were present:
 - i. Carahaly
 - ii. Drost
 - iii. Frisbie
 - iv. Grieve
 - v. Hazelbaker
 - vi. Kale
 - vii. Pangle
 - viii. Rey (substituted by John Gisler)
 - b. Also present:
 - i. Lee Adams
 - ii. Steve Stepek
 - iii. Fred Nagler
 - c. Board openings for Branch and St. Joseph counties
 - i. Adams reminded the Board that Branch and St. Joseph counties have two openings that have remained for a few months.
3. Approval of the Agenda **[Action]**
 - a. Kale made the motion to approve the agenda as presented.
 - b. Pangle seconded the motion.
 - c. **The motion carried by unanimous consent.**
4. Approval of the Minutes **[Action]**
 - a. Hazelbaker made the motion to approve the minutes as presented.
 - b. Pangle seconded the motion.
 - c. **The motion carried by unanimous consent.**
5. Public Comment
 - a. None made
6. Acceptance of the Financial Report
 - a. There was no report prepared for this meeting
 - i. **No Action taken**
7. Transportation
 - a. KATS staff gave a verbal and written report of their activities
 - b. 2022 Work Plan **[Action]**
 - i. Adams, along with KATS staff, presented the 2022 transportation work program. The board discussed and noted some minor clerical errors.

- ii. **Drost made a motion to approve the work plan with allowance for clerical fixes.**
 - iii. Hazelbaker seconded the motion.
 - iv. **The motion carried by unanimous consent.**
- 8. Capacity Building Grant / EDA
 - a. Adams gave an update on the broadband work conducted by SMPC and each of the counties in the region. The board discussed.
- 9. EPA Regional Brownfield Grant
 - a. Adams gave an update on the EPA grant acceptance process. He noted that EPA needed some additional documentation from SMPC and the Upjohn Institute. The EPA also needed a memorandum of agreement between all coalition partners (SMPC, Branch County, and Calhoun County). Adams prepared a draft agreement and walked through it with the board.
 - i. Hazelbaker made a motion to approve the memorandum of agreement.
 - ii. Kale seconded the motion.
 - iii. **The motion carried by unanimous consent.**
 - b. Adams also outlined the EPA workplan which was included in the packet.
- 10. Local Government Assistance and Planning Activities
 - a. Update on regional Housing Toolkit and housing work
 - i. Adams updated the board on all the housing work SMPC has conducted recently. This is a substantial part of the SMPC workload and it continues to receive interest from a number of communities.
 - b. Updates on Land Use Planning Projects
 - i. Adams quickly outlined all of the local land use planning work SMPC is conducting.
- 11. Staff Report/Other
 - a. Staffing
 - i. Adams mentioned that Emily Petz was hired to replace Molly Trueblood. Emily brings a decade of planning and government experience having worked for the MEDC and MSHDA.
 - b. Monthly Correspondence
 - i. Included in the packet.
- 12. Representative Comments
 - a. Gisler
 - i. Kalamazoo County Justice Center: the County floated \$75mm in bonds at 2.18%. The low rate will create a substantial costs savings for the County.
 - ii. Mentioned USDOT beaver deterrent webinar and felt it was a good resource for culvert management.
 - b. Hazelbaker
 - i. The Branch County jail ribbon cutting is schedule for September, 2021.
 - c. Bomba
 - i. The County received a site readiness grant program through MEDC. The grant is looking at master planning for large-scale industrial sites.
 - d. Frisbie
 - i. The County Commission is back to meeting in person.
 - ii. The County is slowly creating strategies for ARPA money.
 - e. Kale
 - i. Homer recently completed a \$2.3m lagoon and water main project.
 - ii. The Village is also installing new services lines as part of the project.
- 13. Adjournment **[Action]**
 - a. Kale made a motion to adjourn at 12:41pm

Next Meeting: August 3, 2021