



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

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Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, December 7, 2021

MEETING TIME: 11:30 am

MEETING LOCATION: Virtual Meeting

1. Call to Order
 - a. The virtual meeting was called to order at 11:32 am by Chair Carahaly.
2. Representative Attendance
 - a. Bomba – Marshal, MI
 - b. Carahaly – Richland, MI
 - c. Drost – Kalamazoo, MI
 - d. Frisbie – Battle Creek, MI
 - e. Grieve - Schoolcraft Township
 - f. Hazelbaker – Branch County, MI
 - g. Kale – Homer, MI
 - h. Pangle - Mendon
 - i. Branch and St. Joseph County are missing one representative each
3. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Hazelbaker made a motion to approve the agenda.
 - i. Hazelbaker seconded the motion.
 - ii. The motion carried by unanimous consent.
4. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. Pangle made a motion to approve the Minutes.
 - i. Frisbie seconded the motion.
 - ii. The motion carried by unanimous consent.
5. Public Comment
 - a. None made.
6. Acceptance of the Financial Report
 - a. A financial report was not prepared for this meeting. A formal financial report will be prepared ahead of the March meeting.
7. Transportation
 - a. KATS staff gave a written and verbal report on their activities. The board discussed the report.
8. EPA Regional Brownfield Grant
 - a. Update on the work
 - i. Staff noted that work is about to start on this project. The EPA requires that certain documentation is in place prior to SMPC expending funds. Staff will work with the contractor (SME) to create a roll out plan.
 - ii. Staff requested board members to volunteer to serve on a Brownfield Committee that would oversee this work. Carahaly and Kale volunteered.
9. Capacity Building Grant / EDA
 - a. Update on broadband work
 - i. Staff continues to assist local units of government with broadband issues. Staff is working with all four counties.

10. Local Government Assistance and Planning Activities

a. Updates on Land Use Planning Projects

- i. Staff gave an update on all activities. This work has slowed some as staff capacity became more constrained.

11. Staff Report/Other

a. Michigan Association of Regions Update

- i. Staff presented the Michigan Association of Regions (MAR) dues bill and, at the request of the board, explained the benefits of MAR membership.
- ii. Hazelbaker made a motion to approve the invoices.
- 1) Drost seconded the motion.
- 2) The motion carried by unanimous consent.

b. Future Meeting Locations

- i. The board discussed the changes to state regulations around public meetings. The board will be required to transact business in person starting January 1st. Staff suggested meeting quarterly in person while holding working sessions during the months between. The board discussed the suggestion and ultimately agreed.
- ii. Hazelbaker made a motion to change the meeting schedule to March, June, September, and October with non-business meeting in between.
- 1) Drost seconded the motion.
- 2) The motion carried by unanimous consent.

c. Monthly Correspondence

- i. Included in the packet.

12. Representative Comments

- a. None made.

13. Adjournment

- a. Drost made a motion to adjourn at 12:48 pm.