

Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

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Board Meeting Agenda

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, January 24, 2024

MEETING TIME: 11:30 am

MEETING LOCATION: Road Commission of Kalamazoo County

3801 E Kilgore Rd Kalamazoo, MI 49001

I. Call to Order

a. The meeting was called to order at 11:38am.

- 2. Representatives in Attendance
 - a. Bomba
 - b. Gisler
 - c. Hazelbaker
 - d. Frisbie
 - e. Drost
 - f. Coney
- 3. Others in attendance
 - a. Adams
 - b. Lendel
 - c. Petz
 - d. Pittelko
- 4. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Hazelbaker made a motion to approve the agenda.
 - i. Frisbie seconded the motion.
 - ii. Approved by unanimous consent.
- 5. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. Bomba made a motion to approve the minutes.
 - i. Drost seconded the motion.
 - ii. Approved by unanimous consent.
- 6. Annual Meeting Items
 - a. Adoption of the Public Notice
 - i. Drost made a motion to approve the public notice.
 - 1) Frisbie seconded the motion.
 - 2) The motion carried.
 - b. Adoption of a FY 2024 Budget
 - i. Staff led a discussion of the proposed budget.
 - ii. Coney made a motion to adopt the budget.
 - 1) Drost seconded the motion.
 - 2) The motion carried.
 - c. Election of Officers (serving Oct 2023-Sept 2024)
 - i. Frisbie made a motion to reappoint Carahaly as Chair, Hazelbaker as Vicechair, and Bomba as Secretary/Treasurer.
 - 1) Coney seconded the motion.
 - 2) The motion carried.

7. Public Comment

a. None made.

8. Transportation

- a. KATS staff gave a verbal and written report on its activities in November and December.
- b. The board had several questions about the Rural Task Force and Small Urban Program functions and urban boundaries. A discussion about those programs ensued.

9. Update on EDA Relationship and Work

a. Staff gave a brief update on the work. The work was mostly dormant as other projects were recently a higher priority.

10. EPA Regional Brownfield Grant

a. Staff gave the board an update on the work. The funding is mostly expended. Staff is trying to tie up all loose ends and gather all scraps of funding to bundle for one or two final projects.

11. Staff Report/Other

- a. Recognition of Art Kale and his contributions to SMPC
 - i. The board supported the idea of formally recognizing Art. Bomba thought we should present it at a Calhoun County Board meeting. Staff will coordinate with Bomba to move forward with the recognition.
- b. Update on Planning Work
 - i. Staff informed the board of the progress towards completing the St. Joseph County Joint Plan. Staff began reviewing the existing master plans and planning a kick-off meeting.
 - ii. Staff gave a brief update on the Constantine TIF work.
- c. Monthly Correspondence was attached to the digital version of the packet.

12. Representative Comments

- a. Drost:
 - i. Mentioned the upcoming CEO Summit to discuss the regional childcare plan.
 - ii. Kalamazoo Township tax abatement technical assistance.
- b. Bomba:
 - i. Said that housing is a huge topic in Calhoun County.
 - ii. Solar power is also a hot topic with a number of hidden issues (roads).
 - iii. Parks millage back on the ballot.
 - iv. Transportation authority was recently formed.

c. Hazelbaker:

- i. County Administrator Bud Norman is going to retire at the end of the year.
- ii. Branch County had a community-wide discussion on homelessness. The County has a significant population of transient workers who are attracted to Coldwater but often do not have the means to return to their home areas.

d. Gisler:

i. The County is going to change corporate counsel again.

13. Adjournment

a. Coney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:22pm.

Next Meeting: February 28. 2024