



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

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Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, December 11, 2024
MEETING TIME: 11:30 am
MEETING LOCATION: Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
4400 S 26th St
Kalamazoo, MI 49048

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 11:49pm
2. Representative Attendance
 - a. Present:
 - i. Gisler
 - ii. Hazelbaker
 - iii. Carahaly
 - iv. Bomba
 - b. Absent:
 - i. Coney
 - ii. Frisbie
3. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Hazelbaker made a motion to approve the agenda. The agenda was approved without objection.
4. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. Bomba made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The agenda was approved without objection.
5. Public Comment
 - a. None made.
6. Transportation
 - a. KATS staff gave a verbal and written report of activities.
7. SMPC Transition
 - a. Updates from the Transition Committee
 - i. Staff and transition committee members gave verbal updates on their work between meetings. The team worked with an attorney at Clark Hill to develop an employment agreement and with Nulty Insurance to develop an employee handbook.
 - b. Contract with the Upjohn Institute
 - i. Hazelbaker made a motion to authorize the transition committee to make the necessary changes and to authorize the chair to sign the agreement with the Upjohn Institute and the employment agreement with Brian Pittelko following legal review.
 - 1) Gisler seconded the motion.
 - 2) **The motion carried.**
8. Economic Development Administration
 - a. CEDS Application
 - i. Staff gave a verbal update on the application to the EDA for funding to update the Comprehensive Economic Development strategy for the region. Staff is actively working to complete and submit the application as soon as possible.
9. EPA Regional Brownfield Grant
 - a. Update on the Work

- i. Staff gave a brief verbal update on the work. Board members asked about the remaining funding and staff noted that little funding remained, enough for maybe one project after another project fell through.

10. Staff Report/Other

- a. Update on Planning Work
- b. Update on the Materials Management Work
- c. Monthly Correspondence

11. Representative Comments

- a. Bomba: 5-year parks and recreation plan is out for review. Calhoun County is also applying for DNR Trust Fund money.
- b. Hazelbaker: Branch County has an approved balanced budget. The County hired a new Administrator who starts on January 1st.
- c. Gisler: Tim Raymond will speak to a group that Mr. Gisler is assembling. The focus of the meeting is an update on the event center in downtown Kalamazoo.
- d. Carahaly: Thanked Lee Adams for his service to the SMPC Board for 12 years.

12. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 1:13pm.

Next Meeting: January 22, 2025