



GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

ADA TOWNSHIP • ALGOMA TOWNSHIP • ALLENDALE TOWNSHIP • ALPINE TOWNSHIP • BELDING • BYRON TOWNSHIP • CALEDONIA • CALEDONIA TOWNSHIP • CANNON TOWNSHIP • CASCADE TOWNSHIP
CEDAR SPRINGS COOPERSVILLE • COURTLAND TOWNSHIP • EAST GRAND RAPIDS • GAINES TOWNSHIP • GEORGETOWN TOWNSHIP • GRAND RAPIDS • GRAND RAPIDS TOWNSHIP • GRANDVILLE
GREENVILLE • HASTINGS • HUDSONVILLE • IONIA • JAMESTOWN TOWNSHIP • KENT COUNTY • KENTWOOD • LOWELL • LOWELL TOWNSHIP • MIDDLEVILLE • OTTAWA COUNTY
PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP • ROCKFORD • SAND LAKE • TALLMADGE TOWNSHIP • WALKER • WAYLAND • WYOMING

GVMC BOARD MEETING AGENDA

February 2, 2023

8:30 a.m.

Kent County Commission Chambers
300 Monroe
Grand Rapids, MI

1. Welcome
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment
4. Approval of Minutes – Attachment – ITEM 4
5. Oath of Office – New GVMC Board Members – Attachment – ITEM 5
 - Jim Alles – Cannon Twp
 - Craig Stolsonburg – Middleville
 - Chuck Porter – Courtland Twp
 - Walt Bujak – Kent County
 - Melissa LaGrand – Kent County
 - Kent Vanderwood – Wyoming
 - John McCarter – Wyoming
 - John Gibbs – Ottawa County
 - Kyle Terpstra – Ottawa County
6. GVMC Board Meeting Schedule 2023 – Attachment – ITEM 6
7. Announcement of Openings for 2 Executive Committee Members – Al Vanderberg, Brian Donovan, Mike DeVries
 - Process and Application – Attachment – ITEM 7
8. Annual Report & Audit – Electronic Files to be Forwarded When Available
 - Motion to Accept Audit
9. Adjourn

Grand Valley Metro Council

Board Meeting Minutes

September 1, 2022
8:30 a.m.

Kent County Commission Chambers
300 Monroe
Grand Rapids, MI

1. Call to Order

Chair Jack Poll called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Members Present:

Betsy Artz	City of Kentwood
Rick Baker	At-Large Member
Nora Balgoyen	At-Large Member
Thad Beard	City of Rockford
Mike Burns	City of Lowell
Mark Bennett	Tallmadge Township
Gary Carey	City of Walker
Shea Charles	East Grand Rapids
Deb Diepenhorst	Cannon Township
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
Brian Donovan	At-Large Member
Joshua Eggleston	City of Wayland
Adam Elenbaas	Allendale Township
Shay Gallagher	Village of Sparta
Lisa Haynes	GVSU
Curtis Holt	City of Wyoming
Jim Holtvluwer	Ottawa County
Steve Kepley	City of Kentwood
Grace Lesperance	Cascade Twp.
Dennis Luce	City of Coopersville
Jack Poll	City of Wyoming
Megan Rydecki	At-Large
Jonathan Seyferth	Gaines Township
John Shay	Ottawa County
Jeff Thornton	Village of Caledonia
Al Vanderberg	Kent County
Patrick Waterman	City of Hudsonville
Mark Washington	City of Grand Rapids
Rod Weersing	Georgetown Township
Lynee Wells	City of Grand Rapids

Members Absent:

Mandy Bolter	Kent County
Robyn Britton	Nelson Township
Precia Garland	City of Ionia
Kevin Green	Algoma Township
Jerry Hale	Lowell Township
Bryan Harrison	Caledonia Township
Diane Jones	Kent County
Ryan Kidd	Georgetown Twp.
Ross Leisman	Ada Township
Greg Madura	Alpine Township
Steve Maas	City of Grandville
Matt McConnon	Courtland Township
Brenda McNabb-Stange	City of Hastings
Amos Tillema	Byron Township
Laurie Van Haitsma	Jamestown Township
Cameron VanWyngarden	Plainfield Township
Mike Verhulst	City of Grand Rapids
Mike Womack	City of Cedar Springs
Open	City of Greenville
Open	Village of Sand Lake
Open	Village of Middleville
Open	City of Belding

2. Quorum Call

- a. Chair stated a quorum was present.

3. Public Comment

None

4. Approval of Minutes

- a. **MOTION – To Approve the June Minutes. MOVE – DeVries. SUPPORT – Waterman. MOTION CARRIED.**

5. Oath of Office – Betsy Artz, City of Kentwood & Rod Weersing, Georgetown Twp.

- a. The Oath of Office was administered to Betsy Artz, City of Kentwood and Rod Weersing, Georgetown Twp. Both new members stated they were looking forward to being on the Council and working with everyone.

6. REGIS Rebate

For the past 6 years REGIS has rebated its members a total of \$750,000. This year \$100,000 is requested to be rebated with each community receiving a share equal to their percentage of the total dues. The REGIS Executive Committee and Board have already approved the rebate.

MOTION – To Approve the Resolution to Rebate REGIS Members \$100,000. MOVE – Vanderberg. SUPPORT – DeVries. MOTION CARRIED.

7. Public Hearing and Approval of FY 2022/23 GVMC Budget

a. Public Hearing Opened 8:40 a.m.

Chair Jack Poll asked if there were any comments from the public regarding the approval of the FY 2022/23 GVMC Budget.

There were no comments.

b. Public Hearing closed 8:41 a.m.

The proposed budget has been out for review by Board members for over a month. The entire process spans several months and includes input by nearly 90 stakeholders. Dues reflect the per capita increase due to the 2020 census. The Transportation budget has already been approved by the GVMC Board. REGIS and Environmental Programs budgets have been approved by their respective committees. Everything is going extremely well.

MOTION – To Approve the Resolution to Approve the FY 2022/23 GVMC Budget. MOVE – Washington. SUPPORT – Cary. MOTION CARRIED.

8. Election of GVMC Officers and Executive Committee Members

Megan Rydecki reported on the Officer and Executive Committee Nominations. Several months ago, GVMC Board members were notified that applications were being accepted for GVMC Officer and Executive Committee members. Applications were to be forwarded to the Nominating Committee (Brian Donovan, Al Vanderberg, Megan Rydecki). No applications were received other than those currently serving on the Ex. Com.

There has been considerable discussion regarding the selection criteria (breakdown between city, township, county, engagement, participation, etc.).

The Nominating Committee puts forth the following recommended slate:

Chair – Patrick Waterman, City of Hudsonville
Vice Chair - Mike DeVries, Grand Rapids Twp.
Treasurer – Al Vanderberg, Kent County
Secretary – Brian Donovan, At Large
Greg Madura, Alpine Twp.
Steve Kepley, City of Kentwood
John Shaw, Ottawa County
Mark Washington, City of Grand Rapids
Ross Leisman, Ada Twp.
Gary Carey, City of Walker
John Weiss, Executive Director (required)

MOTION – To Approve the Above Slate of Officers and Executive Committee Members. MOVE – Rydecki. SUPPORT – Wells. MOTION CARRIED.

9. REGIS Update

Jason Moore updated the group on the progress of the software upgrades, internet provider switchover, cyber security, and presentations.

10. Transportation Update

Jack Poll announced that Laurel Joseph will be featured in the Grand Rapids Business Journal's 40 Under 40 awards.

Laurel Joseph updated the group on the Transportation Demand Management Plan and the kickoff of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2030. She also reported the Federal Highway Administration has approved the GVMC Work Program.

Laurel Joseph reported that John Weiss has been selected for the Carmen Palumbo Leadership Award for his work with statewide asset management. The award will be presented at the TAMSE conference September 28.

11. Networking Updates

Gayle McCrath reported over 100 people attended the GVMC / ITC social and networking event at the Whitecaps ballgame this summer. GVMC is very grateful to ITC for their ongoing support and sponsorship.

An evening event will be held November 9th at the Stadium Club at the Whitecaps ballpark, also sponsored by ITC. Invitations will be going out soon.

12. Adjourn- 9:10 a.m.

ITEM 5

OATH OF OFFICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss.
COUNTY OF KENT)

I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of this State, and that I will faithfully perform the duties of the office of a member of the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council, according to the best of my ability, so help me God.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on _____.

Signature

Title

Date: October 20, 2022

ITEM 6

To: Executive Committee

From: John Weiss

Re: 2023 GVMC Board Meetings

Below is a list of the anticipated 2023 GVMC Board Meetings which is in compliance with the change in by-laws made February 2020.

The meetings will be held in accordance to State, Local and National public meeting mandates.

February 2, 2023

- Review of REGIS Committee Appointments
- Annual Report Presentation and Acceptance of the Audit

June 1, 2023

- Approval of FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

September 7, 2023

- Approval of 2022-2023 Budget
- Election of Executive Committee and Officers

November 2023 - TBD

- Possible Fall Dinner

December 2023 – Date TBD

- Optional Holiday Reception

In addition to the Board of Directors listed above. Each of our departments are comprised of multiple committees and sub-committees. They will continue to meet on a regular basis:

Transportation

Transportation Technical Committee	Transportation Policy Committee
Transportation Programming Study Group	GVMC Freight Committee
Non-motorized Committee	GVMC Traffic Count Committee
West Michigan Clean Air Coalition	WM Traffic Safety Committee
Other meetings as required or requested by members, MDOT or other transportation agencies	

Environmental Department

LGROW Board of Directors	LGROW Executive Committee
Public Engagement Committee	Technical Committee
Sustainability Committee	Subwatershed Committee
Stormwater Ordinance Committee	Fund Development and Membership
Other meetings as required or requested by members, environmental groups and governmental agencies	

REGIS

REGIS Board of Directors	REGIS Executive Committee
REGIS Members Advisory Committee	REGIS Technical Committee REGIS
Specialty Users Groups for Assessors, Clerks, Planners, Assessors, DPW/Engineers	
Multiple visits as requested by members, REGIS Training, WM GIS Users Group	



GVMC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

**Return to Brian Donovan at
donovan.brian11@gmail.com**

Applicant's Name:

Municipality/Organization:

Address:

Phone:

Email Address:

The Grand Valley Metro Council Executive Committee Membership consists of eleven members who are predominantly drawn from the GVMC Board Membership. The Officers include the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Its membership has traditionally included the Mayor or City Manager of the City of Grand Rapids, and the County Administrators of Kent and Ottawa Counties as permanent seats; the GVMC Executive Director in a non-voting capacity as a permanent seat, and a balance between city and township representation for the seven remaining seats.

When openings for the seven non-permanent seats occur, applicants are considered by the Executive Committee based on the following selection criteria, and are then recommended to the GVMC Board Membership for approval:

Selection Criteria for Appointment to the GVMC Executive Committee

(circle all that apply to you)

- **Government Type Balance:** Applicant represents a government type (i.e. small population city, large population city, small population township, large population township), that is not currently represented, or is under represented by the GVMC Executive Committee).
- **MPO Status:** Applicant represents a municipality/organization that is an ongoing member of the MPO.
- **Geographic Balance:** Applicant represents a municipality/organization located in a geographic area that is not currently represented, or is under represented by the GVMC Executive Committee).
- **Agency Membership:** Applicant represents a municipality/organization that has ongoing membership status in at least one other GVMC Agency (i.e. LGROW and/or REGIS)).
- **Level of Engagement:** Applicant has demonstrated a high level of engagement in GVMC activities (e.g. regularly attends Board meetings, is active in other GVMC agency functions, etc.).
- **Special Talent or Expertise:** Applicant possesses unique talent, knowledge or expertise that would add value to the makeup of the GVMC Executive Committee (please list any special talents or expertise below)

I hereby certify that the information contained on this form is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that all information disclosed on this form will be available to the public as part of a Freedom of Information Act request.

Applicant Signature

Date



Ottawa County

Administrator's Office

Alan G. Vanderberg
County Administrator

John E. Shay
Deputy County Administrator

Regina L. MacMillan
Administrative Assistant

Date: February 4, 2021

To: Chair DeVries and GVMC Board of Directors

From: Al Vanderberg, County Administrator and Past Chair, GVMC Board of Directors *AGV*

Subject: Gender Composition of GVMC Executive Committee

I thought that the most recent GVMC Board of Directors meeting was a relatively painful meeting, not because there was dissent, but because there is apparently a significant lack of understanding of the type of organization the GVMC is, who it serves, and why membership is constituted the way it has been over the years. As Past Chair, with well over 20-years of experience working with GVMC, I think that I have a responsibility to assist with resolving this matter.

The Metro Council is a governmental services organization created under the PA 292 of 1989, Metropolitan Councils Act. GVMC exists to serve its members with services members need and desire and that are provided by decision of the Board of Directors. To emphasize this further, the GVMC is **NOT** an organization that provides services to the public directly and is **NOT** a political organization.

The membership of GVMC is not elected to the GVMC, most are elected or appointed to the counties, cities, townships and villages that GVMC was created to serve. The counties, cities, townships and villages make their own independent decisions on whom to appoint to the GVMC Board of Directors. Typically, leaders of these jurisdictions have been selected such as mayors, township supervisors, village presidents or manager representatives that have the authority to speak on behalf of the appointing jurisdiction. GVMC membership includes four "at-large" seats among its membership.

Executive Committee Membership consists of eleven members who are predominantly drawn from the GVMC Board Membership. The Executive Committee consists of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Executive Committee membership has traditionally included the Mayor or City Manager of Grand Rapids and the County Administrators of Kent and Ottawa Counties as permanent seats; the Executive Director in a non-voting capacity as a permanent seat; and a balance between city and township representation for the seven remaining members.

GVMC has utilized criteria or filters over the years to determine Executive Committee membership; not to say that there haven't been exceptions but for the most part these criteria have been consistently utilized:

- **Government Type** – due to the differences in between counties, cities & villages; and townships, Executive Committee membership has been designed to have a representative balance of types of governments for many reasons which many of you know and I won't elucidate here.

- **MPO Status** – Preference has been given to communities that are members of the MPO. The MPO represents by far the greatest share of funding and activity of GVMC. Some may not realize it but each time we are having a GVMC Meeting, we are also concurrently having an MPO meeting. Gayle does two sets of minutes for each meeting and parses out the non-MPO members vote in the minutes of the MPO meeting for those items that pertain to the MPO.
- **Geographic Balance** – cities & villages, and township representation has been taken from both Kent and Ottawa Counties in proper proportion between the two.
- **Other GVMC Agency Knowledge/Service** – Preference has been shown to GVMC Board Members whose communities are part of REGIS and/or LGROW.
- **Need for Special Talent or Expertise** – Preference has been given at times to someone with unique talent or expertise which is needed at a certain time. For example, a BDO Seidman Partner served as Treasurer for years when financial management was a greater concern than currently.

The reality is that the demographic makeup of the Executive Committee has far more to do with the people who are elected and appointed to positions at the city, township and village level and then appointed to the GVMC by their respective councils and boards and not due to the preference of the Executive Committee or GVMC Board of Directors. For example, the City of Grand Rapids decided to appoint the male City Manager to replace the female Mayor on the Executive Committee that changed the demographic makeup of the Executive Committee which had no say in the matter. Grand Rapids also could have decided to appoint one of their other GVMC Board Member appointees who is female to the Executive Committee but chose not to. In the past 3 years we went from an Executive Committee with one female member and zero African American members to an Executive Committee with zero female members and two African American members, none of which was due to any decision of the GVMC Board or Executive Committee!

I believe that we are on the right course with the mix of governmental membership on the Executive Committee. Racial and gender equity will change over the years based on who is elected and appointed to city, village and township offices.

I think there would be value in documenting the Executive Committee appointment process in writing prior to seeking nominations later this year and offer to write a first draft if so desired.