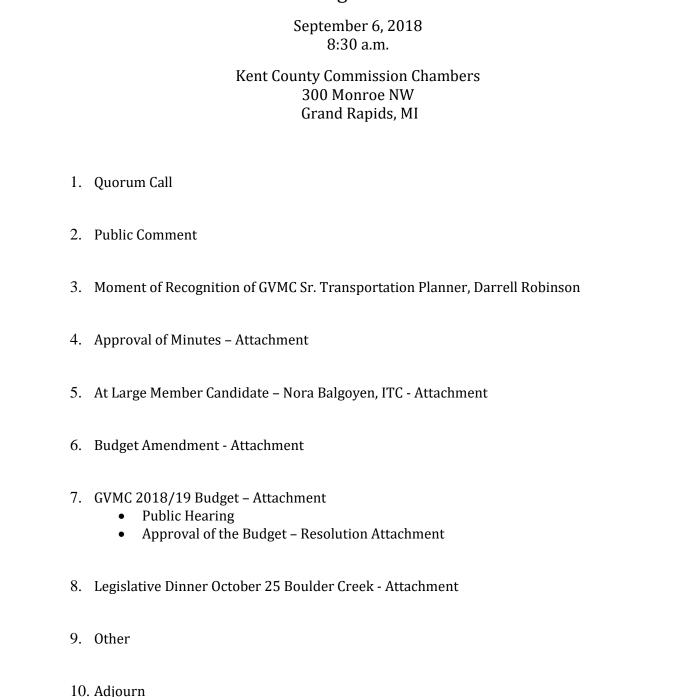


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GVMC BOARD MEETING Agenda



GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL

Board Meeting

August 2, 2018

8:30 a.m.

Kent County Commission Chambers

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mike DeVries called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Members Present:

Rob Beahan Cascade Township
Thad Beard City of Rockford
Ken Bergwerff Jamestown Township

Wayman Britt Kent County
Mike Burns City of Lowell

Tom Butcher GVSU

Mike DeVries Grand Rapids Township
David Dewey Village of Sand Lake
Brian Donovan City of East Grand Rapids

City of Wayland Joshua Eggleston Adam Elenbaas Allendale Township George Haga Ada Township **Ottawa County** Jim Holtvluer City of Walker Mark Huizenga Diane Jones Kent County City of Kentwood Steve Kepley Mike Krygier Courtland Township Greg Madura Alpine Township

Karen McCarthy At-Large

Brenda McNabb-Stange City of Hastings City of Belding John Niemela Jack Poll City of Wyoming City of Wyoming Megan Sall Jonathan Seyferth City of Coopersville Al Vanderberg Ottawa County Cameron VanWyngarden Plainfield Township Mike Verhulst City of Grand Rapids Patrick Waterman City of Hudsonville

Members Absent:

Rick Baker At-Large

Rosalynn Bliss City of Grand Rapids Robyn Britton Nelson Township Dan Carlton Georgetown Township Cannon Township Deb Diepenhorst Rob DeWard Gaines Township Jason Eppler City of Ionia Algoma Township Kevin Green Lowell Township Jerry Hale **Brian Harrison** Caledonia Township

Carol Hennessey **Kent County** Tom Hooker Byron Township John Hoppough City of Greenville Steve Maas City of Grandville Julius Suchy Village of Sparta Lynee Wells City of Grand Rapids Duane Weeks Village of Middleville Mike Womack City of Cedar Springs Open Tallmadge Township Open At-Large Member Open At-Large Member

Others Present:

John WeissGrand Valley Metro CouncilGayle McCrathGrand Valley Metro CouncilAbed ItaniGrand Valley Metro CouncilWendy OgilvieGrand Valley Metro CouncilJason MooreGrand Valley Metro Council

Mark Rambo City of Kentwood

Chris Brown GVMC
Peter Varga The Rapid

2. Minutes

MOTION – To Approve the June 2018 GVMC Board Minutes. MOVE – McNabb-Stange. SUPPORT – Donovan. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Public Comment

Peter Varga stated that he was retiring from The Rapid and this would be his last meeting. He has had a very good working relationship with everyone at GVMC and the entire MPO.

4. Oath of Office

The Oath of Office was administered to Jonathan Seyferth of the City of Coopersville.

Jonathan said he was a big supporter of regionalism and looked forward to working with everyone on the Council.

5. Amendment of 2018 Unified Planning Work Program

John Weiss and Abed Itani explained the Amendment to the 2018 Unified Planning Work Program. The amendment is for \$77,000 to allow for the Kent County Roads Commission to undertake a culvert mapping and categorizing project which was initiated through work done on the Asset Management pilot.

MOTION – To Approve the Amendment to the 2018 Unified Planning Work Program. MOVE – Bergwerff. SUPPORT – Donovan. MOTION CARRIED.

6. GVMC 2018/19 Proposed Budget

John Weiss reported on the GVMC 2018/19 proposed budget. There is no dues increase in any area of GVMC, Transportation, REGIS, Environmental Programs or Administration. More work has been undertaken with a smaller staff.

A new fund has been created in the budget to hold monies from the Asset Management Pilot.

For a detailed timeline of the approval process, see the paperwork included in the agenda packet. The budget will come back to the Board for final approval in September.

7. Recap of Asset Management Pilot Luncheon at Fifth-Third Ballpark

John Weiss recapped the July 17 Asset Management meeting at Fifth-Third Ballpark. It was a very successful event with 95 people in attendance. In addition to GVMC Board members and members of their Boards/Councils/Commissions, steak-holders and participants in the program from throughout West Michigan attended including representatives from Gov. Snyder's office and WMSRDC.

Several GVMC Board members spoke in support of the Asset Management Pilot program and the July 17 event.

8. Legislative Dinner October 25 at Boulder Creek

There will be a Legislative Dinner held in the evening of October 25 at Boulder Creek. GVMC Board members and members of their councils/boards/commissions are invited to attend. Rep. Rob VerHeulen is spearheading the effort in the legislature to rally attendance.

9. Other

GVMC has been approached by the Frey Foundation to convene a regional discussion around affordable housing. GVMC will be a neutral convener. Details have not yet been finalized.

10. New Board Member Orientation

There will be a new GVMC Board member orientation on August 13 at the GVMC offices. New board members and their staff are invited to attend.

11. Michigan Infrastructure Council

John Weiss was appointed by the Senate Majority Leader to the new Michigan Infrastructure Council. Nine people state-wide will be on the council. Erin Kuhn from WMSRDC will also serve, with the remainder of representatives being from northern and eastern Michigan.

12. Adjourn 9:20 a.m.



July 25, 2018

Grand Valley Metropolitan Council 678 Front Avenue N.W., Suite 200 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504

Dear Grand Valley Metro Council Board,

Please accept this letter of interest to join the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council Board as an At-Large Member. As an Area Manager for Local Government and Community Affairs at ITC, my responsibilities include the Grand Rapids metro and surrounding areas. As the largest, independent electric transmission company in the country, ITC is committed to the growth and vitality of this region and the State of Michigan.

In my current role, I work closely with local governments, elected officials, economic development organizations and chambers as ITC invests in not only electric infrastructure, but also in community. Prior to ITC, I was the Director of Economic Development for Allegan County with experience in business growth and talent development. During this time, I was involved in the Governor's Regional Prosperity Initiative through activities within Prosperity Region 4. In addition, I am a current board member of the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Committee where I have served the past nine years. I attribute my success to the network of relationships I have built at the local, regional and State levels including my Business Solutions Professional (BSP) certification through the State of Michigan. I feel strongly about connection to local community and my goal is continuing to build successful partnerships that promote idea sharing and resource development to keep communities engaged and moving forward.

ITC is a long-time supporter of GVMC and it would be an honor to serve on its Board. Please see my attached resume for detailed background information. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Nora Balgoyen, Area Manager

Local Government and Community Affairs

Nora Balgoyen

ITC – Wayland 801 S. Main Street, Wayland, MI 49348 (269) 532-0541 cell / nbalgoyen@gmail.com

OBJECTIVE: Grand Valley Metropolitan Council – At-Large Board Member

Qualifications

- 22 years of experience in Economic and Workforce Development.
- Established leader at local, regional and state level through professional and personal commitments.
- Established network with surrounding government entities and economic development agencies.
- Certified Business Solutions Professional since 2009.
- Excellent written and verbal skills through leadership positions and appointments.
- Budgetary experience and financial management of an annual \$2 million+ budget.

Professional Experience

ITC HOLDINGS, INC., Novi, MI

Area Manager, Local Government and Community Affairs 09/2017 to Present

- Develops, maintains and enhances relationships with area community and local government groups and officials.
- Implements corporate strategy for the west side of Michigan to support operational initiatives as they relate to capital projects and community relations.
- Negotiates with local government units when local public policies/rules/ordinances impact business.
- Conducts public open house meetings, public informational meetings and leadership summits required for obtaining capital project approvals; acts as company liaison at these meetings.
- Provides technical guidance for the routing of transmission lines and the siting of substations with special focus on the community and social aspects; coordinates with other company departments early in development as routes and sites are identified.

ALLEGAN AREA EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY, Allegan, MI

Director of Economic Development 2013 – 09/2017

Director of Michigan Works for Allegan County 1997 - 2013

Case Management Coordinator 1995 - 1997

Economic Development

- Coordinated a 14-member volunteer Economic Development Commission consisting of top business and community leaders. Responsible for negotiating and implementing strategic plan/objectives.
- Served as a central point of contact for Allegan County for business attraction and retention.
- Proactively met with Allegan County businesses along with local partners to address business needs for retention purposes and services available.
- Conducted joint retention visits with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) and Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD).
- Served as a business liaison to companies in need of support for growth and expansion. Facilitated
 access to various municipal, state and local resources for businesses such as tax abatements, training
 resources and site enhancements.
- Responded to Requests for Information, provided site selection information and other resources to
 prospective businesses interested in expansion and/or location in Allegan County. Established and
 maintained relationships with banks, commercial and industrial realtors and brokers.
- Supported a unified approach to economic development through close collaboration with governmental entities including cities, townships, chambers and DDA's.

- Represented Allegan County with MEDC Region 4 meetings and state-level activities.
- Active member of the Michigan Economic Development Association (MEDA) and member of the education sub-committee.

Business, Education & Community Connections

- Built relationships with area businesses for effective delivery of economic and workforce services including placement, training and retention.
- Conducted presentations for group events, comfortable facilitating and leading discussions.
- Founding leader of the Allegan Area STEM Partnership, designed to enhance the local talent pool through collective impact between employers, education and community leaders.
- Coordinated the Allegan County Employer Network for area businesses to network and be responsive to business/training needs.
- Organized the Allegan County Cities, Township and Villages (ACCTV) quarterly meeting for local elected officials to network and coordinate services for the betterment of Allegan County.
- Organized effort to engage over 30 staff and local leaders within education, economic and workforce development to attend Business Solutions Professional training to promote relationships for business.
- Maintained linkages with area community colleges and other higher education institutions for meeting business training needs and student referral into programming.

Management of multiple Federal grant programs

- Monitored and assured contract performance and compliance with applicable rules and regulations for 15+ grant operations including recruitment, assessment, testing, selection, training, job placement, and the State's electronic records system.
- Prepared proposals and bids to obtain/obligate government or private funding for projects designed to meet the needs of clients and community.
- Directed 15-20+ staff for eighteen years, including professional and support staff.

Financial and Record Management

- Developed and monitored \$2 million+ annual budget. Forecasted, obligated, and de-obligated financial resources to successfully assure the attainment of allowable training outcomes.
- Monitored various units such as case management records and reporting systems including client outcome data and fiscal data. Maintained strict budget parameters.
- Made recommendations for improvement of organization's policies, procedures, and practices.

Education

BS, Sociology, Industrial Emphasis, Michigan State University, East Lansing
Degree conferred, GPA: 3.4 (Overall) 3.9 (Major) Graduated with Honor
National Development Council Economic Development Finance Professional Certification (2014)
International Economic Development Council – CEcD in process (5 of 6 courses completed)
Michigan Citizen Planner Michigan State University Extension (2014)
Business Solutions Professional Certified (2009), Michigan State University

Affiliations

- Allegan County Economic Development Commission, Board Member
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee, County Commission appointed
- Michigan Economic Developer's Association (MEDA), Member and Education sub-committee
- Michigan State University Extension District 7 Board member and State representative for District
- Allegan Area Chamber of Commerce, Member and Past President
- Certified Michigan State 4-H Horse Judge and Judges Advisory Board Member
- Allegan County 4-H Horse Leaders Association, Past President, current Vice President

Budget Amendment Resolution for Fiscal 2017-2018

Whereas, the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council (GVMC) was organized as a Council of Governments in 1990; and

Whereas, GVMC now has 38 members from West Michigan including cities, villages, townships and counties; and

Whereas, the budgetary process at GVMC is highly transparent and the Fiscal 2017-2018 Budget was adopted on September 7, 2017; and

Whereas, GVMC has added many new programs and initiatives in the past few years; and

Whereas, from time to time changes in expected revenues or expenditures warrant the need to amend the budget, and

Whereas, GVMC budgets on a functional level not a line item basis.

Original Revenue

Now Therefore Be it Resolved, that the Board of Directors of GVMC hereby amends the Budget for Fiscal 2017-2018

Original Expenses Amended Revenue Amended Expenses

Be It Further Resolved that our amended functional budgets are as follows:

General Fund	\$2,464,970.35	\$2,291,687.00	\$2,333,073.50	\$2,007,587.00	
REGIS Fund	\$753,777.00	\$744,419.73	\$863,977.00	\$792,249.73	
REGIS Capital	\$1,300.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	
Environmental	\$1,563,253.00	1,540,552.85	\$1,000,000	\$975,000.00	
Infrastructure Pilot	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$120,000.00	\$120,000.00	
<u> </u>			Amendment Resolut	s made by ion for Fiscal Year 2016-1	 7. The
Michael DeVries			Septembe	r 6, 2018	
Chair, Grand Valley	Metropolitan Coun	icil Date			



GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

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TO: Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

Draft 6/18/2018

FROM: John Weiss, Executive Director

DATE: June 20, 2018

RE: FY 2018-2019 Budget Message and Budget Resolution

First and foremost, the Grand Valley Metro Council continues to be in the best financial, programmatic and budgetary position in our history. We are involved in more issues, have developed more collaboration efforts and expanded those that already existed more than ever before. We are also bringing in more grants, more fees for services and more non-dues related revenues and have the highest level of public awareness and regional leadership since our founding in 1990. Because we have reached sustainability through increased revenue and dramatically reduced expenses through staff reductions, privatization, program expansion, and reorganization we are able to present this budget where for the fourth year in a row we have no dues increases in any of our programs.

Attached for your review and consideration is the GVMC budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019. The budget utilizes revenues from GVMC general fund dues, transportation allocations, and project-specific grants to fund the activities of the Council's Strategic Initiatives, Transportation, Environmental, Infrastructure Asset Management and REGIS through September 30, 2019. The GVMC Budget is adopted at the function level, not on a line item basis. The REGIS Board of Directors, REGIS Executive Committee, Transportation Policy Committee and the GMVC Executive Committee have reviewed this budget and recommends your approval.

This year we are once again using a very transparent approach to our budget with approximately 80 of our members actively involved in development process for the budget. We have also allowed over a month for review and consideration by the Board of Directors.

Key Budget Highlights for 2018-2019

- Once again, there will be <u>no</u> member dues increases for GVMC including Transportation, REGIS or LGROW/Environmental Programs.
- Last year, Governor Snyder recognized GVMC by naming us West Michigan Chair of the new 21st Century Infrastructure Pilot. GVMC is leading this effort that involves our 13 County Region. At the end of the pilot program over 60 municipalities in our region participated along with GVMC. REGIS played a crucial role in this effort. We are proposing a new budget category to continue to assist communities in the implementation of Infrastructure Asset Management.
- GVMC has completed its fiscal transformation and this is a balanced budget that
 continues expansion of our programs and services to our members. We have achieved
 financial stabilization, budget control, and fiscal sustainability without increasing member
 dues.

- All our programs continue to grow and we have sought and received substantial nondues related revenues through program and service expansion and calculated program growth.
- In the past, REGIS completed a total evaluation of all aspects of its system. This resulted in a complete renovation of its hardware and the first phase of its software upgrades. We were able to dramatically increase customer speed and system reliability while removing 17 servers from the system and reducing our utility costs by over 70%. During this budget we will continue to make improvements to the system and have developed for the first time a Capital Improvement Plan for REGIS. We will also be doing software updates to insure that REGIS continues to be a national leader is GIS services. We are also developing a Software Master Plan to guide future software upgrades.
- In the summer of 2016 REGIS began the migration of data from Oracle to Microsoft. This software upgrade will save REGIS over \$171,000 in the next 5 years. Microsoft is also the preferred vendor in all West Michigan governments. We know of no other Oracle governmental user in West Michigan other than REGIS. This migration was completed in 2016/2017 and we have allowed for adjustments that may need to occur in our future budgets.
- In 2016-2017 GVMC/REGIS gave its members a \$100,000 rebate of dues. In 2017-2018, we were able to rebate \$150,000. We hope we will be able to do so again in budget 2018-2019. These rebates occurred with no increase in dues and saved each of our members about 20% of their total dues.
- GVMC was awarded a USDA funded program, Regional Conservation Partnership Program, to reduce sediment and improved habitat in the Indian Mill Creek and Rogue River Watersheds. The total reward of \$8,000,000 will also fund habitat restoration in the Grand River as part of the Grand River Restoration Project. In fiscal 2018-2019 we will continue to implement this and other grants.
- GVMC was awarded a GLRI grant in 2015 for stormwater implementation of green infrastructure in public spaces and experiential learning with students in the Rogue River, Plaster Creek, and Lamberton Creek Watersheds. Total project was for \$451,600, EPA contributing \$340,065. There is one year remaining in the grant.
- Our NPDES Stormwater Program continues to serve 23 communities with no increase in fees.
- We continue to support Grand Rapids Whitewater and the Grand River Revitalization project by providing project management assistance, applying for and securing grant funding. Our contract with GRWW for this year \$15,000.
- GVMC continues to work with communities through the SAW Grant to complete the development of the Stormwater Management Plans.
- We will be working with the Wege Foundation on a variety of grants totaling \$75,000.
- We estimate our educational efforts will reach 5,000 students this year.
- For the past five years GVMC has been the fiduciary agent and chair of Governor Snyder's Regional Prosperity Alliance. This program has dramatically increased our profile and leadership at the regional level and in Lansing. The program has allowed the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance to invest over \$800,000 on worthwhile projects in our region. After 5 years of great success, GVMC will be turning over the leadership of this program to another agency in Region 4.
- This budget reflects the continuing integration of all GVMC programs and operations with multiple collaborations, cost sharing and program efforts occurring between departments. This has resulted in program expansion and improved operational efficiencies.

<u>The Budget Calendar is as follows:</u> (Approximately 80 people have been involved in this process)

- <u>May 16</u>-Transportation Policy Committee Reviewed the Budget and recommended approval by the GVMC Executive Committee and Board of Directors.
- <u>June 7</u>

 The Unified Work Program (Transportation) Budget was adopted by the GVMC Board
- June 21-The GVMC Executive Committee received the Budget for comments
- July 16 -REGIS Executive Committee Recommends Approval to REGIS Board
- July 25 REGIS Board is presented the REGIS Budget and recommends approval
- August 2- Presentation of all GVMC Budgets to GVMC Board of Directors
- September 6- Final Approval of all budgets by the GVMC Board of Directors
- October 1- Beginning of the new fiscal year

What is GVMC?

The Grand Valley Metro Council (GVMC) is a regional organization dedicated to promoting cooperation and coordination among local governments in the West Michigan area. Created in 1990, its membership now includes 38 local governments, representing nearly 750,000 people. Our mission is to advance the current and future well-being of our metropolitan area by bringing together public and private sectors to cooperatively advocate, plan for, and coordinate the provision of services and investments which have environmental, economic and social impact.

Included within GVMC are, Administration and Operations and the area Transportation Metropolitan Planning Organization with revenues of \$1,941,990.35 and operating expenses of \$1,872,947.70. Our REGIS (Regional Geographic Information System) serves 19 governmental units with revenues of \$756,752.00 and expenses of \$747,386.60. REGIS also includes a fixed savings account of \$242,400 for REGIS Capital Equipment. Finally, GVMC Environmental Programs has proposed revenues of \$1,280,808.00 and operating expenses of \$1,271,591.20.

During the past year, GVMC has taken a lead role as grant recipient and west Michigan chair of Governor Snyder's 21st Century Infrastructure Pilot. This pilot includes a 13 county West Michigan area with a population of over 1.5 million residents. The area covers an area of 8,163 square miles (about the size of New Jersey). There are over 130 miles of Lake Michigan Shoreline and the region extends 75 miles to the heart of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. Working in collaboration with southeastern Michigan and over 60 communities from our area, the Infrastructure Pilot was hugely successful. Data on 15,000 miles of drinking water lines, 13,500 miles of sewer pipes and 6,700 storm-water pipes was collected from 163 communities.

In order to keep this effort moving forward, we are establishing an Infrastructure Asset Management budget of \$350,000 for further data collection and implementation of a regional and state-wide asset management program.

What are the major components of GVMC?

TRANSPORTATION

The Transportation Department is responsible for managing the 20-25 year, five billion dollar, Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and \$154 million dollar (2018) Annual Transportation Improvement Program for our region. The Department is responsible for administering these programs using strict guidelines established by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). Transportation programs are generally

funded on an 80/20 basis with the 20% local match being utilized to leverage 80% state and federal dollars. There are seven employees in the Department. <u>The 2017-2018 Unified Planning and Work Program Activities and Budget below was previously approved by the GVMC Board of Directors on June 7, 2018.</u>

In order to meet the federal and state requirements of the programs and provide the highest levels of coordination, there are six major focus areas for the Transportation Department. Also, I have provided the degree at which GVMC leverages local funding to obtain state and federal grants.

1. Database Management- Listing the work tasks needed to monitor area travel characteristics and factors affecting travel such as socio-economic, land use data, transportation system data, and environmental issues and concerns. Priorities include data collection and analysis, enhanced GIS capabilities development and update. Revenues for the activities under this are listed below.

LOCAL	TOTAL
\$35,034	\$193,026

2. Long Range Planning- Identifying transportation system planning tasks related to long range transportation systems planning. Priorities include the development/update of the MTP, identification of long range transportation needs, goals, objectives, policies, improvements, monitoring, and updating and maintaining of the travel demand model. In cooperation with MDOT and ITP, develop, adopt, and implement performance based planning measures and targets that will help assess the performance of strategies aimed to improve the conditions and functionality of the transportation system. Revenues for the activities under this are listed below.

\$49,860	\$255,495
LOCAL	TOTAL

3. Short Range Planning- Identifying transportation system planning tasks related to short range transportation systems planning. Priorities include performance measurement, the development/update of the TIP, providing technical assistance and special studies to the MPO members, Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) planning, safety planning, freight planning, non-motorized planning, managing the Clean Air Action Program, and phase in performance based measures and monitoring. Revenues for the activities under this are listed below.

LOCAL	TOTAL
\$9,2586	\$499,918

4. TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS- Listing the work tasks needed to monitor area travel characteristics and factors affecting congestion and pavement conditions. Priorities include collecting transportation system data and analysis, coordination with MDOT and local transportation providers, development of congestion and pavement investment plans, and

implementation and monitoring of ITS solutions. GVMC is also involved in a statewide effort to develop, collect data, coordinate with MDOT on performance measures and targets for the NHS system, and implement Michigan's Asset Management System. Revenues for the activities under this are listed below.

ľ	\$65,171.	_ 08	\$381	3,412
	LOCAL		TO	TAL

5. PROGRAM COORDINATION- Describing task functions required to manage the transportation planning process on a continual basis, including program administration, development, review, and reporting. Priorities include the UPWP, public involvement, environmental justice, timely submittal of documents, MPO scheduled meetings, and coordination with all MPO member units. Revenues for the activities under this are listed below.

LOCAL	TOTAL
\$60,835.95	\$335,184

6. LAND USE MONITORING AND TRANSPORTATION COORDINATION - Linking land use decision-making and transportation planning throughout the region in a more effective way. Priorities include monitoring the development of local land use and transportation plans and coordinating with regional partners; updating land use related socio-economic data for use in the travel demand model (TDM); ongoing meetings with GVMC membership to coordinate local plans and policies related to land use and transportation with the intention of bringing about region-wide consensus for sustainable development and providing support for the basic elements of livability, environmental protection/enhancement, economic viability and performance measures; updating socio-economic (SE) land use data for use in the travel demand model; scenario planning; other long- and short-range planning needs studies in compliance with the Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) process; and collaborating with REGIS to contribute to the maintenance of the regional zoning and future land use geodatabases.

LOCAL	TOTAL
\$6,914.21	\$38,095

REGIS Regional Geographic Information System

For the past 20 years, REGIS has been a single centralized GIS department for 19 local governments. REGIS operates on annual revenues of \$756,752 and expenses of \$747,386.60 REGIS has 4 fulltime and 1 part-time employees. This budget anticipates the addition of one additional GIS Analyst in the second quarter 2019 and does not replace the REGIS Director position. The REGIS Directors duties have been assumed by the GVMC Executive Director. In addition, REGIS has a Capital Fund budgeted at \$242,400 for future equipment needs. REGIS is one point of service to local governments, the private sector, the education community and our citizens. Once again, we are anticipating revenues for REGIS beyond the dues structure. In the past member dues were close to 100% of REGIS revenues, that percentage lowers each year as the REGIS team works as integral part of GVMC.

In addition to the significant financial gains and collaborations achieved through the REGIS reorganization, operational changes resulted in the establishment of an active REGIS Advisory Committee. This group of REGIS technical users is meeting regularly to discuss issues, strategies and system and service enhancements. The Advisory Committee is directly involved in operational decisions and service priorities that will improve REGIS services at the user level. Working closely with REGIS staff, the REGIS Board and each-other, the new REGIS Advisory Committee is helping to determine the future operational direction for the agency. They will also make recommendations and be an active resource for the REGIS and GVMC Board of Directors.

REGIS/GVMC organized and will continue to support the West Michigan GIS Users Group. This collaborative effort that was part of our REGIS Reorganization Plan has over 35 members representing local government and private companies from throughout West Michigan. We are very pleased to continue to play a leadership role in GIS throughout Michigan.

In July of 2016, the REGIS Board of Directors approved an equity based dues structure with fixed multipliers for all member based on population and parcel count. This budget continues the equity based system. In the past two fiscal years REGIS has rebated \$250,000 to its 19 member communities.

Environmental Programs Department

Our environmental staff has grown to include a part-time environmental education coordinator, a full time environmental programs associate and several interns. Not reflected in our budget, but a critical component of our ability to achieve our strategic objectives, is a twenty hour per week GVSU Graduate Assistant. This individual's salary and tuition are paid in-full by Grand Valley State University. Through the generosity of GVSU a biology graduate assistant is now dedicated to assisting with coordinating the activities of the Lower Grand River Organization of Watersheds (LGROW).

Our goal in creating an Environmental Department was to elevate GVMC and our member communities as significant and recognized environmental leaders in our region. Local government is responsible for water quality; wastewater and storm-water management and our members are very much at the forefront of these issues. As we worked and planned for, we have experienced tremendous but focused and managed growth in our programs, influence and public awareness. GVMC is one of the largest and most influential environmental programs in Michigan.

LGROW is an agency of GVMC managed through our Environmental Programs Department and is dedicated to the preservation, improvement and monitoring of the Lower Grand River. LGROW is an excellent example of cooperation and collaboration in our area. As a broad stakeholder organization dedicated to the ongoing health, use and enjoyment of the Grand River. The Lower Grand River Watershed covers 1.8 million acres of property, 2,900 square miles and all or portions of 10 counties.

The 23 municipalities in the Lower Grand River Watershed and Grand Valley State University (four campuses) are required to have NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permits. They are working together through LGROW to comply with stormwater discharge permits required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. MDEQ is still reviewing those applications and contracts are in place for GVMC to manage the program on behalf of our members into the future.

Funding for the Environmental Programs comes as earned revenue from fees for the MS4 program, LGROW memberships and grants. The total budget for our Environmental Program is \$1,280,808 with expenses \$1,271,591.20. Our Environmental Department has dramatically increased its programs and other sources of funding including the following:

- LGROW Membership Dues and NPDES
- Regional Conservation Partnership Program
- West Michigan Prosperity Alliance
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality (SAW)
- Ottawa Conservation District
- Wege Foundation
- Grand Rapids White Water
- US EPA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
- Clean Air Action Transportation
- Land Use Planning Transportation
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

LGROW's Annual Grand River Spring Forum saw record attendance from throughout the region. Our leadership and involvement has dramatically raised the profile of GVMC as an environmental leader and collaborator while providing additional opportunities and services to our members. Our Environmental Programs staff will continue to expand our GVMC influence and involvement in a wide variety of programs that impact West Michigan's environment.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES and VISION

In the past, the Board of Directors adopted nine Strategic Initiatives in which to focus our efforts in collaboration and cooperation. Those initiatives are:

- 1. Managing Emerging Issues
- 2. Encouraging Collaborative Service Sharing
- 3. Coordinating a Region-Wide Training Exchange
- 4. Nurturing a Regional Economic Development Partnership
- 5. Planning for Sustainable Communities
- 6. Regional Leader in Collaboration Efforts-Facilitator
- 7. Communicate/Educate Regarding GVMC and Regions
- 8. Focus on Core Competencies (Transportation, Environment, GIS, Regional Prosperity Initiative, Council of Governments)
- 9. Increase Lansing/Washington Connection

The Board instructed staff to "oversee a selection process and recommend public relations contract to the Board to help get the GVMC story framed and out to the public in a more consistent manner". Funds have been included to accomplish this Board request.

By focusing our efforts on these nine strategic initiatives, we have made dramatic improvements to our communications, involvement, transparency, member participation and influence in each of these critical areas.

GENERAL FUND BUDGET AT A GLANCE

Net Revenue \$1,941,990.35 to expenses of \$1,872,947.70 equals net income of **\$69,042.65.** As in the past, this budget is conservative in nature and no contingent funding is included. Through conservative budgeting and operational controls GVMC has significantly improved our financial stability over the past five years by leveraging our financial resources and controlling costs. This effort has resulted in improved stabilization of our financial resources.

During Fiscal Year 2018-2019 we will continue to privatize finance resulting in a dramatic decrease in cost for financial administration. We will continue to share the services of our finance director with the Macatawa Area Coordinating Council which is the MPO for the Holland/Zeeland area. This partnership has resulted in a significant reduction in costs for GVMC and even more for MDOT and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

BUDGET ALIGNS WITH GVMC'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

This budget includes sufficient resources to support GVMC's strategic goals, objectives and initiatives for the entire fiscal year and all Transportation, Environmental, REGIS and Regional Prosperity needs. Our goal in this budget is to continue to advance the resources, staff skills of GVMC and to align our resources with the needs of our members while bringing increased value. This effort will involve continued evaluation and evolution of GVMC and the Executive Director and Executive Committee are constantly monitoring our programs.

The budget also supports our on-going collaborative initiatives with the other agencies, the Governor's Office and agencies of state government, Members of Congress, federal agencies, the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, The Right Place, private business and others. We are also working closely with many of our member governments on a wide variety of issues involving legislation, taxation and discussions on enhanced cooperation and collaboration. The leadership of the Regional Prosperity Initiative has also increased our exposure on a regional and state-wide level and has brought increased opportunities for GVMC to participate on broader regional and state-wide issues.

MONITORING COSTS AND CUTTING EXPENDITURES

Employee health care costs are projected to rise ten (10) percent. Estimates for our dental insurance coverage will not be available until mid-August, but an increase has been factored in to our budget. Due to the nature of our policies and coverage's available our increase is not anticipated beyond ten percent.

To ensure that we maintain financial health long into the future, we continually work at a staff-wide level to limit expenditures and reduce costs, while we aggressively pursue new sources of grants revenues for projects that benefit GVMC. As in the past, we have been very diligent in working with our staff and insurance consultants to hold down employee health care costs. Historically, GVMC's health insurance costs have been held to a minimum because each year, as we prepare the next fiscal year budget, we take steps to modify GVMC's employee health insurance plan to control costs.

FUND RAISING AND OTHER INCOME

In the recent past we have been very successful at increasing revenues through grants and fee for service projects. We will continue to pursue all avenues for funding for both foundation grants and special projects. We meet with regularly with representatives of local, state and regional foundations, representatives of the Governor's office and our state legislators, institutions of higher education, and other groups to seek funding for on-going regional activities

that support our strategic goals and initiatives. We are continually searching out, identifying and pursuing grants, gifts, work contracts and other sources of funding that benefit both GVMC and our strategic partners.

I hope this information is helpful and informative as you review the GVMC Budget for the 2018-2019. If you have any thoughts, comments, questions or suggestions, or if I can be of further assistance, you can reach me anytime at 776-7604, or via email at john.weiss@gvmc.org.

Budget Resolution for Fiscal 2018-2019

- Whereas, the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council (GVMC) was organized as a Council of Governments in 1990; and
- Whereas, GVMC now has 38 members from West Michigan including cities, villages, townships and counties; and
- Whereas, the budgetary process at GVMC is highly transparent and began on May 16th and has had involvement by approximately 80 members or representatives of GVMC members; and
- Whereas, GVMC has added many new programs and initiatives in the past few years; and
- Whereas, GVMC has completed reorganization of its operations and a fiscal transformation; and
- Whereas, GVMC has reached fiscal sustainability through increased revenue and dramatically reduced expenses and through staff reductions, privatization, program expansion, and reorganization we are able to adopt this budget where for the third year in a row we have no dues increases for members of any of our programs; and
- Whereas, GVMC budgets on a functional level not a line item basis; and
- Whereas, The Transportation Policy Committee, REGIS Executive Committee, REGIS Board of Directors and GVMC Executive Committee have reviewed the budget and recommend its approval,
- Now Therefore Be it Resolved, that the Board of Directors of GVMC hereby adopts the Budget for Fiscal 2018-2019.

Be It Further Resolved that our functional budgets are as follows:

	Revenue		Expenses
General Fund	\$1,941,990.35		\$1,872,947.70
REGIS Fund	\$756,752.00		\$747,386.60
REGIS Capital	\$2,500		None Expected
Environmental Programs	\$1,280,808.00		\$1,271,591.20
Infrastructure Asset Mgmt.	\$350,000.		\$350,000.
At the Regular Board of Director			
bysupporte Fiscal Year 2018-2019. The vo	d by ote was	yes to	to adopt this Budget Resolution for no. Motion Adopted.

GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL 2018-2019 Budget

GENERAL FUND

GENERAL FUND			
	GENERAL FUND ONLY 2018-2019	2017-2018	Difference
INCOME	Budget	Budget	Difference
Consolidated Planning (Historically PL 112 and 5303)	1,134,212.00	1,426,392.00	(292,180.00)
STP Congestion Mgt. Income	57,300.00	57,300.00	(202,100.00)
STP MPO GIS Maintenance	35,400.00	35,400.00	_
STP Pavement Mangement Income	57,300.00	57,300.00	-
SPR Long Range Plan	, <u>-</u>	50,000.00	(50,000.00)
Asset Management Income	25,000.00	25,000.00	-
CMAQ Clean Air Action	80,000.00	80,000.00	-
Rapid Transit Grant	-		
Regional Prosperity Grant	-	200,000.00	(200,000.00)
Member Dues GVMC	269,953.00	269,953.00	-
Member Dues Transportation	211,306.00	205,356.00	5,950.00
Miscellaneous	30,000.00	30,000.00	_
Interest Income	19,500.00	11,250.00	8,250.00
Fee for Services	15,000.00	10,000.00	5,000.00
GVMC Meetings and Conferences	2,500.00	2,500.00	-
Regis Service Fees	4,519.35	4,519.35	(500,000,00)
Total General Fund Income	1,941,990.35	2,464,970.35	(522,980.00)
	1,941,990.35	2,464,970.35	(522,980.00)
Expenses			
Program Expenses			
Wages	530,000.00	525,000.00	5,000.00
Payroll Taxes	43,045.00	42,662.50	382.50
Employer Retirement	47,700.00	47,250.00	450.00
Health Insurance	105,000.00	149,800.00	(44,800.00)
Dental/Life/Disability	15,000.00	-	15,000.00
Combined Planning Expenses (includes contracts)	310,000.00	390,000.00	(80,000.00)
Clear Air Action	25,000.00	25,000.00	(00,000,00)
Land Use Expenses	20,000.00	40,000.00	(20,000.00)
Congestion Management System	57,300.00	70,000.00	(12,700.00)
MPO GIS Expense	35,400.00	43,250.00	(7,850.00)
STP Pavement Management System	57,300.00	70,000.00	(12,700.00)
Asset Management	2,500.00	2,500.00	-
Rapid Bus Line Grant Regional Prosperity Grant Expense	-	200,000.00	(200,000.00)
Crisis Intervention Program	- -	200,000.00	(200,000.00)
Computer and Software Expense	5,000.00	5,000.00	<u>-</u>
Regis Services for Transportation Dept.	5,000.00	10,000.00	(5,000.00)
Environmental Dept. Reimbursement for Clean Air	4,500.00	5,000.00	(500.00)
Environmental Dept. Reimbursement for Land Use		5,000.00	(2,500.00)
Total Program Expenses	1,265,245.00	1,630,462.50	(365,217.50)
Administrative and Indirect			
Wages	235,000.00	245,000.00	(10,000.00)
Payroll Taxes	20,477.50	21,242.50	(765.00)
Employer Retirement	21,150.00	22,050.00	(900.00)
Health Insurance	35,975.20	43,432.00	(7,456.80)
Dental/Life/Disability	4,100.00	-,	4,100.00
Office Supplies	6,000.00	7,000.00	(1,000.00)
Postage, Mailing	1,000.00	1,000.00	(-,)
Advertisements/Legal Notices	5,000.00	5,000.00	-

GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL 2018-2019 Budget

GENERAL FUND

Revenues over (under) expenditures

GENERAL FUND ONLY 2018-2019 2017-2018 **Budget Budget** Difference Meeting Expenses 20,000.00 20,000.00 Insurance 10,000.00 10,000.00 3,000.00 (500.00)Dues and Subscriptions 2,500.00 Professional Development (2,000.00)8,000.00 10,000.00 Mileage Reimbursement 10,000.00 10,000.00 Printing (2,500.00)2,500,00 5,000.00 Utilities 3,000.00 3,000.00 Telephone, Telecommunications 10.000.00 12,500.00 (2,500.00)10,000.00 (5,000.00)Repairs & Maintenance 5,000.00 Equipment Rental/Lease 5,000.00 10,000.00 (5,000.00)Rent 75,000.00 75,000.00 Accounting Fees 35,000.00 38,500.00 (3,500.00)Legal Fees 12.000.00 12.000.00 Other Professional Services 40,000.00 40,000.00 Contractural Services 5,000.00 10,000.00 (5,000.00)Bank and Credit card fees 1,000.00 2,500.00 (1,500.00)15,000.00 (5,000.00)Miscellaneous 10,000.00 Office Equip & Furniture 10,000.00 15,000.00 (5,000.00)Capital Purchases 15,000.00 15,000.00 (53,521.80) Total Administrative and Indirect 607,702.70 661,224.50 Total General Fund Expenses 1,872,947.70 2,291,687.00 (418,739.30)

69,042.65

173,283.35

(104,240.70)

GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL 2018-2019 Budget

Infrastructure Pilot

initiati detare i net	Infrastructure Pilot 2018-2019 Budget	2017-2018 Budget	Difference
INCOME Grant Income	350,000.00		350,000.00
		_	
Total General Fund Income	350,000.00	-	350,000.00
Expenses			
Program Expenses	350,000.00	-	350,000.00
Total Program Expenses	350,000.00		350,000.00
Revenues over (under) expenditures	-	-	_

GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL 2018-2019 Budget ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS			
	Environmental Programs 2018-2019	2017-2018	Difference
EP Income	Budget	Budget	Difference
NPDES Income	222,708.00	222,708.00	_
Ottawa Conservation District: Grant Bass River/Deer Creek	650.00	800.00	(150.00)
Great Lakes Restoration Intiative Grant (EPAyear 3 of 3)	50,000.00	120,000.00	(70,000.00)
Grand Rapids White Water	20,000.00	66,820.00	(46,820.00)
Groundswell Grant (EPA in 2016; Wege 2017)	-	10,000.00	(10,000.00)
RPI West MI Watershed Collaborative	5,000.00	5,000.00	
USFWS Fish Passage Grant	5,000.00	15,000.00	(10,000.00)
SAW Grant	250,000.00	250,000.00	-
Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)	600,000.00	800,000.00	(200,000.00)
Wege-Reducing Stormwater Lower Grand	20,000,00	17,275.00 30,000.00	(17,275.00)
Wege-Habitat Restoration NFW Filve Star Grant	30,000.00 20,000.00	30,000.00	20,000.00
GLSI Groundswell (GVSU)	15,000.00	_	15,000.00
Streamgirls	4,500.00	_	4,500.00
Plainsong Farm	20,000.00	-	20,000.00
Other grants (potentially)	13,000.00	-	13,000.00
Membership Dues - LGROW	11,500.00	11,500.00	· -
EP Revenue from GVMC Transport-Clean air	7,500.00	7,500.00	-
EP Revenue from GVMC Transport-Land Use	3,000.00	3,000.00	-
Other Income	2,000.00	2,000.00	-
Interest Income	950.00	650.00	300.00
Total · EP Income	1,280,808.00	1,562,253.00	(281,445.00)
EP Expenses			-
EP Wages	237,000.00	215,000.00	22,000.00
EP Wages Admin	25,800.00	13,888.00	11,912.00
EP Payroll Taxes	20,130.50	18,447.50	1,683.00
EP Payroll Taxes Admin	1,973.70	1,062.43	911.27
EP Health	59,000.00	60,221.00	(1,221.00)
EP HealthAdmin	3,300.00	1,092.00	2,208.00
EP Life/Dental/Disability	6,000.00	-	6,000.00
EP Life/Dental/Disability Admin	425.00	-	425.00
EP Employer Retirement	18,540.00	16,560.00	1,980.00
EP Employer Retirement-Admin EP Contractural Services/Grant Expenses	2,322.00	1,249.92	1,072.08
USFWS Fish Passage Grant	4,500.00	10,000.00	(5,500.00)
Groundswell Grant (EPA in 2016; Wege 2017)	+,000.00 -	500.00	(500.00)
Grand Rapids White Water Grant	-	300.00	(300.00)
RPI West MI Watershed Collaborative	-	400.00	(400.00)
NPDES	25,000.00	25,000.00	- '
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Expenses (EPA year 3 of 3	45,000.00	107,000.00	(62,000.00)
Wege-Reducing Stormwater Expenses	-	16,500.00	(16,500.00)
Wege-Habitat Restoration Expenses	5,000.00	10,000.00	(5,000.00)
Saw Grant Expenses	190,000.00	190,000.00	(000,00)
Climate Resiliance Grant (Trout Unlimited)	-	200.00	(200.00)
Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCRP)	500,000.00	780,000.00	(280,000.00)
NFW Filve Star Grant GLSI Groundswell (GVSU)	15,000.00 14,000.00	<u>-</u>	15,000.00 14,000.00
Plainsong Farm	19,000.00	-	19,000.00
Streamgirls	4,250.00	-	4,250.00
LGROW Expenses	9,500.00	9,500.00	-
Other Grant Direct Expenses	12,000.00	2,500.00	9,500.00
EP Meeting Expenses	1,100.00	1,500.00	(400.00)
EP Office Supplies	1,500.00	1,250.00	`250.00 [°]
EP Printing	500.00	1,000.00	(500.00)
EP Promotiional/Advertising	500.00	1,000.00	(500.00)
EP Mileage Reimbursement Page 1 of 2	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Fage 1012			

GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL 2018-2019 Budget ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

ENVINORMENTAL PROGRAMS	Environmental Programs 2018-2019 Budget	2017-2018 Budget	Difference
EP Telecommunications	2,500.00	2,500.00	<u>-</u>
EP Supplies	250.00	1,000.00	(750.00)
EP Insurance	2,700.00	2,500.00	200.00
EP Public Events and Seminars	750.00	750.00	-
EP Professional Development/Conferences	2,000.00	2,000.00	-
EP Dues and Subscriptions	1,000.00	2,000.00	(1,000.00)
EP Bank Fees	150.00	150.00	-
EP Professional Fees	5,000.00	7,500.00	(2,500.00)
EP Accounting Fees	6,900.00	6,900.00	-
EP Postage	250.00	250.00	-
EP Utilities	750.00	750.00	-
EP Eqpt Rental and Lease	1,000.00	750.00	250.00
EP Rent	23,000.00	16,500.00	6,500.00
EP Capital Expenses	2,500.00	10,500.00	(8,000.00)
EP Miscellaneous	500.00	1,000.00	(500.00)
LGROW Expenses	1,271,591.20_	1,540,220.85	(268,629.65)
Revenues over (under) expenditures	9,216.80	22,032.15	(12,815.35)
Estimated Fund Balance	325,000.00		-
Estimated Remaining Fund Balance	334,216.80		

GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL 2018-2019 Budget REGIS

	REGIS 2018-2019 Budget	2017-2018 Budget	Difference
Income	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Regis Member Dues	693,515.00	693,515.00	_
Regis GVMC GIS Transportation Services	24,900.00	24,900.00	_
Regis Data Sales	500.00	500.00	_
Regis Data Sharing (Kent County)	16,237.00	16,237.00	_
Regis Pay As You Go Services	500.00	500.00	_
Regis Services to GVMC Transportation	3,500.00	3,500.00	_
Regis Services To GVMC Environmental	10,000.00	10,000.00	_
Regis Interest Income	7,600.00	4,625.00	2,975.00
Total Income	756,752.00	753,777.00	2,975.00
Expense			
Regis Wages	262,250.00	258,595.00	3,655.00
Regis Administration Wages	32,150.00	25,525.00	6,625.00
Regis Payroll Taxes	22,562.13	22,282.52	279.61
Regis Admin Payroll Taxes	2,459.48	1,952.66	506.81
Regis Health Insurance	61,500.00	62,500.00	(1,000.00)
Regis Administration Health Ins	4,500.00	3,900.00	600.00
Regis Life, Dental, Disability	7,150.00	7,575.00	(425.00)
Regis Admin Life, Dental, Disab	550.00	495.00	55.00
Regis Employer Retirement	23,602.50	23,273.55	328.95
Admin Employer Retirement	2,893.50	2,527.00	366.50
Regis Office Supplies	4,900.00	3,750.00	1,150.00
Regis Postage	300.00	300.00	1,130.00
Regis Audit and Accounting	8,000.00	9,575.00	(1,575.00)
Regis Legal Fees	1,500.00	1,250.00	250.00
Regis Bank Fees	225.00	225.00	250.00
Regis Professional/Contractural Services	51,000.00	57,000.00	(6,000.00)
Regis Software Licenses/Maintenance	75,000.00	80,000.00	(5,000.00)
Regis Other Contracts-Netwk/Dat	41,150.00	41,150.00	(5,000.00)
_	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Regis Adverstisements and Notices	· ·	,	-
Regis Meeting Expenses	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Regis Insurance	3,750.00	3,750.00	-
Regis Dues and Subscriptions	1,250.00	1,250.00	-
Regis Professional Development	3,000.00	3,000.00	-
Regis Mileage Reimbursement	750.00	750.00	-
Regis Printing	500.00	500.00	-
Regis Utilities (includes Wyoming Data Center)	1,950.00	1,950.00	450.00
Regis Telecommunications	6,125.00	5,975.00	150.00
Regis Rent	29,000.00	26,000.00	3,000.00
Regis Eqpt Rental	1,250.00	1,250.00	-
Regis Repair & Maintenance	1,500.00	1,500.00	-
Regis Miscellaneous	2,500.00	2,500.00	-
Regis Member Rebate (decided after audit)	-	-	-
Regis Match payment to GF	4,519.00	4,519.00	-
Regis Capital expenses/eqpt replacement transfer to	87,600.00	87,600.00	
TOTAL Regis Expense	747,386.60	744,419.73	2,966.87
Revenues over (under) expenditures	9,365.40	9,357.27	8.13
Estimated Fund Balance	999,500.00		
Estimated Remaining Fund Balance	1,008,865.40		

GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL 2018-2019 Budget REGIS CAPITAL

	REGIS CAPITAL 2018-2019 Budget	2017-2018 Budget	Difference
Income			
Regis Capital Income			
Interest Income	2,500.00	1,300.00	1,200.00
Regis Operations Transfer	-		
TOTAL Regis Capital Income	2,500.00	1,300.00	1,200.00
Expense			-
Regis Capital Expenses			-
Regis Professional Fees	-	-	
Regis Capital Miscellaneous	-	-	-
Regis Capital Purchases			_
TOTAL Regis Capital Expenses		yu	-
Revenues over (under) expenditures	2,500.00	1,300.00	1,200.00
Estimated Fund Balance	239,900.00		
Estimated Remaining Fund Balance	242,400.00		

You and a Guest are Invited to The Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

2018 Legislative Dinner

October 25, 2018

Boulder Creek Country Club

5750 Brewer Avenue NE Belmont Michigan 49306

Enjoy fellowship with State and Federal Legislators, as well as with elected officials from throughout the region.

Social time begins at 6:00 p.m. and includes a cash bar. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Space is limited. To reserve your seat, contact Gayle McCrath at mccrathg@gvmc.org.



Dinner is generously sponsored by ITC Holdings.

...Features

UIX: If you live in West Michigan, these are the people keeping your most valuable resource alive

BY MATTHEW RUSSELL, UIX EDITOR | THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2018

Wendy Ogilvy and the Grand Valley Metro Council

There are many other organizations and individuals who further WMEAC's river preservation and stormwater efforts, as well, including a 1,300-member list of volunteers who take part in a yearly Grand River Cleanup project. A common link between all of their work is the Grand Valley Metro Council, an alliance of governmental units in West Michigan that facilitate planning and development for community, economic, and governmental issues. The Metro Council oversees the Lower Grand River Organization of Watersheds (LGROW).



The GVMC, though not recognized as a 501c3 like WMEAC, is responsible for issuing stormwater permits throughout Kent and Ottawa County. The Metro Council is also contracted to make sure each of the 23 communities in the two counties are in compliance with those permits, the purpose of which is to reduce pollutants entering the river through stormwater.

"Any stormwater rush off or rain just goes directly into the catch basins, directly into the river. It does not go to a treatment facility," says GVMC director of environmental programs Wendy Ogilvie. "We help the communities implement practices to reduce the pollutants. We are able to work with all of those communities to develop one public education plan one elicit discharge plan.

"They're really working together because all of this stormwater obviously discharges to the Grand River."

Ogilvie earned her undergraduate degree in forestry from the University of Michigan, after which she got involved in watershed planning and environmental consulting, later pursuing a master's in resource development. About five years ago, she made the move to the Grand Valley Metro Council, where she started up the environmental programs department.

"I come originally from the D.C. area, on the Shenandoah and Potomac rivers," Ogilvy says. "Being on the coast, water was always really important to me. So, just coming to Michigan and experiencing so much water in the Great Lakes, and working in watershed management, I've come to know how much land activities affect water."

Here in West Michigan, Ogilvie is helping local municipalities work out township or city-level clean water plans. She often connects them to grant programs through the GVMC. The municipalities, in turn, reach out to residents interested in implementing green infrastructure practices on their own properties.

One such method is the LGROW Rainscaping Program: Treating Stormwater Naturally, which targets homeowners, landscapers, and contractors with education and assistance in installing rain barrels to collect stormwater from rooftop runoff; rain gardens that collect, filter and store runoff; curb cuts that divert runoff from streets to rain gardens; and other enhancements.

The GVMC deals primarily with municipal policy making, but LGROW, one of the council's environmental programs, is connected to several grassroots organizations, including Groundswell, which recently landed an \$8 million grant to remove sediment and restore habitats along the upper and middle Grand River watersheds, and Grand Rapids Whitewater (GRWW).