

WMSRDC
WEST MICHIGAN SHORELINE
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

November 18, 2019 – Newaygo County

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – 9:59 AM by Chairperson James Rynberg

II. **ROLL CALL QUORUM: Yes**

Commissioners Present:

Lake County: Howard Lodholtz
Mason County: Charles Lange, Joe Lenius
Muskegon County: Kay Beecham, Bonnie McGlothin, Bob Scolnik, Byron Turnquist
Newaygo County: Burt Cooper, James Maike, James Rynberg
Oceana County: Dean Gustafson
WMSRDC Appointees: Andrea Large, James Kelly, Rich Houtteman
Muskegon CC: Dale Nesbary

Commissioners Absent:

Mason County: Nick Krieger
Muskegon County: Jennifer Hodges, Marcia Hovey-Wright, Rillastine Wilkins
Oceana County: James Brown
West Shore CC: Crystal Young

Staff/Guests Present: Erin Kuhn, Amanda Snyder, Jamie Way, Bob Kittle

III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion was made by Commissioner Maike and supported by Commissioner McGlothin to approve the agenda for the November 18, 2019 Commission meeting. Motion carried.

IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Lodholtz and supported by Commissioner Beecham to approve the September 16, 2019 Commission meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The October 31, 2019 Officer's meeting minutes were attached for information only.

V. **PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no public comment.

VI. **HOST (Newaygo County)**

Commissioner Rynberg welcomed all to Fremont. He mentioned that the next two summers will present four blocks of road construction in Fremont. Fremont has a public art program. The current project, "Inspired Hands", gave citizens the opportunity to purchase a hand to be placed in a 40' x 12' mural, which helped fund the mural. This is the 18th piece of artwork.

VII. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- A. Motion was made by Commissioner Lange and supported by Commissioner Lodholtz to approve the EDA Grant Match Resolution 2020-2. Motion carried.

WMSRDC is up for renewal for our three-year planning grant through EDA. This resolution commits a local match commitment, which is \$90,000 over three years.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Transportation – Erin announced the promotion of Joel Fitzpatrick to Transportation Director. A Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has less than 200,000 people; a Transportation Management Area (TMA) has over 200,000 people. WMSRDC is currently the largest MPO in the State. The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHA) believe that WMSRDC will be moving up to a TMA after the next census in 2020. A TMA requires more responsibility and money, so a Director is necessary to be prepared for this potential transition.

Economic Development – WMSRDC received its three year review from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) which is similar to an audit. EDA comes in to discuss our program, what we've accomplished through our CEDS document, and what is coming up in the future. The Jackson EDA district sat in on our review; and in return, Erin sat in on a review for a western Wisconsin EDD. Dr. Nesbary also attended the review; we had representatives from the City of Muskegon, and a few others called in from around the Region, as well.

Environmental – Late last week WMSRDC received approval from the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Great Lakes Commission (GLC) to move forward with the control structure at Veterans Park. WMSRDC also received the permit modification from the State. WMSRDC may now move forward to remove the aqua dam and install the control structure before January 2020.

Local Government Services – WMSRDC just kicked off a project in Ludington and Pere Marquette Township called the Shoreline Land Use and Resiliency Plan (SLURP). Stephen Carlson is leading with Jamie Way's assistance. This is through the MEDC Redevelopment Ready Communities grant program which provided \$25,000 from MEDC and \$10,000 from the two communities.

Other Activities – The Infrastructure Asset Management Summit was held on October 15 at Fifth Third Ballpark in Grand Rapids. This was the first of 12 summits to be held across the state. It was very successful with over 70 people attending. The fall summits will exceed the numbers in attendance of the spring summits.

Erin announced that due to some local issues and pressures, she has resigned from the State Port Advisory Committee. This was a Governor appointed position, which she held for four years.

Grand Valley Metro Council has been gracious enough to invite the Board to a Congressional dinner they are hosting with Bill Huizenga. This will be held at Fifth Third Ballpark on December 2. If you are able to attend, please let Erin know.

WMSRDC has contracted with Munetrix, a municipal finance web-based tool, for our communities to use. If a community would like to get their own membership, because WMSRDC holds a sponsorship for our 120 communities, they would receive a reduced cost.

IX. FUNDING ASSISTANCE TABLE

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Amanda reviewed the preliminary WMSRDC financials through September 2019. This is for information only. There were no surprises. WMSRDC is fully closed and audit ready.

XI. MUNETRIX PRESENTATION

A. Bob Kittle, President/CEO

XII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

XIII. ROUND TABLE

Commissioner Rynberg announced the retirement of Commissioner Turnquist and stated that today is his last meeting. Commissioner Maike congratulated and thanked Commissioner Turnquist for his years of service to the Commission.

Commissioner Maike had a question regarding the road by Hardy Dam.

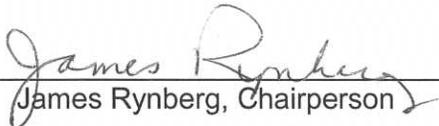
XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT - WMSRDC PROGRAM

There was no public comment.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner McGlothlin and supported by Commissioner Gustafson to adjourn at 11:20 AM. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: January 27, 2020 – Muskegon County (WMSRDC)


James Rynberg, Chairperson
1-27-20
Date


Erin Kuhn, Executive Director
1-27-20
Date