



**Minutes
of the
Region 3: RPI Collaborative
December 21, 2016
University Center
Gaylord, MI**

Call to Order: Chair, Doug Baum called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Members Present: Marisue Moreau, Rina Allen, Steve Schnell, Daniel Beltz, Hannah Sanderson, Doug Baum, Lisa McComb, Tom Stevenson, Steve Milford, Niki Chamberlain, Lydia Murray, Erich Podjaske, Luann Mabarak and Donna LaCourt. Those attending via Go-To-Meeting: Rosalie Myers and Patty O'Donnell. **Staff:** Diane Rekowski, Theresa Huff

Approval of Past Minutes and Financials: T. Stevenson moved, seconded by N. Chamberlain to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2016, meeting. Ayes all, motion carried.

D. Rekowski reviewed financial statement dated November 30, 2016. L. Murray moved, seconded by M. Moreau to receive and file the financials through November 30, 2016. Ayes: 15, 1 opposed, motion carried.

10 Year Plan Components: Reviewed Draft 10 Year Talent Plan and Community/Economic Development 10 Year Plan that were emailed to group. D. Rekowski will ask Janie McNabb, Consultant to present the Plan at a future meeting.

Status of Action Items: D. Rekowski reviewed handout of action items. Discussed issue with consolidation being the discrepancies with the RPI Boundaries and NEMCOG's/NE MI Consortium. Lawyer advised to wait on consolidation until **the** agencies' boundaries align with the RPI boundaries. .

5 Year Plan Amendment:

Project: Thunder Bay Blue Water Trail – Otsego to Alpena Counties. D. Rekowski reviewed the project which involves communities and the general public, from Atlanta to Alpena working collaboratively to improve and enhance recreational opportunities along the Thunder Bay River. This project meets the intent of the Tourism Strategy. L. Murray moved, seconded by L. McComb to approve the amendment. All ayes, motion carried.

Project: US-23 South Bay Corridor Plan, Alpena County: D. Rekowski discussed overall project which meets several strategies in the 5-Year RPI Plan: Community/Economic Development and Tourism. L. Murray moved, seconded by S. Schnell to approve the amendment as a part of the Region's RPI 5 -Year Plan. Discussion followed on the lack of participation of Alpena County representatives on the Collaborative and the need for criteria in order for grant funds to be expended in nonparticipating counties as well as inclusion of projects in the RPI Plan. Collaborative members felt it was unfair to those

that do attend and participate on the Collaborative to allow for those choosing not to attend to be provided all the benefits. Motion vote: 15 ayes, 1 opposed, motion passed.

Meeting Schedule: After a brief discussion, group decided to keep meetings on a monthly basis, to be held on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the University Center in Gaylord.

Agenda's – 1 topic per meeting for discussion?

Suggested selecting one topic each month to discuss at the following months meeting. Topic suggestions can be sent to D. Rekowski or T. Huff to be put on the Agenda.

Finalize RPI Membership-Invite: Criteria to be included in the RPI Plan and receive grant funding was discussed. D. Rekowski, Doug Baum, Lisa McComb will develop criteria to be presented at next meeting.

One Minute/60 second updates:

Tom Stevenson, Connect MI: Distributed various handouts on Broadband deployment and reviewed briefly. Stated the recent changes in DC will cause changes in other programs and funding

L. McComb: Otsego County Economic Alliance is having a Breakfast event on 1/18 at 7:30 a.m. to review 2016 accomplishments and awards.

S. Schnell, Cheboygan County Development Director: Asked what is expected from him/group between now and the next meeting to assist. Send thoughts on the RPI criteria and topic/ speaker suggestions.

Next Meeting – January 25th at 1:00 p.m. Hope to hold it at the new Kirtland Health Care Training Institute's facility on 4 mile Road in Grayling. Watch for details in email for next meeting information.

Meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.