

**MINUTES OF THE  
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2006**

At a meeting of the **Planning and Economic Development Committee**, held Tuesday, April 4, 2006, in the Board Room, on the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Administration Building, Mt. Clemens, the following members were present:

Vosburg-Chair, Brown, DeSaele, DiMaria, Doherty, Duzyj, Gielegthem, Lund, McCarthy, Rengert, Slinde and White (ex-officio).

Absent and excused were Gibson and Hill.

**Also Present:**

Commissioner Brandenburg  
Commissioner Brdak  
Commissioner Flynn  
Commissioner Kennard  
Commissioner Szczepanski  
Stephen Cassin, Executive Director, Planning and Economic Development Dept.  
Donald Morandini, Deputy Director, Planning and Economic Development Dept.  
John Crumm, Planning and Economic Development Department  
Gerard Santoro, Planning and Economic Development Department  
Robert Tess, Planning and Economic Development Department  
Rhonda Deriemaecker, Director of Board Services  
Phil Frame, Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Gene Schabath, Public Works Department  
Chad Selweski, Reporter, The Macomb Daily

There being a quorum of the committee present, Chair Vosburg called the meeting to order at 9:28 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**AGENDA**

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Duzyj, supported by Rengert, to adopt the agenda, as presented.  
**The Motion Carried.**

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Gerard Santoro, Planning and Economic Development Department

Mr. Santoro informed Commissioners that at last week's annual Clinton River Watershed Council meeting, the PED Department was awarded, in part, the Roskopp Award for Exemplary Work. Also, the PED Department applied for another Greenway's Initiative Grant for the Macomb Orchard Trail and was awarded another \$65,000 grant last Friday. It will be used for Phases II and III.

John Crumm, Planning and Economic Development Department

Mr. Crumm informed Commissioners that the PED Department submitted three grants (one for the Macomb Orchard Trail, one for a trail in Clinton Township, and another to help build the park area down by the river in Mount Clemens). They found out this past Friday that they received all three.

## **PRESENTATION FROM FEMA ON MACOMB COUNTY FLOOD MAPPING PROGRAM**

Ms. Colleen Finkl, Map Modernization Program Specialist, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Division, FEMA, introduced Ms. Maria Zingas from MDEQ, Mr. Don Armour and Mr. Justin Gray from FMSM Engineers.

Ms. Finkl and Mr. Armour provided a PowerPoint presentation on the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program. Key topics covered included: Map Modernization Program; Map Modernization Production in Macomb County; Production Tasks: 1) Reconnaissance, 2) Base Map Preparation, 3) New Approximate Studies, 4) Leverage Studies, 5) Redelineation; DFIRM and FIS; Community Involvement; Post Preliminary Processing; Current Status and Local Action (letter of final determination 3/29/06 and effective maps 9/29/06).

A lengthy discussion ensued with Ms. Finkl, Ms. Zingas, Mr. Armour, and Mr. Gray about how changes to the maps may affect homeowners and property owners in Macomb County; how homeowners will be notified if there has been a change to the floodplain; what will happen if a community does not adopt or ratify the new map; the differentiation of floodplains and differences of insurance; why the Clinton River was not restudied and included in the study; what Macomb County homeowners are paying for flood insurance in Zone A compared to what people are paying for flood insurance in Zone A in New Orleans.

It was noted that the maps that are going effective are available on the following website: <http://gis.fmsm.com/dfirm>. During discussion, Commissioners asked for additional information on their specific concerns.

Ms. Finkl explained that if a homeowner finds out, based on new preliminary maps, that he

or she is all the sudden now in the floodplain, if the homeowner purchases their flood insurance now, before the new map becomes effective (before September 29<sup>th</sup>), they will get grandfathered in at the current rate showing them outside of the floodplain. As long as they keep that insurance policy current, that can also be transferred if they sell the home.

**REQUEST TO INCREASE STAFFING AND SUPPORTING BUDGET FOR COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ATTRACTION EFFORTS**

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Duzyj, supported by McCarthy, to authorize an increase in the annual budget of \$285,000 for the Department of Planning and Economic Development for the purpose of hiring two Economic Development Attraction Specialists, with a supporting budget. **Forward to the Budget Committee for funding approval.**

Commissioner Doherty questioned why this request was for two positions and why not start out with one. She expressed concern about the County's budget and adding expenses to it.

A lengthy discussion ensued with Mr. Cassin about the need for these two positions. It was noted that Macomb County is competing with surrounding counties who have six or eight economic development specialists. Currently, one individual is handling this area, along with retention and development needs for Macomb County. Discussion ensued about the requested \$100,000 for operating expenses, what is envisioned, and how results will be measured. Discussion ensued as to how these two positions could be funded.

Commissioner Brown felt the Board should be aggressive and bold and the motion should be amended to add a total of four positions.

After further discussion, the following action was taken:

**Amendment**

A motion was made by Brown, supported by DeSaele, to increase to three positions and to change the expense accordingly.

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the **Amendment** and **The Motion Carried** with Doherty voting "No."

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the **main motion, as amended**, and **The Motion Carried**.

**AUTHORIZE TO ACCEPT \$200,000 E.P.A. BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT GRANT**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SLINDE, SUPPORTED BY McCARTHY, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZE THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE \$200,000 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT GRANT AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR NANCY WHITE TO SIGN THE GRANT AGREEMENT. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**AUTHORIZE TO RENEW AGREEMENT WITH THE MICHIGAN SMALL BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DiMARIA, SUPPORTED BY GIELEGHEM, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZE THE MACOMB COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO CONTINUE THE SMALL BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTER PROGRAM AND RENEW THE AGREEMENT WITH THE MICHIGAN SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER AT GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTINUING TO PROVIDE BUSINESS ASSISTANCE SERVICES TO MACOMB COUNTY COMPANIES AND RESIDENTS. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**APPROVE 2006 ANNUAL REPORT AND AWARD PRINTING AND MAILING CONTRACTS**

The following suggested changes to the 2006 Annual Report were as follows: 1) Change the lower right photograph on the back cover; 2) Verify on page 3, the acceptable way to write the bond rating (Aaa), (AAA), and make the appropriate changes, if necessary; 3) Review Commissioner Doherty's proposed comments and incorporate within the report, if necessary.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DiMARIA, SUPPORTED BY RENGERT, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE 2006 ANNUAL REPORT (WITH SUGGESTED CHANGES MADE AT THE PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF 04-04-06) AND AWARD THE PRINTING TO TWEEDLE LITHO COMPANY AT \$87,175 AND THE MAILING TO AMERICAN MAILERS AT \$62,093.97.

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Brown, supported by Gielegem, to adjourn the meeting at 11:28 a.m. **The Motion Carried.**

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**Denise M. Jacks**  
**Committee Reporter**