

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2006

At a meeting of the **Planning and Economic Development Committee**, held Tuesday, June 6, 2006, in the Board Room, on the 9th Floor of the Administration Building, Mt. Clemens, the following members were present:

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

Absent and excused was Hill.

Also Present:

Commissioner Brandenburg
Commissioner Brdak
Commissioner Kennard
Commissioner Revoir
Commissioner Sauger
Commissioner Szczepanski
Stephen Cassin, Executive Director, Planning and Economic Development Dept.
Gerard Santoro, Planning and Economic Development Department
Rhonda Deriemaecker, Director of Board Services
Phil Frame, Director, Office of Public Affairs
Gene Schabath, Public Works Department

There being a quorum of the committee present, Chair Vosburg called the meeting to order at 9:42 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA

MOTION

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

MINUTES

MOTION

A motion was made by DiMaria, supported by Slinde, to approve the April 4, 2006 minutes of this committee, as written. **The Motion Carried.**

ADOPT RESOLUTION HONORING GREGORY JOHNSON ON HIS PROGRESSIVE LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT TO A NETWORK OF NONMOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION ROUTES IN MACOMB COUNTY

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DiMARIA, SUPPORTED BY RENGERT, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPT A RESOLUTION HONORING GREGORY JOHNSON ON HIS PROGRESSIVE LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT TO A NETWORK OF NONMOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION ROUTES IN MACOMB COUNTY (OFFERED BY PED COMMITTEE CHAIR VOSBURG ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD). **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

ADOPT RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT TO ACCEPT (\$65,000) GREENWAYS INITIATIVE MONEY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SAFETY FEATURES AND WAYFINDING EFFORTS FOR PHASES II & III OF THE MACOMB ORCHARD TRAIL

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SLINDE, SUPPORTED BY McCARTHY, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPT A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT TO ACCEPT (\$65,000) GREENWAYS INITIATIVE MONEY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SAFETY FEATURES AND WAYFINDING EFFORTS FOR PHASES II AND III OF THE MACOMB ORCHARD TRAIL (OFFERED BY PED COMMITTEE CHAIR VOSBURG ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD). **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Mr. Cassin referred to and overviewed a one-page sheet entitled, "Macomb County Economic Development Strategy" that was provided in committee packets. He informed Commissioners that he would be placing a copy of the report from Intellitrends in their mailboxes sometime next week. From what he read, the report appears to be slanted somewhat to develop upon Macomb County's manufacturing base and to develop that base in advanced manufacturing and look at those types of industries in how to manufacture for those industries; more so than research. The development of the key messages is the next step. He recalled the Board did appropriate money and he will be coming before the Board for the hiring of a firm or the bidding out for a firm to develop the key messages.

He indicated that their Economic Development Website is bringing in 4,000 to 5,000 hits per day. He updated Commissioners on the Romeo Airport study and the lack of cooperation from the management company at the airport. He indicated that he has been in contact with several individuals that want to put a biodiesel facility in Macomb County. A discussion ensued with Mr. Cassin about taking the DVD that was made about Macomb County and making it more industry specific.

Commissioner Brandenburg asked for a list of the companies that applied for the first round of the 21st Century Jobs Program.

A discussion ensued with Mr. Cassin about how worldwide firms will be solicited to make Macomb County known.

Board Chair White informed Commissioners that she spoke with Senator Levin and he is pushing for a training type facility at Selfridge to train people in Homeland Security. She did not believe Selfridge would be selected as a Homeland Security regional office.

Commissioner Rengert inquired if the Airport Feasibility Study would be completed by next month. Mr. Cassin said he was hopeful, but input meetings from the different communities are still ongoing.

Board Chair White informed Commissioners that the Economic Development Attraction Specialist positions are on the Personnel Committee meeting agenda next week.

MOTION

A motion was made by Slinde, supported by Duzyj, to receive and file the report from Mr. Stephen Cassin, Executive Director, Planning and Economic Development Department.
The Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Gielegem spoke about a memorandum and a letter that he prepared and the subject pertains to MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine Southeastern Michigan site. He asked Commissioners to consider adding their name to the letter indicating support for a Macomb County site. The letter of support is available in the Board Office for their signature.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Vosburg adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

**Denise M. Jacks
Committee Reporter**