

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

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2006

At a meeting of the **Planning and Economic Development Committee**, held Tuesday, August 15, 2006, in the Board Room, on the 9th Floor of the Administration Building, Mt. Clemens, the following members were present:

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

Also Present:

Commissioner Brandenburg
Commissioner Brdak
Commissioner Kennard
Commissioner Revoir
George Brumbaugh, Director, Corporation Counsel
Jill Smith, Assistant Corporation Counsel
Stephen Cassin, Executive Director, Planning and Economic Development Dept.
Donald Morandini, Deputy Director, Planning and Economic Development Department
Robert Tess, Planning and Economic Development Department
Lynn Arnott-Bryks, Director, Facilities and Operations Department
Chad Selweski, Reporter, The Macomb Daily

There being a quorum of the committee present, Chair Vosburg called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA

Chair Vosburg removed item #5 (Recognition of Ultimate Sports Arena as the 2005 M.S.B.T.D.C. Best Small Business of the Year). There were no objections.

MOTION

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

AUTHORIZE THE PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT'S PARTICIPATION AS AN EXHIBITOR AT THE CLEAN TECH ALTERNATIVE ENERGY CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK CITY

MOTION

A motion was made by Brown, supported by Rengert, to authorize the Planning and Economic Development Department's participation as an Exhibitor at the Clean Tech Alternative Energy Conference in New York City. The approximate cost of \$9,000 is available in the Economic Development Budget. **Forward to the Finance Committee.**

A brief discussion ensued with Mr. Cassin about the cost of this request, what was included, and what the County would gain by attending this conference.

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Mr. Cassin updated Commissioners on the Romeo Airport study. The consultants finally received everything from the management company there. There seems to be some resistance from the management company for Macomb County to accept ownership. The first draft of the report should be ready within two weeks, a presentation will be made before the Board, and there will be focus group discussions with some of the residents and communities up in the North part of the County.

He informed Commissioners that they received two qualified candidates from the list of people who applied for the two Economic Development Attraction Specialist positions. Oakland County indicated they received over 20 for a similar position. There has been some concern that the continuation of this job is subject to review, as well as repercussions on not guaranteeing funding beyond the first of the year. He felt Commissioners need to address this issue.

He said that Focus Macomb is going very well. The Intellitrends report was just presented to them. Focus Macomb's recommendations are expected in November.

Commissioner Gielegghem inquired if anyone contacted the State of Michigan about the resistance from the management company to provide information. He asked Mr. Cassin to provide him with their name. He wanted to know if this management company runs any other airports or if they do any other type of enterprises.

MOTION

A motion was made by Rengert, supported by Camphous-Peterson, to receive and file the report from Mr. Stephen Cassin, Executive Director, Planning and Economic Development Department. **The Motion Carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Vosburg adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Denise M. Jacks
Committee Reporter