

**MINUTES OF THE  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2011**

At a meeting of the **Economic Development Committee**, held Thursday, October 20, 2011, in the Board Room, on the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Administration Building, Mount Clemens, the following members were present:

Carabelli-Co-Chair, Flynn-Co-Chair, Gralewski, Miller, Sabatini and Tocco.

Absent and excused were Mocerri and Smith.

There being a quorum of the committee present, Co-Chair Carabelli called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**AGENDA**

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Gralewski, supported by Sabatini, to adopt the agenda, as amended (to include item #6A). **The Motion Carried.**

**MINUTES**

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Miller, supported by Sabatini, to approve the August 18 and September 8, 2011 minutes of this committee, as written. **The Motion Carried.**

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

a) Presentation by Department of Roads

The following information was attached to the final agenda: A one-page document entitled "Macomb County 2011-2012 Construction Schedule" and seven pages listing "Macomb County Department of Roads Construction Updates Effective October 13, 2011." New projects/changes were noted in red.

A five-page document listing “Macomb County Department of Roads Construction Updates Effective October 19, 2011” was distributed. New projects/changes were noted in red.

Co-Chair Carabelli noted there was no representative present from the Department of Roads, due to a conflict in their schedule. He wanted to have dialogue amongst commissioners, so when the Department of Roads is able to present they will be aware of questions.

Co-Chair Carabelli expressed concern about numerous ongoing construction projects and motorists not being able to traverse in the county, because they are locked up in gridlock. Roads of concern were Mound Road and Ryan Road. He would like an update on end dates of these projects.

Commissioner Miller expressed concern about the funding formula not being sufficient to cover the needs in planning for road repair projects going forward. He asked how it is determined where the funding goes. To him, it seems with local roads there is a lot of discretion. Co-Chair Carabelli explained how funding is distributed. He then explained how more work ends up getting done in other communities, because some communities could not come up with match money.

Commissioner Miller realized certain projects are funded with local dollars and some without a local match and asked if there is a criteria used.

### **MOTION**

A motion was made by Miller, supported by Gralewski, to receive and file the discussion on the Department of Roads.

Co-Chair Carabelli hoped the Department of Roads could give their presentation at next month’s committee meeting. Co-Chair Flynn asked commissioners to put together their questions and forward them to either himself or Co-Chair Carabelli, so the Department of Roads will be prepared to answer questions.

Co-Chair Carabelli called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

### **UPDATE ON SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN REGIONAL SUMMIT**

Co-Chair Flynn recapped the events of the Southeast Michigan Regional Summit held on Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. Nearly 200 attended. The first portion of the program was held at the Lorenzo Cultural Center and he named the guest speakers. Lunch, along with a question and answer discussion, was held at Rojo Mexican Bistro at Partridge Creek. He reported a special announcement is scheduled for next week regarding transit. He spoke about a group who meets on a monthly basis and if any

commissioners are interested in joining to let him know. Lastly, he spoke about the necessity of capturing federal dollars.

Co-Chair Carabelli reported Washtenaw County and St. Clair County were invited to participate and from here on out they will be part of the summit. He thanked Patti Dib for her efforts in planning this event.

Commissioner Miller commended Commissioners Carabelli, Flynn and Smith for doing a tremendous job.

### **MOTION**

A motion was made by Sabatini, supported by Gralewski, to receive and file the update on the recently held Southeast Michigan Regional Summit. **The Motion Carried.**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **MOTION**

A motion was made by Sabatini, supported by Gralewski, to receive and file the update on upcoming events. **The Motion Carried.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Co-Chair Carabelli indicated a representative from the Macomb Orchard Trail was supposed to give a presentation today, but was not able to present. A report will be on the agenda in December as to the status of the trail, which communities are participating, and how the \$500,000 is being spent.

Co-Chair Flynn spoke about the recent Complete Streets presentation and hopes to pass a resolution on best practices and pass an ordinance in the near future.

Co-Chair Flynn plans to have one more hearing before the end of the year. The topic may be on workforce development, healthcare, or something similar to the event on battery technology. He asked commissioners for their input on any topic they might find of interest.

Commissioner Miller toured the facility at Macomb Community College; they have a medical school on their campus. At the college, individuals can receive degrees in a full array of healthcare careers. He found it to be interesting in training people in the new economy and felt this would be a good topic for the hearing.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Donald Schinzing, 35209 Cathedral Drive, Sterling Heights

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Miller, supported by Gralewski, to adjourn the meeting at 5:52 p.m. **The Motion Carried.**

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