



**Macatawa Area  
Coordinating Council**  
*A Cooperative Effort Among Units of Government*

**Policy Board**

☛ Rosemary Ervine, Chair  
☛ Blaine Koops  
☛ Hannes Meyers, Jr.  
☛ Pankaj Rajadhyaksha  
☛ William Vanderbilt  
Howard Baumann, Jr.  
Joseph Baumann  
Thomas Bird  
Terry M. Burns  
Kurt Dykstra  
Terry Hofmeyer  
Lester Hoogland  
George Jacob  
John Kleinheksel  
Dal McBurrows  
Al Myaard  
Terry Nienhuis  
Keith Potter  
Russ Te Slaa  
Todd Wolters

**MACC POLICY COMMITTEE**

**February 28, 2011  
Holland Charter Township  
Riley Street Fire Station #1  
136 Riley Street  
Holland, MI 49424  
12:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

☛ Executive Committee

**PRESENT:** Rosemary Ervine, Blaine Koops, Joseph Baumann, Tom Bird, Terry Burns, Kurt Dykstra, Terry Hofmeyer, Les Hoogland, George Jacob, John Kleinheksel, Steve Redmond (for Dal McBurrows), Al Myaard, Terry Nienhuis, Keith Potter, Russ TeSlaa and Todd Wolters

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Tim Hemingway, Greg Holcombe, Greg VanWoerkom, Aaron Deiter, Peter Daining, Steve Bulthuis, Mary Fales and Elisa Hoekwater

**I. Introductions and Approval of Minutes**—Following self-introductions, **a motion was made by Terry Nienhuis and supported by Kurt Dykstra to approve meeting minutes of the January 24, 2011 meeting as presented. Motion carried.**

At this time in the meeting a request was made to add Item IV C – FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment to the agenda. **A motion approving the agenda addition was made by Keith Potter and supported by Les Hoogland. Motion carried.**

**II. Presentation: Model Community Initiatives/Future Search**- Tim Hemingway, Holland Board of Public Works Chairperson, gave a presentation highlighting the Holland/Zeeland Model Community Initiatives. Lead by a group of 17 community business leaders from the Holland/Zeeland area calling themselves the Holland/Zeeland Strategic Leadership Forum, the initiatives are searching for ways to increase the economic vitality of the area. Tim's presentation noted the significant job losses that have occurred in Michigan and Ottawa County over the last several years and stated that our area must find new ways to ensure our future economic prosperity. The Leadership Forum seeks to achieve this goal through concentrating on three sectors of the community: business, education and local government and bringing leaders from those areas together to form consensus on priority issues.

The process for identifying the priority issues in the government area will be initiated through a strategic planning process called Future Search. The Future Search process, a 2.5 day effort that looks at the community's past, present, current trends and desired future, results in action plans based on common ground and consensus. Tim noted that once the action areas are identified

the real work begins. Thus, the Future Search should really be viewed as just the beginning of the journey.

**Upon further discussion a motion for the Policy Committee to actively endorse and support the Future Search effort was made by Blaine Koops and supported by Terry Hofmeyer. Motion carried.**

### **III. Macatawa Watershed Project**

**A. Report on Watershed Geomorphology Analysis** – Mary Fales gave an update on the recently completed geomorphology study of three priority areas in the watershed (South Branch Macatawa, North Branch Macatawa and Noordeloos Creek). The project was funded by a Section 319 grant from the Michigan Department Environmental Quality and will provide crucial information for the development of an updated watershed management plan.

The results of the study indicate that stream bank erosion is a concern in the downstream reaches of each subwatershed which are degrading (becoming deeper over time). Stream bank erosion is generally not a concern in the uppermost reaches of each subwatershed where the streams are aggrading (filling in) because of sediment input from surface runoff. Findings indicate that the South Branch of the Macatawa has the most severe bank erosion (most critical from 46<sup>th</sup> street downstream) and is contributing **1,242 tons of sediment** annually to the stream. Noordeloos Creek has the second most severe bank erosion (most critical downstream of Riley Street) and is contributing **950 tons of sediment** annually to the stream. The North Branch of the Macatawa has the least severe bank erosion of the three subwatersheds studied (most critical between M-40 and 32<sup>nd</sup> Street) and is contributing **731 tons of sediment** annually to the stream. The main cause of this extensive stream bank erosion is the increased hydrology in our watershed. That means that when it rains, too much water is entering the stream channels too fast, causing high flows and high water velocities which results in stream bank erosion.

Recommendations indicate that to reduce stream bank erosion there needs to be a reduction in the amount of water entering streams after storms. These changes need to occur in the upper most reaches of the stream. Recommended upland best management practices include wetland restoration, implementation of cover crops, conservation tillage techniques, buffer strips, and bioswales.

**B. Volunteer Monitoring Grant Proposal** – Mary reported that the Macatawa Watershed project has partnered with the Outdoor Discovery Center to apply for \$2,980 of State of Michigan Clean Water Fund grant monies to develop a volunteer monitoring program under the Michigan Clean Water Corps monitoring (MiCorps) program. Statewide, \$10,000 was made available for start-up programs with the goal of providing funding for training and strategic planning to allow groups to develop a first time plan to facilitate a volunteer

monitoring program. The monitoring program would be designed to conduct at least two sampling events per year (5-10 locations throughout the watershed) to track habitat and aquatic macro-invertebrates which is important to detect long-term changes in water quality. Decisions are expected by the end of May 2011.

**C. Watershed Project Partnerships** – Mary summarized the exciting partnerships that the Macatawa Watershed Project has developed recently with:

- the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (sponsored a joint breakfast meeting for local farmers to meet and talk with Bruce Washburn, Environmental Quality Analyst with the Kalamazoo District Office)
- the Outdoor Discovery Center (sponsoring summer kayak tours called River Encounters, partnering on upcoming River Clean-Ups and the Macatawa Water Festival), and
- Hope College (partnering with Hope College to conduct watershed wide sampling for *E.coli*, sediment and nutrients this spring/summer)

#### **IV. MPO Transportation Issues**

**A. 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan**– Elisa Hoekwater presented the final draft of the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan and noted that the Plan recommends \$65.2 million for 21 projects to improve/expand roadway capacity; \$73.3 million for 63 preservation projects to reconstruct or resurface existing roads; and \$17.8 million for transit facilities and bus replacements. Elisa reviewed public comments regarding the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan and also reviewed a memorandum summarizing revisions to the final draft. The resolution was read aloud, followed by a **motion by Terry Burns and supported by John Kleinheksel to adopt the resolution approving the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan. Motion carried.**

**B. Transportation Elements of the American Community Survey**– Steve Bulthuis gave an overview on the American Community Survey (ACS) stating that it has replaced the long form that used to come with the decennial census. One out of six families will no longer get the 11 or 12 page long form, but 45,000 households per month will get the ACS form that basically captures the same detailed information. From time to time Steve will bring a factoid from the ACS that he feels would be of interest and shed a little light on our community. This particular month he provided results from the Commuting to Work data, or mean travel time getting from an individual’s residence to their workplace for the MACC area. It was noted that there was no change from the year 2000 data.

**C. FY2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment** – Steve reviewed a recent request to amend the 2011 program of the FY2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). In November the committee amended a nonmotorized path project on Byron Road in Zeeland Township into the 2011 program. This particular project is a component of the Fred Meijer Trail project and will connect the nonmotorized system in the MACC area with the Kent Trails system in Byron Township. Byron Township has withdrawn from the project due to unforeseen issues. However, Zeeland and Jamestown Townships are proceeding with their portions of the project.

This project plan change, now involves new federal funding, cost share allocations and a timing issue for MDOT's bidletting. After consulting with the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council and MDOT, it was agreed that the entire project should be listed in the MACC's TIP so the bidding process can proceed. It may be necessary to amend the TIP at a later date and again to just show the Zeeland Township portion.

**A motion to amend the 2011 program of the FY2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program as detailed in the staff memo dated February 24, 2011 was made by Al Myaard and supported by Les Hoogland. Motion carried.**

**D. MDOT/FHWA Comments** - Steve Redmond, MDOT Grand Region provided maps of the upcoming road construction projects for the eight counties the Grand Region covers. The maps include the Ottawa County area, however Allegan County is covered by MDOT Southwest Region. There is also a website available that offers updated information on road construction at [www.michigan.gov/drive](http://www.michigan.gov/drive). The website information will list daily road construction projects as well as long term projects state wide.

**V. Administrative Issues**

**A. Budget Amendment** – Steve Bulthuis referred committee members to the amended budget included in their agenda packet. He referenced the notes in the comment column of the budget that described the changes. These amendments are a customary mid-year adjustment to the budget which result in revenues at \$1.16 million and expenses t \$1.04 million. The largest of these amendments being \$37,000 for a Lake Macatawa research project in partnership with the Outdoor Discovery Center and Hope College.

**A motion to approve the amendments to the FY 2011 budget as presented was made by Terry Nienhuis and supported by Kurt Dykstra. Motion carried.**

**B. 2011 July Fourth Fireworks Cost Share** – Steve gave a brief overview of the proposed July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks cost. The Holland/Zeeland Community Foundation in collaboration with the MACC and the celebration sponsor, WJQ Radio, work together to negotiate the costs. The cost is \$23,500 which is unchanged from the past couple of years. The MACC's role in this process is to calculate the cost allocation based on population of the local units of government. The Holland/Zeeland Community Foundation administers the invoicing for this event as has been the case for the last several years.

**C. MACC Executive Committee Report** – Mr. Bulthuis reports that items on the Executive Committee's agenda have been discussed and dealt with over the course of today's meeting. Executive Committee meeting minutes were included in the agenda packet and any questions may be directed to Steve.

**D. Monthly Financial Report** – Steve Bulthuis reviewed the monthly financial report noting that we have completed one third of the fiscal year with revenues at 45.3% and expenses at 32.2% and tracking well.

**VI. Public Comments** – There were no public comments.

**VII. Members' Comments**

**A. Host Member:** Terry Nienhuis, Holland Charter Township Supervisor, welcomed members to Riley Street Fire Station. He gave a report on selected park projects and other activities:

- Helder Park's west end- adding and developing hard surface and natural surface walking trails
- 100' clear span bridge over Noordeloos Creek with an overlook deck, benches, shade shelter and site amenities
- Improving two existing softball fields and some landscape improvements
- Hawthorne Pond and Natural Area, fairly new area purchased in partnership with Ottawa County, off of Adams Street is a five acre area containing a pond being turned into a small park. It will have a paved entrance driveway, parking area, fishing deck, kayak launch, benches and overlook areas with a loop trail around the pond
- Assisting two area food industries with expansion projects utilizing Community Development Block Grant funding. Request Foods expansion is expected to create 155 full time permanent positions and Quincy Street, Inc. will create 20 permanent full time jobs
- Russ TeSlaa was recently appointed as a Trustee for Holland Township, replacing Joe Baumann who now a county commissioner

**B. Other Members** – Steve announced that there will not be a March Policy Committee meeting as the fourth Monday of March is when the Future Search Conference will begin.

#### **VIII. Other Issues, Adjournment and Next Meeting -**

**Next Meeting will be scheduled as follows:**

**Monday, April 25, 2011  
Fillmore Township  
4219 52<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Holland, MI 49424**

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.