

GREAT LAKES BAY MICHIGAN WORKS!
Strategic Initiatives Committee Report
February 22, 2016

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESENT

Don Tilley
Margaret McAvoy
Ralph Ward
George Green

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ABSENT

Chris Taylor
Tom Begin
Colleen Markel
Jeff Adamo
Mike Hanley
Scott Noesen

MWA STAFF

Ed Oberski

GUESTS

Suanne Tasker, GIRESD
Jennifer Carroll, Delta

CEO Oberski called the meeting to order at 3:30pm. Upon his arrival, Board Co-Chair Don Tilley commenced presiding the meeting. The meeting was held at Great Hall Banquet and Convention Center.

The audience introduced themselves. There was no public comment.

Due to the light turn out the meeting, the Committee made no recommendations for Committee Co-Chairs.

Proposed Bylaws

CEO Oberski presented revisions to the proposed Bylaws based on the discussion at the December Board meeting.

- Article V, Section 5: Added the requirement that the Board must take specific action before call in or other meeting technology is allowed. Legal guidance from County of Saginaw Attorneys advises that call in and other meeting technology is legal so long as the openness and notice requirements of the Open Meetings Act are maintained, and so long as all members of the body and audience are able to hear and interact with the members who are not physically present.
- Article V, Section 7: Is new and states that meetings will be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.
- Article VI, Section 2: Deleted. If maintained, it would have allowed the meeting to continue if members left during the meeting leaving it one member short of a majority of members present.
- Article VII, Sections C and D: Deleted. If maintained, it would have required the 8 member Executive Committee to have at least one Consortium Board Member from Gratiot or Isabella, and at least one Workforce Board Member from Gratiot or Isabella.

- Article VII, New Section C: States that the Executive Committee shall have at least one member from each County.
- Article VII. Section E: Deleted language made superfluous by the deletion of Article VI, Section 2.

The Committee discussed the proposed revised bylaws in detail, but made no recommendations for Board Action.

Mission Statement and Operational Philosophy

The Committee reviewed the Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works! Mission Statement and Operational Philosophy.

Mission Statement:

Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works! strengthens the regional economy:

- *By assisting regional employers in finding and retaining qualified employees; and*
- *By assuring that the labor force meets the needs of regional employers.*

Operational Philosophy:

- 1) *Our Business Services do not help people find jobs. Instead, we provide employers in the Region with a menu of services that help them find and keep the best employees without regard to whether those individuals are participants in our programs or even if they are residents of our Region.*
- 2) *Our Program Services do not “get people jobs”. We do not place people into jobs. We do not match job seekers with employers. Instead, a successful completer of our programming will have a competitive advantage in the job market. We provide various services that help them become expert job seekers, attractive job candidates, and good employees. If we are doing a good job, our program participants will be able to find employment without us having to “sell” them to prospective employers.*

After detailed discussion, the Committee members agreed that the current Mission Statement and Operational Philosophy appear to be workable. However, they could create some limitations regarding programs that do not focus on helping employers, such as entrepreneurial training. Committee members concluded that changes to the Mission Statement or Operational Philosophy may or may not be necessary in the future as the Board determines its strategic priorities.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49pm.