

MINUTES
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
Saginaw County Board of Commissioners
Monday, February 5, 2024 - 4:30 p.m.

DRAFT

Present: Gerald Little – Chair, Michael Webster – Vice-Chair, Lisa Coney, Tracey Slodowski, Christopher Boyd
Others: Mary Catherine Hannah, Koren Thurston, Dave Gilbert, Jack Tany, Richard Spitzer, Jaime Ceja, Jennifer Broadfoot, Jacob Bennett, Tom Miller Jr., Torrie Lee, Christina Dillard, Alethea Nichols-Taylor, P. Taylor, Laurie Barr, Bruce McKinney, Catherine Hicks, Marissa Sawdon and Suzy Koepplinger

- I. Call to Order ---**Little at 4:41 p.m.**
- II. Welcome ---**Chair Little introduced new County Administrator Mary Catherine Hannah**
- III. Public comment (*Speakers limited to 3 minutes*) ---**None**
- IV. Agenda
 1. Discussion of funding blight clean-up in Buena Vista Charter Township, specifically at the site of the former Welcome Inn & Suites, 3245 E. Holland Ave.
 - **Chair Little asked Torrie Lee, BVCT Superintendent; Jacob Bennett, District Director for Congressman Dan Kildee; and Tom Miller Jr., Vice President at Saginaw Future, Inc. (SFI), to take a seat at the table and participate in discussion.**
 - **Chairman Boyd asked that the record reflect he sent a letter to Treasurer Tim Novak requesting records of the Land Bank Authority (LBA) and has not yet received a response, also noting that a LBA representative is not in attendance at this meeting.**
 - **Jacob Bennett summarized the current situation and the process of applying for community project funding. The original request for funds to tear down the Welcome Inn was approved but the necessary paperwork had not been submitted for the release of funds.**
 - **Torrie Lee informed the committee that the township DDA has taken over the project because of the delays and is moving forward with cleanup of the site. She submitted the initial package to the County Treasurer in April 2022 and her last contact with him was January 2023. Commissioner Webster stated that a deadline should be set to hold the Land Bank Authority accountable, in hopes to complete the cleanup before the Memorial Cup event in May. Ms. Lee is hopeful there is funding for other blighted BVCT properties.**
 - **Mr. Bennett suggested that a request be submitted for the cleanup of other properties as to utilize the grant dollars. In addition, the LBA could ask for an amendment to remove the 3245 E. Holland Ave. site from the original request.**
 - **Tom Miller Jr. clarified Saginaw Future Inc.'s role in this situation, assisting with the environmental concerns and completing paperwork. NEPA compliance is underway, but the Narrative/Budget/Detail are priorities.**
 2. Any other matters to come before the committee ---**None**
- V. Miscellaneous ---**None**
- VI. Adjournment ---**Moved by Coney, seconded by Webster, to adjourn. Motion carried; time being 5:35 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Gerald Little, Committee Chair
Suzy Koepplinger, Committee Clerk