

NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
FULL COMMISSION
September 26, 2007

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

GEORGE BORNEMANN
FRED CAMACHO
TOM HAFERMAN
ROBERT HAYWARD
ERHARD HUETTL
RON JACOBSON
BRAD KARGER
DONALD KRAHN
BEVERLY LONG
HELMI MEHUS
PAUL MILLAN
BETTYE NALL
RON NYE
WILBUR PETROSKEY
CURTIS POWELL
THOMAS RICK
THOMAS RUDOLPH
DOUG WILLIAMS

STAFF PRESENT:

ANDREW FAUST
DARRYL LANDEAU
DENNIS LAWRENCE
BERNIE LEWIS

GUESTS PRESENT:

None

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

MARILYN BHEND
DONALD KLINE
MAURICE MATHEWS
HERB RIECKMANN

1.) CALL TO ORDER:

MR. HUETTTL called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M., in the Birch Room at the Midway Hotel & Hoffman House Restaurant. Roll call was as presented on page one.

2.) AUDIENCE COMMENT:

MR. HUETTTL asked if there were any comments from the audience. No audience was present.

3.) APPROVAL, ADDITIONS, OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA AS MAILED:

MR. HUETTTL asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Agenda as mailed. There being none, a motion was made by MR. RUDOLPH and seconded by MS. MEHUS to approve the Agenda. Motion carried.

4.) APPROVAL, ADDITIONS, OR CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 27, 2006 COMMISSION MEETING:

MR HUETTTL asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes as mailed. MR. KRAHN made a motion to approve the Minutes and MR. PETROSKEY seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.) BUSINESS & DISCUSSION:

5.1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

MR. HUETTTL stated that the Executive Committee found the financial status continued to be strong. He also stated that the levy rate for 2008 was reduced from .00145 percent to .001375 percent based on Equalized Value growth. MR. HUETTTL also announced that Dennis Lawrence had an article published in the September issue of the Wisconsin Counties magazine entitled "Making a Difference." He said that this article gave an excellent profile of the purpose and mission of the NCWRPC.

5.2 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:

MS. NALL announced that the NCWRPC received a \$50,000 grant from EDA to provide staff assistance to Grow North; and another grant was in process with DOT for the rural transportation program. She indicated that the Executive Committee reviewed the 2008 Annual Budget in detail and they recommended adoption. MS. NALL informed them that the City of Wisconsin Rapids and the Town of Lac du Flambeau have become members of the NCWRPC.

MS. NALL also announced that they had approved the continuation of health insurance coverage for a part-time employee, approved staff salary increases, and conducted the Executive Director's review and made a salary adjustment.

5.3 RESOLUTION 2007-5: Designate October as "Community Planning" Month

MR. LAWRENCE announced that October was designated by the federal and state level as "Community Planning Month." He stated that the American Planning Association (APA) and the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) endorsed the National Community Planning Month as an opportunity to highlight the contributions sound planning and plan implementation make to the quality of our settlements and environment. The Wisconsin Chapter sought support from Gov. Doyle and he made a formal proclamation as well. A copy was provided in each packet.

To celebrate this designation, the NCWRPC is hosting a workshop on October 25th in Wausau. All are invited to attend and encouraged to bring a local staff person that works in the planning and zoning area.

MR. HAYWARD made a motion to approve Resolution 2007-7 to designate October as regional "Community Planning Month" and MR. BORNEMANN seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.4 RESOLUTION 2007-6: Adopt 2008 Annual Budget

MR. LAWRENCE overviewed the 2008 Annual Budget in detail.

Revenues include \$215,465 from the levy, \$133,254 from continuing EDA & DOT grants, and \$9,000 from miscellaneous sources. Project revenues are expected to be about \$351,000 for total revenues of \$708,833. The project revenue line does include \$65,000 from reserve accounts if expected projects are not secured. Usually, these projects will be secured over the next year, but because of the timing of the budget they are not approved at this time. He announced that the total levy to be collected in 2008 shows a 12.6 percent increase due to two new members joining. The continuing grants from EDA and WI DOT remain stable and represent approximately 19 percent of the budget. Pending projects is expected to bring in approximately \$65,000.

Expenditures include salaries of \$328,000, which would change slightly as the result of a change made by the Executive Committee. Fringe costs are expected to be about \$208,000, with overhead and direct costs of about \$139,000. Total expenditures equal about \$697,585. He stated that under Expenditures the direct cost of salaries used approximately 47 percent of the budget. The Fringe Costs show a decrease of 2.8 percent due to a decrease in

health insurance costs. Overhead costs would remain about the same as it was for 2007. A small fund balance is expected.

MR. BORNEMANN made a motion to adopt the 2008 Annual Budget and MR. CAMACHO seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.5 ELIMINATION OF REFERRALS PROCESS DISCUSSION:

MR. LAWRENCE announced that in July the state decided to opt out of the A95 Clearinghouse review process. He stated that the Wisconsin Department of Administration Secretary Michael Morgan sent a letter to the Federal Office of Management and Budget indicating that Wisconsin has decided to join the 27 states that have already opted out of the federal clearinghouse review process. MR. LANDEAU said the states who are continuing to do the referral review process are reviewing less than 8 percent of the federal programs, and because of this low level of participation, Wisconsin determined that the value of the program was not sufficient to justify continued expenditure.

5.6 FINAL REFERRALS REVIEW:

MR. LANDEAU reviewed the last five referrals received since the last Commission Meeting totaling \$2,759,908. One was for the Wisconsin Rapids Engineering Department in Wood County for the waste water treatment plant expansion; the second was for the Portage County Sheriff's Department to purchase technologically advanced equipment; the third was for the Northwood's NiiJii Enterprise Community, Inc., for a minority owned business to create two jobs on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation; the fourth referral was to the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission for the Grow North EDC Technical Assistant project; and the five referral was for Impact Seven, Inc., to build a ten-unit low income apartment building for seniors in the City of Platteville.

MS. NALL made a motion to approve the final referrals presented for review, and MR. POWELL seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.7 WILDFIRE PLANNING: TOWN OF ROME

MR. LAWRENCE announced that the DNR is requesting local units of government to address Wildfire issues. There is a grant program available to address Wildfire planning. He stated that the Town of Rome in Adams County had completed a Wildfire Protection Plan and introduced MR. LANDEAU and MR. FAUST, staff from the NCWRPC, to present the Town of Rome Wildfire Protection Plan.

MR. LANDEAU stated that many of the causes starting a fire include equipment (ATV's), campfires, and debris burning. This Plan helps identify

the Housing Density, as well as Evacuation Routes in case of a major fire. The goal of this plan is to get each neighborhood to work together with local governments and fire department as well as state agencies in consultation with interested parties and federal agencies to focus ways to protect one or more at-risk communities and essential infrastructure and recommends measures to reduce structural ignitability throughout the at-risk community. MR. LANDEAU said that ATV's were very much a concern for the WisDNR.

MR. FAUST said that the maps of the Plan point out the critical facilities, housing density, fuel types, and planning units for the community, and evacuation was a major concern in many areas.

MR. LANDEAU stated that there was federal funding available for communities to draft a plan for the safety of their areas. He suggested that anyone interested to contact him or the DNR.

5.8 OTHER:

MR. MILLAN reported that MR. KLINE fell at home and was presently in the hospital. Everyone expressed concern and wished him a speedy recovery.

6.) ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by MR. RUDOLPH to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 P.M., and MR. CAMACHO seconded this motion. All were in favor. A buffet lunch was served immediately following the meeting.

NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes Approved on _____

Chair, Vice-Chair, or Secretary-Treasurer