



NCWRPC NEWS

A Newsletter of the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC).
Serving Adams, Forest, Juneau, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Vilas and
Wood Counties for over 30 years.

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Welcome

As we head into summer, many planning projects are underway and many more are in the pre-planning stages. As the 2010 comprehensive plan deadline approaches communities that have not already begun planning need to seriously outline a process. Usually it takes a community between 18 to 24 months to complete a plan, and a county level plan takes even longer. We are available to help. Contact me if you would like more information about the Comprehensive Plan law or how to go about developing a plan.

Our organizational strategic planning process has been moving along. We accomplished the first milestone, the adoption of our first ever Mission Statement (See Page 4). In the next several months we will also develop an action plan.

Finally, I would also like to welcome the Village of Rosholt, Portage County, as a member of our organization. The village is located in the northeast corner of the county on Highway 66. Staff will be working with them to develop a comprehensive plan and revise their existing zoning code. We urge all non-member communities to consider membership in our organization. Planning is a crucial activity for all local governments.

As always, please feel free to give me a call if you have any questions. I can be reached at (715) 849-5510, Extension 304, or at dlawrence@ncwrpc.org.

Dennis Lawrence, AICP
Executive Director

Commission Meeting Highlights

The May meeting of the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission was highlighted by the election of officers. Erhard Huettl, Forest County, Chairperson; Virginia Heinemann, Marathon County, Vice-Chairperson; and Maurice Mathews, Wood County, Secretary – Treasurer, were all elected to another two-year term. A new member was also welcomed to the Commission. His name is Curtis Powell, he is the new Lincoln County Board Chair. He has an extensive background in both education and finance.

The 2005 Audit Report was reviewed in Chairperson Huettl's report. He indicated that the NCWRPC had another excellent year, and that the Executive Committee was considering decreasing the levy again for 2007.



The Commission also adopted the 2006 Work Plan. That work program identifies over 50 projects throughout the Region. In addition, 7 projects were reviewed through the Federal-State Referrals process totaling almost \$3.8 million dollars and were approved. *Continued on page 2...*

Commission Meeting Highlights Continued. . .

Staff member Andrew Faust made a presentation regarding the activities of the newly created North East Communications (NEWCOM) organization. He stated that the 16 county group was working together to create a Mission Statement based on providing counties with reliable and responsive communication links between all emergency agencies. The goal is to get counties working together with equipment that allows public safety agencies to communicate with each other via radio communications systems. Presently, many counties can't talk together because radio systems aren't compatible due to aging equipment, fragmented planning, lack of coordination/cooperation, and limited radio frequency.

Other items included the adoption of a new Mission Statement, a fall workshop, and adoption of the 2005 Annual Report. The next NCWRPC meeting will be held on July 26, 2006, in Wausau.

For more information contact Dennis Lawrence at (715) 849-5510, Extension 304, or email to dlawrence@ncwrpc.org.

NEWCOM Update

The counties of North Eastern Wisconsin are continuing to work together to formalize the North East Wisconsin Public Safety Communication or NEWCOM. Fourteen of the sixteen counties have signed the Intergovernmental Agreement. Draft by-laws have been written and the NEWCOM Board is being formed. The group continues to work on grants and with local politicians to find funding sources. The mission of NEWCOM is to provide the participating counties with a reliable and responsive communications link between all emergency services and public safety agencies.

More information is available at www.ncwrpc.org/newcom.html or by contacting Andy Faust, GISP, at (715) 849-5510, Extension 305, or afaust@ncwrpc.org

Traffic Counting Ongoing

The NCWRPC continues to offer traffic counting services to member units of government this summer. Last year, traffic counts were completed for the City of Mosinee in Marathon County, Village of Friendship in Adams County, the Town of Casian in Oneida County, and the Town of Rolling in Langlade County. Our counter can provide basic traffic counts and average traffic statistics. The equipment can also provide vehicle classification statistics whether it is a car or a truck and even what type of truck. Traffic may also be broken down by time of day. Speed statistics are also possible which may be of assistance in setting speed limits or identifying speeding trouble spots.



Member units of government may receive counts at up to three locations per year. Additional counts may be provided at \$100 per location if time allows. Currently, the Commission has only one counter unit which is scheduled on a first come - first serve basis.

If your community is interested in doing some traffic counts or studying vehicle types or speeds please contact Darryl Landeau, AICP, at (715) 849-5510, Extension 308, or email to dlan-deau@ncwrpc.org.

Quarterly Quote:

Nothing is easy to the unwilling.

Nikki Giovanni, Poet

Public Access Study Update

By fall the NCWRPC will have completed a Public Access Study for Langlade County. This report will identify all publicly owned lake shore frontages; describe their locations and size, if known; and describes their overall condition. The report is designed to aid local officials in managing publicly owned lake access areas to promote the most appropriate and efficient use of the public's access to the waters of Langlade County.

For more information contact Andy Faust, GISP, at (715) 849-5510, Extension 305, or email to afaust@ncwrpc.org.

Town of Antigo Comprehensive Plan Completed

The NCWRPC recently completed a Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Antigo in Langlade County. The plan was developed to be consistent with Wisconsin's Comprehensive Planning Law (ss.66.1001) and will serve as a guide to determine where future growth, development and preservation should occur.

Highlights of the plan include revision of the Town's existing land division ordinance and emphasis on intergovernmental cooperation featuring:

- Work with the City and surrounding towns through the joint Extra-Territorial Committee to develop extra-territorial zone plans and regulations that are mutually beneficial.
- Work with Langlade County and adjacent towns to explore the potential for development of a confined animal feeding operation ordinance that meets State Criteria.
- Work with Langlade County to develop and implement an All Hazards Mitigation Plan for reducing the impacts of natural disasters on the Town and County.

- Continue to build on the initial framework established in the Intergovernmental Cooperation Element of this Plan.

The plan was adopted by the Town Board on May 9 after extensive public outreach efforts coordinated by NCWRPC Staff. You can review the plan at www.ncwrpc.org/antigo.htm.

For more information contact Darryl Landeau, AICP, at (715) 849-5510, Extension 308, or email to dlandeau@ncwrpc.org.

Grow North Works to Achieve Through Regional Collaboration

Regional economic development continues to gain momentum as a practical means to achieve economic growth and new business development. Communities are recognizing the benefits of collaborating with their neighboring communities to achieve growth and prosperity, and develop a wider variety of quality employment opportunities for residents in the region.

Comprised of private and public sector members from Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, and Vilas Counties, Grow North is using the regional economic development model to collaborate in attracting new companies, retain and expand existing business, and encourage new company formations in Northern Wisconsin. In areas where resources are limited, a regional approach allows communities to compete at a higher economy of scale and develop programs that they would be unable to achieve individually. If the overall goal of economic development is to create quality employment opportunities, a regional approach to economic development is the most viable means to achieve that goal.

Grow North is continuing to expand its membership base by reaching out to existing businesses, local Chamber's of Commerce, and local governments throughout the five-county region. You can learn more by visiting their web site at <http://www.grownorth.org>.

NCWRPC Mission Statement

On May 2nd, the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission adopted a Mission Statement. This statement is part of an overall Strategic Planning Process. The statement reads:

“In an advisory capacity to local units of government and tribes, the NCWRPC offers cost effective, specialized planning services and expertise that support responsible development of the Region’s economic, social, natural and human built environments. The NCWRPC also provides leadership and a regional forum for the creation of cooperative responses to shared opportunities and challenges facing the counties and communities of the ten-county Region.”

If you have any comments, contact Dennis Lawrence at (715) 849-5510, Extension 304, or dlawrence@ncwrpc.org.

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