

# NCWRPC NEWS

The official newsletter of North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC).

2008 Fall Issue, Number 37

Serving: Adams, Forest, Juneau, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Vilas, and Wood counties since 1973.



## Director's Note

It's already Fall and before we know it will be Christmas and the New Year! Things continue to be busy throughout the Region. We have All Hazard Mitigation Plans starting in Adams and Oneida Counties and Safe Routes to School planning efforts underway in Antigo and Wisconsin Rapids. In addition, staff is working with local comprehensive planning efforts in Juneau and Oneida Counties, as well as county-wide efforts in Forest, Langlade, and Oneida Counties. In addition, we are continuing to work with many regional level projects. Staff continues to work with NEWCOM to address emergency management communication throughout the region and WROC to coordinate a state-wide air photo effort in 2010.

Although many projects are underway and others are planned to begin early next year, there is always room for a few more. I encourage communities to contact us if they have any project that they need help with. We are committed to providing assistance to our members.

Finally, I would like to welcome Vilas County and all of its local units of government as the newest members of our organization. In October the county board passed resolution to join the NCWRPC, after a nearly 15 year absence. We look forward to working with the citizens, businesses, and communities of Vilas County for many years to come. Remember, working together we can all achieve more!

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

Dennis Lawrence, AICP  
Executive Director

**Next Commission Meeting:  
January 28, 2009  
The public is always welcome.**

## Commission Meeting Highlights

The Fall Meeting of the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission covered several topics, including the adoption of the 2009 Annual Budget, an update on economic development efforts, and a presentation by ATC.

The Commission approved an \$880,000 budget for 2009. Overall revenues were up by nearly twenty percent. Revenues are made up of three basic components: a membership levy, continuing grants, and local projects. The levy rate was again reduced and the result was a six percent decrease in levy collection, while continuing grants from EDA and DOT remained the same. The growth in revenues is the result of the increase in local projects. Most of these projects are funded by grants secured by the NCWRPC for the local units. Expenditures have remained very stable. There was about a two percent increase over 2008, including wages, health insurance. An additional "project" staff person was included in the budget as a result of the new project revenues.

Economic development continues to be a major work effort of the NCWRPC. See the article on page 2.



## "Quarterly Quote"

"If you're walking down the right path and you're willing to keep walking, eventually you'll make progress."

President-Elect Barack Obama

## NEWCOM Radio Exercise

On November 5th, 2008, Northeast Wisconsin Public Safety Communication Group (NEWCOM) conducted a series of communication interoperability exercises in Waupaca. Tabletop exercises involving a response to a large-scale hazardous materials incident came first. The objective was to evaluate and plan how the mutual aid radio equipment could be most efficiently used in a large-scale incident, and how it could incorporate the use of the State Wide Mutual Aid channels. Second was a functional exercise expanding on what was learned at the tabletop exercise, in which counties tested their radio equipment on mutual aid channels to verify that the equipment was working properly.



For more information about NEWCOM contact Andy Faust, GISP, at (715) 849-5510, Extension 305 or at [afaust@ncwrpc.org](mailto:afaust@ncwrpc.org)



## Economic Development Highlights

Economic development continues to be a critical function of the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission and the North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation (NCWDC). Over the last year several actions have been completed, including the completion of the 2009 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), two loan closings, and approval of tax credits to an area business.

Early this year the CEDS was completed which is an annual planning process that examines the regional economy and identifies public infrastructure projects. Listing in the CEDS maintains communities eligibility for federal funding from the U.S. Department of Commerce – Economic Development Administration.

The NCWDC operates two revolving loan funds for business development. Recently two loans were approved. One was for ABX in Rhinelander, a plastics company that was awarded funds for an expansion. The other approved loan was for MMP, a metal products company in Merrill, to proceed with their expansion plans as well. These companies combined will add over 30 new jobs in the Region.

In addition, Northland Stainless in Tomahawk, another metal products company, was awarded tax credits through the Technology Zone program that NCWDC manages. This is the 12th award provided since the program was established. To date over \$2.7 million in credits have been approved.

If you have any questions related to general economic development, revolving loan funds, or tax credits, please feel free to contact Matt Schreiber at (715) 849-5510, Extension 306, or at [mschreiber@ncwrpc.org](mailto:mschreiber@ncwrpc.org).



# Happy Holidays



Barry Meyer © Christmas Garland



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## WROC (Airphoto Consortium)

The Wisconsin Regional Orthophotography Consortium (WROC) is a multi-entity group led by seven regional planning commissions (RPCs). The RPCs will assist in coordination mapping services for participating members of WROC. The goal of the consortium is to build and sustain a multi-participant program to acquire digital orthoimagery and elevation data throughout Wisconsin. WROC is planning for a 2010 acquisition date for data products. The consortium provides several benefits to participants, including: cost savings, specifications and standards support, data sharing between participants, and procurement support.



WROC is working to build partnership with Federal/State agencies and the private sector to help cost share local projects. Any organization can participate in WROC. For more information about joining the consortium contact Andy Faust, GISP, at (715) 849-5510, Extension 305 or at [afaust@ncwrpc.org](mailto:afaust@ncwrpc.org)



Airphoto of a neighborhood

## New Staff Person

We are pleased to announce that Matt Schreiber has joined our staff as a Senior Planner. Matt will be working with economic development and community planning projects throughout the region. He will also be our primary contact for the North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation (NCWDC) and the North Central Advantage Technology Zone (TCATZ) program.

Matt has experience in the area of economic development having worked in both the public and private sectors. He holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh, and a Masters of Urban Planning from the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee.



## Fred Heider Receives AICP Certification

Fred Heider has recently become certified by the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). This certification is sponsored by the American Planning Association and is only granted to planners that have met certain experience and educational requirements and pass a comprehensive exam.

Nationwide there are roughly 15,000 AICP certified planners, with about 220 members in Wisconsin. Fred is the fourth staff member of the NCWRPC to achieve this certification.

Congratulations Fred!



## Comprehensive Plan Reminder


By 2010, all communities that have zoning (general or shoreland), subdivision/land division regulations, or official mapping need to adopt a comprehensive plan. As part of the law, copies of the plan need to be distributed to a variety of entities including the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission and the Wisconsin Department of Administration, Comprehensive Planning Program.

Please mail a paper copy to:

NCWRPC  
210 McClellan Street, Suite 210  
Wausau WI 54403

Please mail a CD-ROM to:

Comprehensive Planning Program  
DOA-Division of Intergovernmental Relations  
101 E. Wilson Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Madison, WI 53702-0001

If you have any questions related to comprehensive planning, please feel free to contact our office. 

## NCWRPC Commissioners

### Adams County

Donald Krahn  
Glenn Licitar  
*Appointment Pending*

### Juneau County

Helmi Mehus  
Edmund Wafle  
*Appointment Pending*

### Lincoln County

Robert Lussow  
Thomas Rick  
Doug Williams

### Oneida County

Wilbur Petroskey  
Thomas Rudolph  
*Appointment Pending*

### Forest County

Erhard Huettl  
Donald Kline  
Paul Millan

### Langlade County

George Bornemann  
Ronald Nye  
Paul Schuman

### Marathon County

Marilyn Bhend  
Brad Karger  
Bettye Nall

### Wood County

Frederick Camacho  
Tomas Haferman  
Maurice Mathews

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