NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
FULL COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2018

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:
LORETTA BAUGHAN
ANGELA CLOSE
TED CUSHING
ROCKY GILNER
DANIEL GUILD
PETER HICKETHIER
HARLAND LEE
PAUL MILLAN
JERRY NELSON
JERRY NILES
RON NYE
THOMAS RUDOLPH
FRANK SAAL, JR.
PAUL SCHUMAN
JAY VERHULST
EDMUND WAFLE
CATHERINE WINEMAN
BILL ZEITZ

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:
RICHARD BAKOVKA
WILLIAM CONNORS, JR.
BUCKY DAILEY
CRAIG McEWEN
CHARLES RAYALA, III
KENNETH WINTERS

STAFF PRESENT:
ALEXANDER BROWN
FRED HEIDER
DARRYL LANDEAU
DENNIS LAWRENCE
PAM WINKELS

GUESTS PRESENT:
DAN BAUMANN, DNR-Director, West Central Region
SARA GUILD, Outreach Director, Congressman Sean Duffy
MARK HAZUGA, DNR-NR Basin Supervisor, Water Quality Bureau-Western District
DOUG HILL, Outreach Director, US Senator Baldwin
MARYANN LIPPERT, DOA–Northern Office
PAT OLDENBURG, DNR-Water Resources Engineer
JON TRAUTMAN, Schenck
1.) CALL TO ORDER:

MR. MILLAN called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting and guests introduced themselves. Guests in attendance were Dan Baumann, Sara Guild, Mark Hazuga, Doug Hill, MaryAnn Lippert, Pat Oldenburg, and Jon Trautman.

2.) AUDIENCE COMMENT:

None.

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

MR. MILLAN asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda as mailed. There being none, MR. VERHULST made a motion to approve the minutes as mailed, seconded by MR. CUSHING. Motion carried.

4.) APPROVAL, ADDITIONS, OR CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 31, 2018 MEETING:

MR. MILLAN asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes as mailed. There being none, MR. RUDOLPH made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes, and MR. VERHULST seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.) BUSINESS & DISCUSSION:

5.1 Chairperson’s Welcome

MR. MILLAN welcomed everyone.

5.2 Executive Committee’s Report

MR. WAFLE provided the Executive Committee’s Report in MR. BAKOVKA’S absence. He reported that the Executive Committee met and discussed various topics. Financial information was reviewed, and the annual audit will be explained in more detail later in the meeting agenda; the audit firm recommends a fund balance restricting account. The Governor’s office is in the process of appointing Commissioner positions. Today there will be the election of officers, which are two-year terms. Programs and grants were also reviewed including the EDA planning grant. MR.
WAFLE stated that the Executive Committee authorized direct deposit for payroll distribution and authorized the purchasing of a new phone system for the NCWRPC office. The Committee reviewed a “Free Technical Assistance” program the Bay Lake Regional Planning Commission is using. Finally, he reported that the Association of Wisconsin Regional Planning Commissions (AWRPC) Summit will be held on June 14 followed by the AWRPC Annual Meeting on June 15.

5.3 State & Federal Updates

MARYANN LIPPERT, DOA–Northern Office, provided an update. She began by encouraging Commissioners to read a couple of publications: “The Northern Connection” newsletter and the “DOA Local Government Report.” She highlighted the 2018 Governor’s Northern Summit which will be held in Minocqua in October and stated that Rachel Skendore, Director of Northeastern Region Office, is back from maternity leave if anyone would like to contact Rachel.

DOUG HILL, Outreach Director, US Senator Baldwin, stated this it is a little quiet right now in terms of legislative action with this being an election year. He said the 2018 federal budget is complete, so the 2019 budget will be discussed in October. He also distributed a handout with recent Media Releases from Senator Baldwin’s office: Farmers in Crisis (regarding mental health issues affecting people in agriculture); funding to help Wisconsin combat the opioid epidemic; and funding to assist Wisconsin Veterans Home at King.

SARA GUILD, Outreach Director, Congressman Sean Duffy, mentioned several topics. She mentioned the creation of “opportunity zones”; there are two in Wausau and other nearby communities including Merrill, Rhinelander and Eagle River to name a few. She stated that broadband grants went out including rural broadband expansion. Other legislation highlighted was: Family Self Sufficiency Act, Forgotten Families Recovery Act, Dairy Pride Act, and FabLab Classroom modernization project. She closed by stating the Farm Bill is up for discussion and the Margin Protection Program will be discussed and changed in the future.
Some questions were asked by those in attendance. Mr. Verhulst made a motion that NCWRPC write a letter to Senator Baldwin expressing appreciation for her role in providing funding for the Veterans Home in King. Mr. Zeitz seconded this motion. Motion carried. Mr. Zeitz also shared a Resolution related to the opioid crisis for discussion.

5.4 Election of Officers: Chair, Vice-Chair & Secretary/Treasurer

Mr. Millan asked for nominations from the floor for the current officer positions. A nomination was made that all current officers keep their current positions meaning Mr. Millan continue as Chairperson, Mr. Bakovka continue as Vice-Chair, and Mr. Wafle continue as Secretary/Treasurer. These are two-year terms. Mr. Verhulst made a motion to approve this nomination and Mr. Cushing seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

5.5 2017 Audit Report Presentation, Jon Trautman, Schenck, SC

Mr. Millan introduced Auditor Jon Trautman from Schenck, SC. Mr. Trautman reviewed various pages in the Annual Financial Report, particularly the Financial Statements. The Total Net Position in 2017 was $1,359,331; this is a decrease of $18,664.00 from 2016. The Total Cash and Investments in 2017 was $1,912,931; this is an increase of $87,433.00 from 2016. Mr. Trautman explained in more detail the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position and Statement of Cash Flows. The total operating revenues varies year-to-year depending on programs and projects at the time of audit. He stated that there were no suggestions for improvement regarding Internal Control.

5.6 2017 Annual Report Review & Adoption

Mr. Lawrence presented the draft of the 2017 Annual Report. The Annual Report is an overview of the last 12 months at NCWRPC. According to state statute, regional planning commissions are required to prepare an Annual Report.

He highlighted the county and regional accomplishments sections. The other sections of the document are: the purpose, history and mission statement of NCWRPC, organizational goals,
local assistance, audited 2017 financial statements, North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation 2017 Annual Report, and information on professional staff and commissioners.

MR. NYE made a motion to adopt the 2017 Annual Report, and MR. VERHULST seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.7 Resolution 2018-1: Adoption of Regional Bike Plan

MR. LANDEAU, NCWRPC Senior Planner, provided an overview of the North Central Wisconsin Regional Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan at the January 31, 2018 Commission meeting. At that time, the DOT requested additional time to review the plan. The DOT has now approved the plan.

MR. NELSON made a motion to adopt Resolution 2018-1: Adoption of North Central Wisconsin Regional Bike and Pedestrian Plan. MR. RUDOLPH seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.8 Presentation of other Bike Plan Efforts Underway

MR. ALEXANDER BROWN, NCWRPC Planner, provided an overview of 2018 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans. NCWRPC was awarded TAP Grant (Transportation Alternatives Program) funding for three bicycle/pedestrian plans in our region for the 2016-2020 cycle: Juneau County, Langlade County, and City of Rhinelander. All of these plans are underway with the final plans and adoptions expected to occur by the end of the year. MR. BROWN, MR. HEIDER, and MR. LANDEAU will each be overseeing a plan.

5.9 Presentation of Wisconsin’s TMDL Study, Pat Oldenburg, DNR

MR. HEIDER introduced staff members from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources: MR. DAN BAUMANN, Director of West Central Region and MR. PAT OLDENBURG, Water Resources Engineer. MR. MARK HAZUGA, NR Basin Supervisor, Water Quality Bureau-Western District, was also in attendance.

MR. BAUMANN began the presentation by mentioning various issues affecting Wisconsin, such as: flood plains, wetlands, and shorelands affecting planning, zoning, and ordinances; emerald
ash borer being statewide now, and the DNR continuing to identify CWD (Chronic Wasting Disease).

MR. OLDENBURG then presented information on TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load). He defined TMDL as a “pollutant budget for water quality.” He briefly explained the Wisconsin River Basin TMDL, Clean Water Act, and Water Quality Standards. Research and studies regarding the TMDL started many years ago; the first Pontoons and Politics was in 2008. There are four main steps that need to be completed before TMDL implementation occurs: TMDL development process (including monitoring and loading capacity); defining and separating phosphorus loads by source type (based on calculations); load allocation and waste load allocation; and, lastly, reserve capacity and margin of safety. Implementation will take time. There will be informational meetings, preparation of a second Draft Report, and an official 30-day public informational hearing process this summer; EPA approval is expected by the end of the year. The DNR staff answered questions after the presentation.

5.10 AWRPC Summit & Other Announcements

MR. LAWRENCE reminded those present that the AWRPC Summit will be held June 14 in Wisconsin Rapids. Please contact MR. LAWRENCE if interested in attending.

MR. LAWRENCE stated the next Commission Meeting will be July 25th. The meeting will be held at the same location.

6.) ADJOURNMENT:

MR. RUDOLPH made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:30 PM, and MR. VERHULST seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Lunch was provided following the meeting.
The meeting was advertised and open to the public. The meeting was held at the Wausau Entrepreneurial & Education Center, Wausau.

Minutes Approved on July 25, 2018: