

**NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
FULL COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes**

October 28, 2020

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

REINHARDT BALCERZAK
LORETTA BAUGHAN
ANGELA CLOSE
TED CUSHING
PAUL GILK
ROCKY GILNER
DANIEL GUILD
ROBERT HANSON
DAVE LaFONTAINE
HARLAND LEE
CRAIG McEWEN
PAUL MILLAN
JERRY NELSON
JERRY NILES
RONALD NYE
RICK PEASE
THOMAS RUDOLPH
JAY VERHULST
EDMUND WAFLE
CATHERINE WINEMAN
KENNETH WINTERS

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

WILLIAM CHANEY
CINDY GRETZINGER
DOUGLAS MACHON

STAFF PRESENT:

ANDY FAUST
DARRYL LANDEAU
DENNIS LAWRENCE
PAM WINKELS

GUESTS PRESENT:

WILLIAM CLENDENNING, Board
Member, Wood County

JIM MILLER, Regional Director,
US Senator Ron Johnson

GREGG WAVRUNEK, Regional
Representative, US Senator Tammy
Baldwin

1.) CALL TO ORDER & CHAIR'S WELCOME:

The meeting was held via Google Meet.

MR. MILLAN called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM and welcomed everyone. Roll call was taken. Guests in attendance were William Clendenning (Wood County), Jim Miller, and Gregg Wavrunek.

2.) AUDIENCE COMMENT:

None.

3.) APPROVAL, ADDITIONS, OR CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 22, 2020 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. CUSHING seconded this motion. Motion carried.

4.) BUSINESS & DISCUSSION:

4.1 Executive Committee's Report

MS. BAUGHAN provided the Executive Committee's Report. The Committee was informed of current Commissioner vacancies (4 at the time of the meeting). Next, the 2021 Annual Budget was reviewed in detail. Overall, the budget looks robust. Other items discussed were various grants & agreements, the strategic plan, and in closed session discussed salaries and compensation for staff.

MR. VERHULST made a motion to place the Executive Committee Report on file, and MR. BALCERZAK seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

4.2 State & Federal Updates

JIM MILLER, Regional Director, US Senator Ron Johnson, reported that the current focus in Washington is the upcoming election. He then spoke briefly about some of the current issues US Senator Ron Johnson is currently involved with, including the ongoing discussion related to additional federal stimulus efforts.

GREGG WAVRUNEK, Regional Representative, US Senator Tammy Baldwin, mentioned several items Senator Baldwin is working on, such as: a call to reverse a decrease in Covid-19 relief to Wisconsin dairy farmers, HEROES Small Business Lifeline Act, and assisting with a national suicide prevention hotline. He also mentioned efforts with the Verso Paper Mill biweekly task force meetings.

4.3 Resolutions 2020-5 to 8: Recognition of Commissioners Hickethier, Rayala, Saal & Tallier

MR. LAWRENCE stated that the following Commissioners are no longer serving for their respective counties on the NCWRPC: Peter Hickethier (Adams County, Joint appointment), Charles Rayala (Vilas County, Joint appointment), Frank Saal, Jr. (Lincoln County, Joint appointment), and Tom Tallier (Forest County, County appointment). MR. LAWRENCE expressed his appreciation for the service each of these Commissioners have offered to NCWRPC and their communities over the years. To acknowledge their service to our organization, we will present each of them with a Resolution of Recognition. Copies of the resolutions were included in the meeting materials.

MR. CUSHING made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-5 to 8: Recognition of Commissioners Hickethier, Rayala, Saal & Tallier for their years of service to the NCWRPC. MR. VERHULST seconded this motion. Motion carried.

4.4 Resolution 2020-9: Adopt Local Government Investment Pool

MR. LAWRENCE explained that NCWRPC has been using the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) for many years. This Resolution designates the persons authorized for access to transfer funds to or from the LGIP. Every few years this needs to be updated to include current officers.

MR. NYE made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-9: Adopt Local Government Investment Pool, and MS. BAUGHAN seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

4.5 Resolution 2020-10: Adopt 2021 DOT Work Program

MR. LANDEAU reviewed the five main elements of the 2020 Transportation Work Program: Regionwide Transportation Planning; Regional Transportation Data Center (mapping and data support); Local Transportation Technical Assistance (including such projects as bikeway plans, Safe Routes to School plans and assisting with road rating); Intergovernmental Coordination; and Transportation Program Administration.

MR. NYE made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-10: Adopt 2021 DOT Work Program, and MR. LaFONTAINE seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

4.6 2021 Budget Presentation & Discussion

MR. LAWRENCE stated the Executive Committee has reviewed the budget in detail. He started with a brief review of the budget process, which starts in July when the levy rate and cap rate are set; this year the Commission set the rate not to exceed .000851% with a cap of \$43,000. The actual rate was set at .000795%. With that rate and cap applied to member real estate valuations the Levy will collect approximately \$255,000 or about 30% of revenues. Continuing Grants add another \$141,000 or 17%, and Projects/Agreements accounts for about \$450,000 or 53% of total revenues. Overall total revenues are up about 3.3%.

Next, he reviewed expenditures. There are three primary categories: Direct/Salaries, Fringe Benefits and Overhead. Direct/Salaries are expected to account for 50% of costs, followed by Fringe Costs of 36% and overhead Costs of about 14%. Overall expenditures are up about 7.9%.

In total, revenues are expected at about \$850,000 and expenditures are anticipated to equal \$816,000, leaving an anticipated Fund Balance of about \$33,000. This budget is similar in comparison to previous budgets and it has been recommended by the Executive Committee for approval.

4.7 Resolution 2020-11: Adopt 2021 Annual Budget

MR. BALCERZAK made a motion to approve the 2020-11: Adopt 2021 Annual Budget, and MR. LEE seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

4.8 Regional Livability Plan Five-Year Status Report

MR. LAWRENCE stated that the NCWRPC prepared and adopted the Regional Livability Plan (RLP) as the statutorily required regional comprehensive plan in 2015. He went on to say that the RLP provides a framework for the communities within the region and introduces goals, objectives, and recommendations to promote livability, sustainability, and quality of life. Much of the data, analysis and policies from that plan form the foundation of many of the county and local planning efforts in the region. As part of the RLP, there was a recommendation to prepare a five year "Plan Status" to summarize the progress toward implementation and identify additional issues to include in the future update.

He then discussed the RLP Status Report, which review progress towards implementation over the last five years. There was a focus on implementation of the RLP through local planning efforts. Various maps were included to show which counties had adopted the various types of plans. There was also a discussion of other issues that might be included in the 2020 update. These include: Public Health Needs/Pandemic Response, Economic Recovery, Resiliency - Weather &

Climate Change, Fiscal Conditions of the Region, and the Widening Equity Gap. The RLP will be updated in 2025.

MS. CLOSE made a motion to approve the Regional Livability Plan Five-Year Status Report as presented, and MR. McEWEN seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

4.9 Overview of EDA Cares Act Grant Award

MR. LAWRENCE explained that the NCWRPC recently received an EDA Recovery Assistance grant through the CARES Act. A variety of tasks are to be completed as part of this funding, including preparation of a Regional Recovery Plan; updating the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to include recovery and resiliency; prepare a Regional Health Pandemic Assessment and Future Response; conduct a regional land use update; and provide technical assistance and planning support throughout the region.

4.10 Establish Ad Hoc Committee – Regional Recovery Plan

MR. LAWRENCE stated that a committee will be formed to provide oversight to the development of the Regional Recovery Plan. The committee will probably meet five to six times starting in 2021. The committee will include some Commissioners, some county level EDC staff and other interested parties. The group will be comprised of 9 to 11 members.

A motion was made by MR. VERHULST to create the Regional Recovery Plan Ad Hoc Committee. MR. CUSHING seconded this motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried.

Some Commissioners volunteered to be on the Ad Hoc Committee: MS. CLOSE, MR. CUSHING, and MR. VERHULST. MR. MILLAN volunteered as well, depending on the size of the committee. MR. LAWRENCE stated that more information would be provided at the end of the year or early in 2021.

4.11 Announcements

MR. MILLAN thanked MR. LAWRENCE and the NCWRPC staff for their efforts. He also thanked the guests in attendance and all the Commissioners for their dedication and participation, especially during these unusual times.

MR. LAWRENCE stated that the next meeting is January 27, 2021. Notice will be given regarding meeting location or if the meeting will be a videoconference again.

5.) ADJOURNMENT:

MR. RUDOLPH made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:58 AM, and MR. LEE seconded this motion. All were in favor.

The meeting was advertised and open to the public. The meeting was held via
Videoconference/Google Meet.

Minutes Approved on January 27, 2021:
