

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

**October 26, 2022**

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**ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

REINHARDT BALCERZAK  
LORETTA BAUGHAN  
HANS BREITENMOSE  
WILLIAM CHANEY  
TED CUSHING  
JAMI GEBERT  
ROCKY GILNER  
CINDY GRETZINGER  
JASON GRUENEBERG  
DAVE LAFONTAINE  
HARLAND LEE  
DOUGLAS MACHON  
BETTY MANSON  
PAUL MILLAN  
JERRY NILES  
RONALD NYE  
DAVID OBERBECK  
RICK PEASE  
LARRY RAIKOWSKI  
STEVEN SCHREIER  
KENNETH WINTERS

**STAFF PRESENT:**

ANDY FAUST  
DAWN JOHNSON  
DENNIS LAWRENCE  
ERIC SONNLEITNER

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

BETH HASKOVEC, WEDC-OFFICE OF  
RURAL PROSPERITY

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

ANGELA CLOSE  
DANIEL GUILD  
ALAN HAGA, JR.  
ROBERT HANSON  
CRAIG MCEWEN  
JOHN PAVELSKI  
EUGENE SIMON  
JAY VERHULST

1.) CALL TO ORDER & CHAIRMANS WELCOME:

MR. MILLAN called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM and welcomed everyone.

2.) 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. LAFONTAINE made a motion to approve, second by MR. CUSHING. Motion carried.

3.) BUSINESS & DISCUSSION:

3.1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

MS. BAUGHAN provided an overview of the Executive Committee meeting held earlier. She stated that there is one commissioner vacancy for a joint appointment in Vilas County. She next mentioned that Sam Wessel the newest planner with the commission and his wife welcomed a daughter on October 14. Next, she reported on the Main Street Bounceback grant program for our region. The grant program will be available until the end of the year or until funds run out. The committee also reviewed and recommended the 2023 budget.

3.2 STATE & FEDERAL UPDATES

There were no updates.

3.3 RESOLUTION 2022-6: RECOGNITION OF JERRY NELSON

MR. MILLAN stated that Gerald Nelson has retired his position as a Commissioner serving Wood County. Mr. Nelson has served on the commission since 2011 and the resolution is a thank you for his many years of service to our organization. Once signed we will frame this and provide it to him on behalf of the organization.

MR. LAFONTAINE made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-6: Recognition of Jerry Nelson, seconded by MR. MACHON. Motion carried.

3.4 2023 BUDGET PRESENTATION

MR. LAWRENCE stated that the 2023 budget was reviewed and recommended by the Executive Committee. Revenues are obtained from three main sources, Levy, Program Grants and Program Projects. The three main areas of expenditures are direct costs, fringe costs and overhead costs. The 2023 budget is similar to last year's in terms of revenues and expenditures. Budgeted revenue amounts for 2023 are proposed at \$1,049,126, expenditures \$989,583, with an anticipated fund balance of \$59,543.

3.5 RESOLUTION 2022-7: ADOPT 2023 ANNUAL BUDGET

MR. CUSHING made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-7, seconded by MR. LEE. Motion passed.

3.6 RESOLUTION 2022-8: ADOPT 2023 DOT WORK PROGRAM

MR. LAWRENCE provided a summary of the annual rural transportation planning work program. This program contains five elements that include, regionwide transportation planning, regional transportation data center, local transportation technical assistance, intergovernmental coordination, and transportation program administration.

MS. GRETZINGER made a motion to approve the DOT work program, second by MR. REINHARDT. Motion passed.

3.7 REVIEW & ADOPTION OF CEDS AMENDMENT: RECOVERY CHAPTER AND DASHBOARD REVIEW

MR. SONNELEITNER reviewed the recovery amendment of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Throughout the Regional Recovery Planning process, five foundational pillars were identified as crucial for economic recovery and resiliency efforts throughout North Central Wisconsin. These five foundational pillars include: Broadband, Childcare, Housing & Transportation, Workforce & Talent Attraction, and the Tourism & Hospitality Industry. He highlighted how each of these pillars have an impact on economic recovery and the local labor force.

MR. NYE made a motion to approve the CEDS Amendment: Recovery Chapter, second by MR. LAFONTAINE. Motion passed.

MR. SONNELEITNER also provided an overview of the Economic Dashboard, which relates to the five foundational pillars and the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem.

3.8 PRESENTATION: WISCONSIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION – OFFICE OF RURAL PROSPERITY

MS. BETH HASKOVEC, Director of the Office of Rural Prosperity with the Wisconsin Department of Economic Development discussed how rural prosperity seeks to foster vibrant, prosperous and resilient rural communities across Wisconsin. The Office provides a one-stop shop to help rural stakeholders navigate programs and resources serving rural communities and businesses. More information can be found on their website [www.ruralwi.com](http://www.ruralwi.com).

3.9 COMMISSIONER ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

The discussion related to broadband. MR. FAUST answered numerous questions regarding Broadband.

4.) ADJOURNMENT:

MR. MILLAN adjourned the meeting at 12:10pm.

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

Minutes Approved on January 25, 2023:

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