

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

**January 29, 2020**

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**ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

REINHARDT BALCERZAK  
LORETTA BAUGHAN  
CHUCK BOLDER  
ANGELA CLOSE  
TED CUSHING  
ROCKY GILNER  
CINDY GRETZINGER  
ROBERT HANSON  
PETER HICKETHIER  
CRAIG McEWEN  
PAUL MILLAN  
JERRY NELSON  
JERRY NILES  
RONALD NYE  
THOMAS RUDOLPH  
FRANK SAAL, JR.  
TOM TALLIER  
EDMUND WAFLE  
CATHERINE WINEMAN  
KENNETH WINTERS

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

DANIEL GUILD  
HARLAND LEE  
JAY VERHULST

**STAFF PRESENT:**

ANDY FAUST  
FRED HEIDER  
DARRYL LANDEAU  
DENNIS LAWRENCE  
PAM WINKELS

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

MAGGIE CRONIN, Regional Director,  
US Senator Ron Johnson

GORDON CROW, Executive Director,  
Centergy

DAVE LAFONTAINE, Wood County  
Commissioner Submission

DOUGLAS MACHON, Wood County  
Commissioner Submission

1.) CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS:

MR. MILLAN called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM and welcomed everyone. Guests in attendance were Maggie Cronin, Dave LaFontaine (Wood County), and Douglas Machon (Wood County). The following NCWRPC staff members were also in attendance: Andy Faust, Fred Heider, and Darryl Landeau.

2.) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

3.) APPROVAL, ADDITIONS, OR CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 30, 2019 MEETING:

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

4.) BUSINESS & DISCUSSION:

4.1 Chairperson's Welcome

MR. MILLAN welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged the Wood County members present, MR. LaFONTAINE and MR. MACHON.

4.2 Executive Committee's Report

MS. BAUGHAN provided the Executive Committee's Report. The Committee discussed upcoming programs and grants, such as the Freight Road Infrastructure Improvement Program through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation as well as the Economic Development Administration (EDA) Planning Grant which will begin the next 3-year cycle on April 1 (April 2020-March 2023); this will be further discussed during the Full Commission Meeting. Also, North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) is now providing administrative services to Centergy, a nonprofit agency that promotes economic development and career attraction in our region. Another positive update included Wood County being a paying member of NCWRPC. Lastly, MS. BAUGHAN stated that the AWRPC Annual Meeting will be held in June. More details to follow.

4.3 State & Federal Updates

MAGGIE CRONIN, Regional Director, US Senator Ron Johnson, reported on the 2020 Census. Residents will be contacted by letter. She also mentioned that

fraudulent census phone calls may occur during this time; she emphasized that residents will not be contacted by phone. They are looking for people to assist with the census as well. All residents are encouraged to complete the census as state and federal funding depends on the census count.

#### 4.4 Adoption of the Initial Work Program

MR. LAWRENCE reviewed the five basic program areas of Economic Development, Geographic Information Systems, Intergovernmental Cooperation, Land Use, and Transportation. Overall, there are approximately 60 projects included in the work program for 2020. More projects will likely be added over the year.

MR. BALCERZAK made a motion to adopt the Initial Work Plan, and MR. CUSHING seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

#### 4.5 Resolution 2020-1: Commitment of Match for EDA Planning Grant

MR. LAWRENCE stated that this resolution is required to commit the local match for the EDA Planning Grant for 2020-2023. The NCWRPC commits at least \$210,000 as local match for the Three-Year Partnership Planning Grant. This has been a 50% grant rate for several years. NCWRPC has been a designated EDA partner since 1980.

MR. NYE made a motion to approve the 2020-1: Commitment of Match for EDA Planning Grant, and MR. HICKETHIER seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

#### 4.6 Resolution 2020-2: Adoption of 2020 CEDS Annual Performance Report

MR. LAWRENCE reported that the CEDS Annual Performance Report is part of the planning grant process. There are two basic levels of activity: regional and local assistance. He highlighted the "Regional Demographic & Economic Changes" of the Performance Report. Regarding population changes, five counties in our Region have had an increase in population over the past 18 years (2000-2018), whereas the other five counties have experienced a decrease. Between 2000 and 2018, employment grew by 0.1% in our ten-county Region. The Per Capita Income in our Region tends to "lag behind the state and nation." An Action Plan is also included in the Performance Report.

MR. BALCERZAK made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-2: Adoption of 2020 CEDS Annual Performance Report, and MR. SAAL seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

4.7 Presentation - Centergy, Gordon Crow, Executive Director

MR. LAWRENCE introduced Mr. Gordon Crow, Executive Director, with Centergy. Centergy is a nonprofit organization that promotes marketing and economic development. The five counties that make up the central Wisconsin Centergy Region are Adams, Lincoln, Marathon, Portage, and Wood. Mr. Crow mentioned the 3 Principles of Centergy: Convene, Collaborate, and Market. He provided a handout that listed major investors and 2020 Initiatives. The Initiatives encourage business leaders and legislators to collaborate on various challenges facing central Wisconsin such as talent attraction, housing needs and broadband issues.

4.8 Presentation - NCWRPC 2019 Work Program Overview & 2020 Preview

MR. LAWRENCE stated that each year we take time to provide an overview of current and future work program projects. NCWRPC provides assistance in five main work areas: Economic Development (ED), Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Intergovernmental Coordination (IGOV), Land Use (LU), and Transportation (TR).

MR. LAWRENCE then highlighted some of the Economic Development projects. First he discussed various grant work completed and the various types of planning documents prepared. Next he explained how NCWRPC uses EMSI (Economic Modeling Specialist International) software to create data reports for various projects. In addition, NCWRPC continues to manage revolving loan funds. A separate governing body (North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation) oversees the revolving loan funds, which is staffed by NCWRPC.

MR. FAUST reviewed Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Intergovernmental Coordination (IGOV). GIS entails project mapping and graphics, data creation/editing, special GIS projects and IT support. A few special GIS projects that MR. FAUST highlighted were Local Updates of Census Addressing (LUCA), boundary annexations and surveys, and work related to the 911 Sub-Committee. IGOV includes such programs as NEWCOM (Northeast Wisconsin Public Safety Communications), WROC (Wisconsin Regional Orthophotography Consortium), NCWSC (North Central Wisconsin Stormwater Coalition), and Northwoods Rail Transit Commission.

MR. HEIDER presented information regarding NCWSC, Northwoods Rail Transit Commission, Communication and Outreach, and Land Use (LU), which includes a variety of planning efforts, such as comprehensive plans, all hazard mitigation plans, land and water resource management plans, outdoor recreation plans, and zoning ordinances.

MR. LANDEAU reviewed Transportation (TR) including such projects as the Regional Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan, Safe Routes to School (SRTS) projects, Pavement Rating Assistance, County Coordinated Transit Planning, and other transportation projects, plans and assessments.

4.9 Announcements

MR. MILLAN stated that the next meeting is April 29, 2020 at the same location.

5.) ADJOURNMENT:

MR. RUDOLPH made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:25 PM, and MR. NELSON seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Lunch was provided following the meeting.

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

Minutes Approved July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020:

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