



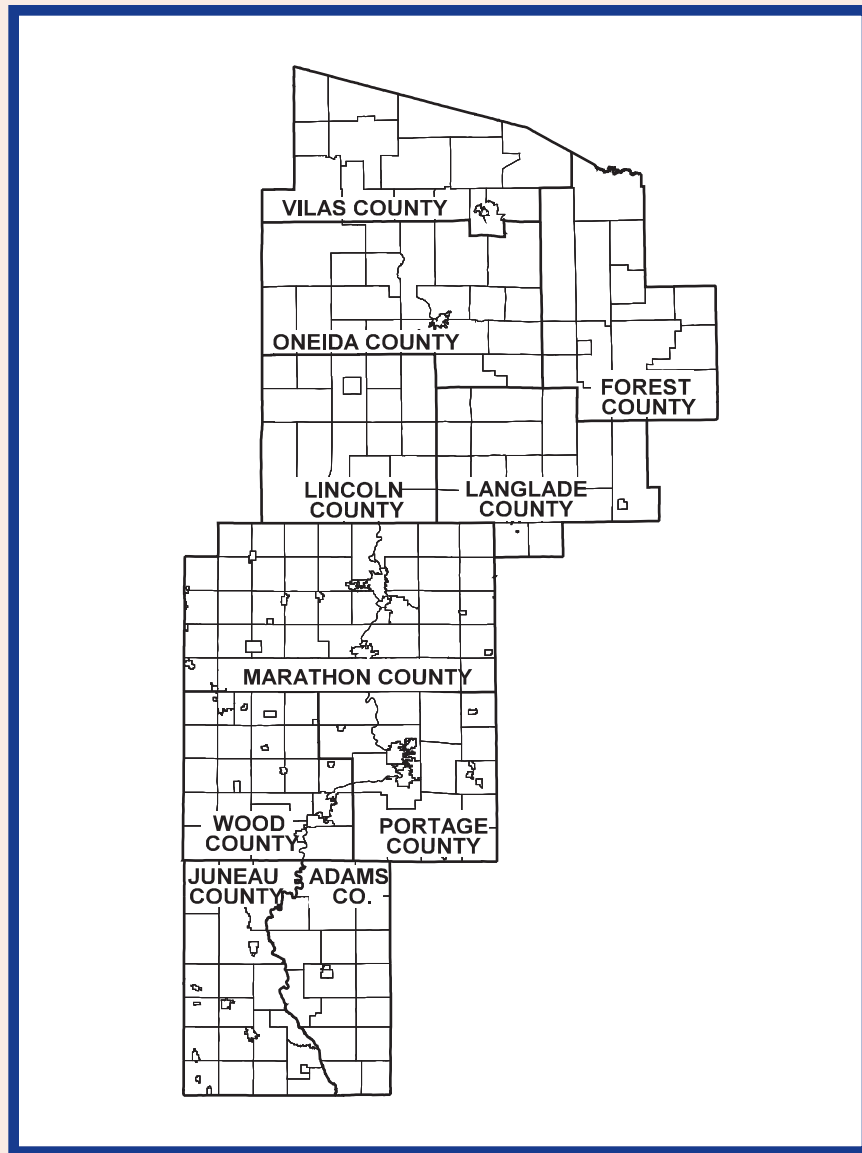
NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

2013 Annual Report

Celebrating

40 Years

Our Service Area



Regional Facts:

2013 Population (DOA Estimate):	443,597
Square Miles:	9,325
Counties:	10
Cities:	21
Villages:	39
Towns:	197
Tribal:	4
Total Governmental & Tribal Units:	271

NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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SERVING ADAMS, FOREST, JUNEAU, LANGLADE, LINCOLN, MARATHON, ONEIDA, PORTAGE, VILAS AND WOOD COUNTIES

June 2014

Subject: **2013 NCWRPC Annual Report**

Dear Member Governments, State and Federal Officials, and Others:

We are pleased to provide you with the **40th Annual Report** of the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC). The report provides a summary of regional projects, local projects completed by county, and audited financial information. Also included is information for the North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation.

This report is prepared to provide local officials and interested citizens with an overview of the activities undertaken by the NCWRPC last year. In addition, the report meets the requirements as outlined in Wisconsin Statute 66.0309(8)(b) for annual report preparation and submission.

Hopefully member units of government and interested governmental agencies are pleased with the work of the NCWRPC. We look forward to continuing to serve the Region by providing planning services to address the issues and needs facing North Central Wisconsin.

Please do not hesitate to contact Dennis Lawrence at 715-849-5510, Extension 304, or [HYPERLINK "mailto:dlawrence@ncwrpc.org"](mailto:dlawrence@ncwrpc.org) dlawrence@ncwrpc.org should you have any comments regarding the **2013 Annual Report** or any questions related to the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Lussow".

Robert Lussow
Chairperson

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis Lawrence".

Dennis Lawrence, AICP
Executive Director

Purpose & History

**The goals of the
NCWRPC are to:**

- **identify strategies**
- **and solutions to**
- **planning issues,**
- **help communities**
- **meet the challenges**
- **facing them,**
- **continue moving**
- **from levy to other**
- **funding sources,**
- **do more with less, and**
- **provide cost-effective**
- **planning services**
- **to its members.**

In 2013, the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) celebrated four decades of service to the ten county Region. The agency was created in 1973 under Wisconsin Statute 66.0309 as a voluntary association of governments for the purpose of preparing plans for the physical development of the Region and its communities; to conduct research; to serve as a data center; and as a forum for communication, cooperation and coordination among federal, state, regional, and local interests, and to provide technical services to its membership.

The NCWRPC is one of nine regional planning commissions in the state of Wisconsin. Nationwide there are about 500 regional organizations similar to the NCWRPC.

Mission Statement:

In an advisory capacity to local units of government and tribes, the NCWRPC offers cost effective, specialized planning services and expertise that support responsible development of the Region's economic, social, natural, and human built environments. The NCWRPC also provides leadership and a regional forum for the creation of cooperative responses to shared opportunities and the challenges facing the counties and communities of the ten-county Region.

Impact

To keep membership contributions low, additional dollars must be secured from other sources to maintain the organization. A simple Return on Membership (ROM) analysis shows that every membership dollar provided to the NCWRPC leverages additional dollars. In 2013, for every 1 dollar the NCWRPC received from membership it directly leveraged another 2.8 dollars from grants and local projects.

Publications:

Annually the NCWRPC prepares and publishes several planning documents. The NCWRPC also publishes a quarterly Newsletter, NCWRPC NEWS, which is sent to over 1,100 people, including county supervisors, chief-elected officials, clerks and many other interested parties throughout the region, state and nation. In addition, the NCWRPC distributes an ED-NEWS publication focused on economic development. A list of plans, reports and other information is available at the NCWRPC website. See www.ncwrpc.org.

Federal and State Relationships:

The NCWRPC is an independent agency that is governed by an appointed board, called a Commission, and serves the towns, villages, cities, tribes, and counties within the Region. However, there are two on-going relationships with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) and with the State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), that support planning.

NCWRPC has maintained EDA designation as an economic development district since 1980. As such, the NCWRPC receives an annual economic development planning grant to prepare a regional report called a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and to provide local economic development assistance. In 1975, WisDOT designated the NCWRPC as a Regional Planning Organization. As such, the NCWRPC receives a planning grant annually to provide assistance related to the state transportation work program.

Types of Assistance:

The NCWRPC is a regional planning and economic development agency, which provides assistance to local governments throughout the ten-county Region in the areas of economic development, geographic information systems (GIS), intergovernmental cooperation, land use planning, and transportation. The NCWRPC supplements existing staff, or where there is none takes the lead. The goal is to not duplicate efforts but rather provide an effective system of planning to fit each community's need.

The NCWRPC undertakes both regional and local planning projects. Regional Programs are highlighted on page 5 and Local Assistance projects are highlighted by county on pages 8 and 9.

Regional Programs

Regional Planning

NCWRPC is responsible for the development of a regional comprehensive plan for the ten county Region. The Regional Comprehensive Plan 2000-2020 was adopted in 2003. NCWRPC also assists town, village, city, and county governments in the preparation of comprehensive plans. Other regional planning projects relate to multi-county emergency management, such as communication system interoperability.

Regional Data & Mapping Center

NCWRPC is a depository for a variety of demographic information on the area, including U.S. Census data. In addition, the NCWRPC also maintains a Regional GIS database and computerized mapping system, including digital orthophotography. County Profiles are also prepared and updated as needed. In addition, quarterly economic development reports are prepared for each county in the Region.

Regional Economic Development Planning

NCWRPC annually prepares a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDSD) document that analyzes the regional economy and identifies potential economic development projects. This report maintains the Region's eligibility for U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration public works programs. Other federal and state programs utilize this plan as well. NCWRPC also prepares grant applications to bring funding into the region to promote growth.

Regional Transportation Planning Program

NCWRPC provides local transportation assistance with the Wisconsin Information System for Local Roads (WISLR) and represents North Central Wisconsin on state level transportation planning committees to help bring more dollars for the repair and construction of our transportation infrastructure. The NCWRPC also provides on-going assistance to the Wausau Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation

NCWRPC provides management assistance for two multi-county revolving loan funds, which provide financing to a variety of businesses throughout the Region. Increasing jobs and expanding local tax base within the region are the two primary goals of this program. In 2012, the NCWDC approved two loans that will create 60 new jobs in the region.

2013 Regional Accomplishments

- Maintain and develop a Regional Mapping Information System, Census and Demographic Information, and a Planning Library for the region.
- Prepared the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to maintain the Region's Economic Development District designation, as defined by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).
- Maintain designation as a rural transportation planning organization by WisDOT to coordinate transportation strategies on a regional basis.
- Continue to coordinate the Northeast Wisconsin Public Safety Communication (NEWCOM) organization to promote better emergency service communication throughout a 16 county Region.
- Provide staff assistance to the Northwoods Rail Commission which is a group of several counties with the goal of maintaining and promoting freight rail in northern Wisconsin.
- Preparing a Regional Livability Plan, with grant funding from the Federal Highway Administration, to replace the current Regional Comprehensive Plan.
- Continue to provide assistance to the 13 county Northeast Wisconsin Emergency Management Region to ensure that communication interoperability addresses both local and regional concerns.
- Continue partnership with WEDC to provide economic development tools to communities within the Region.
- Prepared and submitted a Regional Bike Planning Grant and Regional Safe Routes to Schools Grant to WisDOT.
- Continue to coordinate discussions related to a 2015 air photo effort, similar to efforts in 2005 and 2010.
- Provide staff assistance to the North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation (NCWDC) to manage two Regional Revolving Loan Funds.
- Prepared County-wide Economic Development Profiles for all ten counties in the Region.
- Participated on a number of Boards and Committees in the Region and State, including American Planning Association - Wisconsin and Wisconsin Land Information Association, among others.

The NCWRPC is involved in various other Regional efforts throughout the year that are not mentioned above.

Local Assistance

NCWRPC provides members with assistance in the following five areas:

Economic Development

NCWRPC provides grant writing and administrative assistance to communities that are seeking funds from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration. The NCWRPC also provides assistance for a wide variety of other grant programs, including WEDC, WisDNR, and USDA-Rural Development. In addition, the NCWRPC provides communities with assistance in a variety of other economic development related studies, including developing detailed economic development plans that examine the local economy, assess local trends and identify strategies to spur development.

At its 2013 40th Celebration meeting, a Commendation from Governor Walker was presented to the NCWRPC.





Intergovernmental Cooperation

NCWRPC is available to conduct specialized studies on request. Over the years, a wide range of studies have been completed on subjects such as merging ambulance services, community consolidation, economic impact analysis, regional juvenile detention, and boundary agreements. Many of these projects include a regional focus because they involve multiple units of government.

Transportation

NCWRPC assists local governments in a variety of areas, including the preparation of local road improvement programs. These road plans provide a capital improvement schedule for upgrading local roads and help local units obtain Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) funding for road reconstruction projects. Pavement rating and other assistance with the Wisconsin Information System for Local Roads (WISLR) program is also available. In addition, the NCWRPC prepares specialized transportation studies including: highway corridor studies, long-range urban area plans, parking studies, county-wide bicycle planning, Safe Routes to School plans, and grant writing for various WisDOT funding sources.

Land Use

The NCWRPC assists local governments in the preparation of comprehensive plans under Wisconsin's Comprehensive Planning Law, as well as assistance with zoning and land division ordinance assistance that implement local plans. In addition, the NCWRPC prepares a variety of natural resource based plans for communities, including outdoor recreation plans, all hazard mitigation plans, land and water resource management plans, sewer service area plans, wellhead protection plans, and wild-fire protection plans.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

NCWRPC maintains an extensive digital mapping database for the region. In addition, the NCWRPC has access to a wide array of data, including U.S. Census (1980, 1990, 2000, 2010), Economic Census, State Employment and Labor Information, and other specialized data sets. We also assist preparing County Land Information Plans, grant applications and RFP's for GIS services. Custom data sets and maps can also be created for communities on request or as part of larger planning efforts. In addition, coordinate efforts related to regional and state wide air photo acquisition.

2013 Selected County Accomplishments

■ Adams County

- County Transit Coordination Plan
- Big Flats Comprehensive Plan Update
- County Land Use Coverage Updated
- Prepared County All Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant
- County Outdoor Recreation Plan
- Assisting Online County Survey Records System
- County Bike & Pedestrian Plan

■ Forest County

- County and Potawatomi GIS & Mapping Assistance
- Economic Development Loan to Hometown Trolley
- Prepared Mole Lake All-Hazard Mitigation EPA Grant Application
- County Road Rating Assistance
- Economic Development Loan to Infinity Wood Floors
- County Transit Coordination Plan

■ Juneau County

- Updated County Land Use Coverage
- County Fire Zone Atlas Updated
- Village of Necedah Comprehensive Plan Assistance
- County Transit Coordination Plan
- JCEDC Assistance
- County Quarterly Economic Reports with EMSI

■ Langlade County

- County Outdoor Recreational Map
- Emergency Zone Atlas Development
- County All Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Assisted preparing Farmland Preservation Planning Grant
- County Outdoor Recreation Plan
- County Transit Coordination Plan

■ Lincoln County

- County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan
- County Transit Coordination Plan
- City of Tomahawk Road Rating Assistance
- County Building Footprint Mapping
- City of Merrill Transportation Enhancement Grant
- Town of Harding Road Surface Management Plan



- **Marathon County**

- EPA Brownfield Grant Administration
- County Quarterly Economic Reports with EMSI
- Ginseng Association Assistance
- Village of Kronenwetter Road Rating Assistance
- Village of Spencer Zoning Maps
- County Comprehensive Planning Assistance
- North Central Wisconsin Stormwater Coalition Staffing
- County Transit Coordination Plan

- **Oneida County**

- Online County Survey Records System Hosting
- Minocqua Road Rating Assistance
- Rhinelander/County Airport Website Assistance & Billboard Design
- Assisted preparing Farmland Preservation Planning Grant
- Rhinelander Road Rating Assistance
- County Transit Coordination Plan

- **Portage County***

- Village of Rosholt Mapping Assistance
- County Transit Coordination Plan

- **Vilas County**

- County All Hazard Mitigation Plan
- County Forest and Recreation Map and Brochure
- County Land Use Coverage Update
- Assisted preparing Farmland Preservation Planning Grant
- Eagle River Airport Economic Impact EMSI Analysis
- LiDAR Project Assistance
- County Transit Coordination Plan

- **Wood County***

- County Transit Coordination Plan
- Wisconsin Rapids Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Assistance
- County All Hazard Atlas

In addition, throughout the year, staff attends various meetings, responds to inquiries, creates and updates websites, and completes numerous projects not mentioned above.

* Note: Only some local communities participate with the NCWRPC in these counties.

NCWRPC Audited Financial Statements:

The NCWRPC is funded from three basic sources. These are federal and state grants, local contracts, and a local membership fee (levy) based on equalized valuation of member governments.

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS (Balance Sheet):

ASSETS:	
Cash and Investments	1,143,748
Member Levy Receivable	237,076
Grants and Projects Receivable	124,905
Prepaid Expenses	22,635
Capital Assets	12,986
Restricted Cash	<u>233,403</u>
TOTAL ASSETS:	\$1,774,753
LIABILITIES:	
Deposits Held for Others	233,403
Long-Term Obligations	66,903
Employee Earnings Payable & Withholdings	35,569
Other	<u>6,821</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES:	\$342,696
Deferred Member Levy	237,076
Invested Capital Assets	12,986
Reserved and Restricted Funds:	<u>1,181,995</u>
NET POSITION:	\$1,194,981

Schenck, LLC prepared the Audit. A copy of the complete Audit Report is available for review at the NCWRPC Office. Krause-Howard & Company provides day-to-day accounting services for the organization.

Annual Levy Rate:

In an effort to meet our goals of moving away from the levy to more state and federal grants and other sources, and doing more with less, we froze our membership charge. By state statute the levy rate cannot exceed 0.003%. In 2000 the NCWRPC rate was set at 0.00275%, by 2013 that rate was 0.001% - just one third of the statutory limit.



North Central WI Development Corp.

To date the NCWDC had made 18 loans and created or retained over 420 jobs in the Region. Currently, there are 9 active loans in the portfolio.

In 1995, the NCWRPC with the support of its counties, area economic development corporations, private lenders, and others, established the North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation (NCWDC). The NCWDC is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation, staffed by the NCWRPC, to manage a multi-county loan fund. The two funds currently operated are the Regional Revolving Loan Fund and the Community Development Fund.

An eleven member Board of Directors manages the NCWDC. One person from each of the counties in the Region serves on the board, along with one representative from the NCWRPC. The current Board of Directors is displayed below:

Adams County	Daric Smith
Forest County	Bev Collins, President
Juneau County	Terry Whipple
Langlade County	Chris Berry, Vice-President
Lincoln County	David Koth
Marathon County	<i>vacant</i>
Oneida County	Roger Luce
Portage County	Lori Dehlinger
Vilas County	<i>vacant</i>
Wood County	Zac Vruwink
NCWRPC	Bettye Nall, Secretary / Treasurer

In addition, there is a five person Loan Review Committee that reviews and makes the final funding decision on each loan application. The current members are: Bev Collins, Dan Daubert, Linda Prehn, and Bill Vanden Heuvel. There is one vacancy.

The 2013 Audited Balance Sheet

Assets:	IRP Funds	\$78,561	
	HUD Funds	\$130,574	
	USDA - RBEG Funds	\$3,725	
	Loans Outstanding	<u>\$501,986</u>	
			\$714,846
Liabilities:	Accrued Interest	\$1,357	
	IRP Note Payable	<u>\$203,529</u>	
			\$204,996
Net Assets:	Restricted/Unrestricted		<u>\$509,960</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets:			\$714,846

Schenck, LLC prepared the Audit for the NCWDC. A copy is available for review at the NCWRPC Office.

Professional Staff

Dennis Lawrence, EDFP, AICP, Executive Director

Dennis started with the NCWRPC in 1992 and became Executive Director in 1997. He has a bachelor's degree in public administration from UW-La Crosse and a master's degree in urban planning from UW-Milwaukee. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and is also certified as an Economic Development Finance Professional (EDFP). Dennis provides overall management to the organization and works in all areas of planning.

Coleman Peiffer, Senior Planner

Coleman has worked with the NCWRPC since 2013. He has a bachelor's degree in Broadcast Journalism from Arizona State University and master's degrees in public administration and urban planning from the UW - Milwaukee. Coleman works mainly in the areas of economic development and land use planning.

Andrew Faust, GISP, Senior GIS Analyst

Andy has worked with the NCWRPC since 1995. He has a bachelor's degree in urban and regional studies from UW-Oshkosh. He is certified as a Geographic Information System Professional (GISP). Andy works in the areas of GIS and intergovernmental cooperation.

Matt Guptail, GISP, GIS/Planning Technician

Matt has worked with the NCWRPC since 2001. He has a bachelor's degree in geography from UW-Stevens Point. He is certified as a Geographic Information System Professional (GISP). Matt works in the areas of GIS and transportation.

Fredrick Heider, AICP, Planner

Fred has worked with the NCWRPC since 2004. He has a bachelor's degree in natural resources from UW-Stevens Point and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Fred works mainly in the areas of land use and transportation.

Darryl Landeau, AICP, Senior Planner

Darryl has worked with the NCWRPC since 1993. He has a bachelor's degree in natural resources from UW-Stevens Point and a master's degree in urban studies from Mankato State University. He is also a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Darryl works mainly in the areas of transportation and land use.

Commissioners

An appointed commission oversees the activities of the executive director and the organization. As detailed in Wisconsin statute, three commissioners from each member county govern the NCWRPC. One is selected directly by the County (C), one directly by the Governor (G), and the third is a Joint (J) selection between the County and Governor.

Commissioners serve until reappointed or replaced. Term ending is also shown. Commissioners listed are current as of December 31, 2013.

NCWRPC officers are Bettye Nall, Chairperson; Paul Millan, Vice-Chairperson; and George Bornemann, Secretary – Treasurer. Treasurer.

Adams County

Glenn Licitar, C (6/18)
Richard Bakovka, G (1/16)
Appointment Pending, J (6/14)

Forest County

Bucky Dailey, C (1/20)
Paul Millan, G (1/18)
Jim Landru, Jr., J (1/16)

Juneau County

Edmund Wafle, C (6/19)
Kenneth Winters, G (6/17)
Appointment Pending, J (6/15)

Langlade County

Ronald Nye, C (1/14)
George Bornemann, G (1/16)
Paul Schuman, J (1/12)

Lincoln County

Robert Lussow, C (6/13)
Doug Williams, G (6/15)
Frank Saal, Jr., J (6/17)

Marathon County

Bettye Nall, C (6/15)
Virginia Heinemann, G (6/17)
Craig McEwen, J (6/19)

Oneida County

Thomas Rudolph, C (1/14)
Appointment Pending, G (1/16)
Harland Lee, J (1/18)

Portage County

None Participating

Vilas County

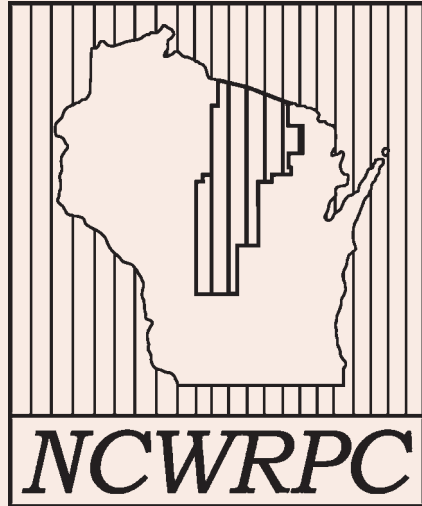
Ralph Sitzberger, C (6/13)
Appointment Pending, G (1/17)
Bob Egan, J (1/15)

Wood County*

Gerald Nelson, C (6/17)
Appointment Pending, G (6/15)
Tom Haferman, J (6/19)

In addition, by Wisconsin Statute, the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation is an ex-officio officer of the NCWRPC.

* Note: Although the county appoints the commissioners, the county is not the financially participating member. Each local member contributes individually.



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REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

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