

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

January 29, 2025

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

REINHARDT BALCERZAK
LORETTA BAUGHAN
ALAN BISHOP
HANS BREITENMOSER
WILLIAM CHANEY
ANGELA CLOSE
TED CUSHING
RANDY FIFRICK
JAMI GEBERT
ROCKY GILNER
JASON GRUENEBERG
JOSH KLINGBEIL
DENNIS KREJCI
DAVE LAFONTAINE
DOUG MACHON
BETTY MANSON
PAUL MILLAN
RONALD NYE
JOHN PAVELSKI
LARRY RAIKOWSKI
HOLLY TOMLANOVICH
KENNETH WINTERS

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

CINDY GRETZINGER
ROBB JENSEN
RICK PEASE
STEVEN SCHREIER

STAFF PRESENT:

FRED HEIDER
ANDY FAUST
DAWN JOHNSON
DARRYL LANDEAU
DENNIS LAWRENCE
ERIC SONNLEITNER
SAM WESSEL

OTHERS PRESENT:

LANDIS HOLDORF – DISTRICT
DIRECTOR, US CONGRESSMAN TOM
TIFFANY

KEITH LANGENHAHN – WISCONSIN
COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

GREGG WAVRUNEK – REGIONAL
REPRESENTATIVE, US SENATOR
TAMMY BALDWIN

1.) CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

MR. MILLAN called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. with state and federal representatives introducing themselves.

2.) APPROVAL, ADDITIONS, OR CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES OF THE 10/30/24 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, seconded by MR. LAFONTAINE. Motion passed.

3.) BUSINESS & DISCUSSION:

3.1 CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME

MR. MILLAN welcomed everyone to the Wausau Business Incubator.

3.2 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

MS. BAUGH provided a recap of the agenda items, including succession planning, the Federal grant freeze, and the work program. A variety of items were discussed.

3.3 STATE & FEDERAL UPDATES

MR. WAVRUNEK discussed the passing of the Veteran Support and Outreach Act. Continuing through legislation regarding the bipartisan bill Invent Here Make Here Act of 2023 and Access to Broadband. With the 119th Congress sworn in at the beginning of the month, other focuses include premium tax credit for the Affordable Care Act, drug-price transparency for consumers, and a statement regarding the Trump Administration's order to cut Federal grants and loans.

MR. HOLDORF discussed the continuing legislation regarding delisting the grey wolf and access to rural broadband. A statement was made regarding the Trump Administration's order to pause federal funding that relates to executive orders that President Trump has signed.

MR. LANGENHAHN discussed the county ambassador program, the legislative conference coming up at the end of February, the Counties Association's work with newly elected legislators, and court funding of which 85% comes from the counties.

3.4 REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

MR. WESSEL provided a summary of the plan update explaining the upcoming survey which will likely be included in the spring NCWRPC newsletter.

3.5 2024 WORK ACTIVITIES REVIEW & 2025 WORK PROGRAM

Staff recapped various work activities completed in 2024 and the planned work for 2025 in the five basic work program areas. MR SONNLEITNER discussed Economic Development, MR FAUST Geographic Information Systems and Intergovernmental Cooperation, MR WESSEL Land Use, and MR LANDEAU Transportation. Projects highlighted by MR HEIDER included outdoor recreation plans, upper Wisconsin river basin planning, land and water resource plans, farmland preservation plans, and all hazardous mitigation planning.

3.6 REVIEW & ADOPTION OF 2025 NCWRPC WORK PROGRAM

MR. NYE made a motion to adopt the 2025 work program, seconded by MR LAFONTAINE. Motion passed.

3.7 COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY ANNUAL REPORT

MR. SONNLEITNER provided an update on the annual report which includes demographic and economic changes, economic issues, strengths, opportunities, weaknesses and threats, economic strategy, performance indicators, and an action plan.

3.8 RESOLUTION 2025-1 ADOPTION OF CEDS

MR. LAFONTAINE made a motion to adopt the comprehensive economic development strategy performance report. Seconded by MR. NYE. Motion passed.

3.9 NEWLY RELEASED WI DOA POPULATION PROJECTIONS OVERVIEW

MR. WESSEL provided an overview of the Wisconsin Department of Administration's January 2025 statewide population projections. These projections show long-term declines in all ten of our counties.

3.10 ANNOUNCEMENTS

MR. MILLIAN announced that the next meeting will be held on April 30th, 2025.

4.) ADJOURNMENT

MR. MILLAN adjourned the meeting at 12:15 pm.

The meeting was advertised and open to the public. The meeting was held at the Wausau Business Incubator, 100 N. 72nd Avenue, Wausau, WI.

Minutes Approved on April 30, 2025:
