

NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
FULL COMMISSION
February 28, 2007

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

MARILYN BHEND
FRED CAMACHO
ROBERT CURRAN
TOM HAFERMAN
ROBERT HAYWARD
ERHARD HUETTL
RON JACOBSON
BRAD KARGER
DONALD KRAHN
BEVERLY LONG
PAUL MILLAN
BETTYE NALL
RON NYE
THOMAS RICK
THOMAS RUDOLPH

STAFF PRESENT:

DARRYL LANDEAU
DENNIS LAWRENCE
BERNIE LEWIS

GUESTS PRESENT:

DAVID HOVDE, American
Transmission Company
DARIC SMITH, Adams County Rural
and Industrial Development Commission

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

GEORGE BORNEMANN
DONALD KLINE
MAURICE MATHEWS
HELM MEHUS
WILBUR PETROSKEY
CURTIS POWELL
HERB RIECKMANN
DOUG WILLIAMS

1.) CALL TO ORDER:

MR. HUETTL called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M., in the Aspen Room at the Midway Hotel & Hoffman House Restaurant. Roll call was as presented on page one.

2.) AUDIENCE COMMENT:

MR. HUETTL welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Tom Haferman as the new Commissioner for Wood County. He then asked if there were any comments from the audience. There were none.

3.) APPROVAL, ADDITIONS, OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AMENDED AGENDA AS PROVIDED:

MR. HUETTL informed the Commission that one item was added to the mailed agenda. That was item 5.8. He asked if there were any other additions or corrections to the Amended Agenda. There being none, a motion was made by MR. MILLAN and seconded by MR. RUDOLPH to approve the Amended Agenda. Motion carried.

4.) APPROVAL, ADDITIONS, OR CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2006 COMMISSION MEETING:

MR HUETTL asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes as mailed. MR. KRAHN made a motion to approve the Minutes and MR. NYE seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.) BUSINESS & DISCUSSION:

5.1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

MR. HUETTL announced that Don Kline was not present due to surgery and is doing well. MR. HUETTL stated that no decisions could be made during the Executive Committee Meeting because they didn't have a quorum. He urged all Commissioners to contact Dennis Lawrence if they could not make the Commission Meetings.

5.2 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:

MS. NALL reported that the Executive Committee did not have a quorum so only a discussion took place. MR. LAWRENCE provided updates on several

items, including the EDA Grant, 2006 Annual Audit, and the current financial report.

5.3 STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT:

MR. LAWRENCE provided an overview of the Strategic Planning process to date. The Strategic Planning Committee established three goals. The first goal was to create a Mission Statement for the organization; the second goal was to conduct an assessment of members and non-members relating to areas of planning needs, needs for the future, and membership. The third goal was to create an organization strategy for the next five years.

MR. LAWRENCE stated that the first goal to create a Mission Statement was accomplished. The second goal has stalled. A UW-Extension specialist in Madison had committed to assisting in the process, but he has withdrawn his commitment. MR. LAWRENCE suggested that we look to our local county CRD agents to aid in this process. Until the second goal is complete there has been only minor progress on the overall organizational strategy.

5.4 RESOLUTION 2007-1: COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY ADOPTION:

MR. LAWRENCE explained that the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) was an annual report prepared to maintain designation as an economic development district. District designation then makes communities in the region eligible for funding for EDA public facilities grants and other funding, based on distress criteria. He highlighted the various sections of the CEDS, including past year's activities, the 2007 Work Program, and the Public Works Project list.

MR. LAWRENCE then highlighted some of the information in the draft CEDS Report. He stated that the counties of Adams, Juneau, and Vilas have experienced the largest population increase, in terms of percent. Adams and Forest Counties showed the largest increase in total employment. The Regional Development Strategy continues to list the goal to promote the expansion or stabilization of the current economic base and creation of a range of employment opportunities at the state, regional and local levels. Twenty-two projects were identified in nine counties. In addition, the CEDS includes the executive summary from the recent "Centergy" Economic Opportunity study, which the NCWRPC assisted in the process. MR. KARGER suggested that someone from Centergy be invited to outline the study in more depth.

MR. LAWRENCE also stated that EDA is making a number of changes for the economic development districts. One change is increasing the grant rate from

25 percent to 50 percent. The result is that we need to match the \$51,628 we receive from EDA with \$51,628 from the levy collection. EDA also is requiring a board of the EDD or Commission of which 35 percent be from the private sector. Another requirement will be to have a separate Strategy Committee to review document development.

MS. NALL made a motion to approve Resolution 2007-1 and MR. KRAHN seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.5 RESOLUTION 2007-2: ADDITION OF AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE FOR EDA PAPERWORK:

MR. LAWRENCE detailed resolution 2007-2. As a result of some changes at EDA, the need has surfaced to add the executive director as an "official" signature of the NCWRPC. EDA has suggested adding the executive director to minimize the time required to submit necessary paperwork. Currently, things from EDA come to the NCWRPC office, staff fills them out, and then they are mailed to the chairperson for signatures. They are then returned to our office and we then submit them to Chicago. If we have enough time this works, but often EDA wants a faster turnaround time and that's when we have a problem. Only if time is an issue will we use the executive director's signature, the preference will be to use an officers signature.

MR. MILLAN made a motion to accept Resolution 2007-2 to authorize the Executive Director to sign documents as needed. MR. CAMACHO seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.6 RESOLUTION 2007-3: ADOPTION OF 2007 DOT WORK PROGRAM:

MR. LANDEAU announced that a Resolution was needed for the adoption of the 2007 DOT work program. He reviewed the 2007 Rural Transportation Planning Work Program for projects being provided for the transportation planning assistance throughout the Region.

MR. LANDEAU stated that the NCWRPC has received State "designation" as a rural transportation planning district. He indicated that WISLR was a new project this year. Also, he is working on a Safe to School Program application that is due March 16, 2007. The work program also includes a new fee schedule for services provided to members as well as non-members.

MR. HAYWARD made a motion to accept Resolution 2007-3, and MR. CURRAN seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.7 REFERRALS REVIEW:

MR. LANDEAU reviewed the 30 referrals received since September's meeting, totaling \$11,702,613. The majority of the referrals were for public transit operating assistance. The other referrals were for the following: Bridge Community Health Clinic to provide medical and dental assistance to uninsured and under-insured people in Marathon County; CAP Services in Portage County to expand production for products for regional fundraising company; Central WI CAP Services in Juneau County for a revolving loan fund for the MVP Business Center Incubator; Northwoods NiiJii Enterprise community, Inc. in Vilas County for a business start-up for minority owned company; City of Mauston in Juneau County for sanitary sewer, watermain, storm sewer and streets repair; and Heart of Wisconsin Business and Economic Alliance in Wood County for business development technical assistance.

MR. CURRAN made a motion to approve the referrals received and MS. LONG seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.8 RESOLUTION 2007-4: SUBMISSION OF A CBED GRANT APPLICATION:

MR. LAWRENCE reviewed a Resolution for the Submission of a CBED Grant Application. The application will be prepared and submitted by our office on behalf of Badger AgVest, LLC. Badger by itself is not eligible, but the NCWRPC is and this money would funnel through us to Badger. We currently have an agreement with Badger for service provision. These moneys will allow them to make more money, which in turn allows them to pay us. If approved some of this grant will be directly paid to the NCWRPC for administration.

MS. NALL made a motion to approve an amended Resolution with the words "submit this CBED application" added at the end of the document, and MR. NYE seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.9 PRESENTATION: "UPDATE ON ATC CURRENT ACTIVITIES AND FUTURE PROJECTS":

MR. LAWRENCE introduced Mr. David Hovde, Local Relations Representative, for the American Transmission Company as the guest speaker. Mr. Hovde indicated that ATC works with local units of government and landowners to provide electrical transmission. He said that electricity is the most critical infrastructure for our economy and well-being. Mr. Hovde said that ATC owns, operates, maintains and upgrades the transmission system in the eastern two-thirds of Wisconsin, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and

small portions of Illinois and Minnesota, and began operations in January 2001.

He stated that transmission costs are about 6 percent of an average customer's bill. ATC's is operating at very near its limited capacity with its aging infrastructure, and the current system is unable to adequately accommodate growth and its capability to import/transfer electricity is insufficient. Mr. Hovde stated that ATC has invested more than \$1 billion since 2001 to upgrade its transmission capacity, and plan to invest \$3.1 billion over the next 10 years to improve the services it provides. Mr. Hovde encouraged everyone to visit their websites at www.atcllc.com; www.atc10yearplan.com; www.arrowhead-weston.com; or www.atc-gcmw.com, for more information.

There were several questions.

5.10 OTHER, INCLUDING SET FUTURE 2007 MEETING DATES:

MR. HUETTL announced the tentative dates Commission Meetings in 2007. They are April 25th, June 27th, and September 26th. Next year we will move to a formal quarterly format. This will eliminate the long period of time between the September and February meetings. The 2008 tentative months are: January, April, July, and October.

6.) **ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by MR. RUDOLPH to adjourn the meeting 12:20 P.M., and MR. KRAHN seconded this motion. All were in favor. A buffet lunch was served immediately following the meeting.

NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Minutes Approved on April 25, 2007

Chair, Vice-Chair, or Secretary-Treasurer