

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

July 27, 2016

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

RICHARD BAKOVKA
LORETTA BAUGHAN
GEORGE BORNEMANN
WILLIAM CONNORS, Jr.
TED CUSHING
BOB EGAN
ROCKY GILNER
DANIEL GUILD
CRAIG McEWEN
PAUL MILLAN
JERRY NELSON
RON NYE
THOMAS RUDOLPH
FRANK SAAL, Jr.
JAY VERHULST
KENNETH WINTERS
BILL ZEITZ

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

BUCKY DAILEY
PETER HICKETHIER
HARLAND LEE
JERRY NILES
PAUL SCHUMAN
KIM SIMAC
EDMUND WAFLE
CATHERINE WINEMAN

STAFF PRESENT:

DENNIS LAWRENCE
DARRYL LANDEAU
MEGAN WILL
PAM WINKELS

GUESTS PRESENT:

KEITH LANGENHAN, Field Services
Representative for Wisconsin
Counties Association

DAVID LEUCINGER, Policy Analyst,
WisDOT

PAT SNYDER, Outreach Director,
Congressman Sean Duffy

SANDY VERHULST, Guest

1.) CALL TO ORDER:

MR. MILLAN called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM. He then asked everyone to introduce themselves, including new commissioners Bill Connors, Jr. (Forest County), Daniel Guild (Marathon County), and Jay Verhulst (Vilas County). Also introduced was Megan Will, a new planner with the NCWRPC.

2.) AUDIENCE COMMENT:

There was no audience comment. Guests in attendance were Keith Langenhan, David Leucinger, Pay Snyder, and Sandy Verhulst.

3.) 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. CUSHING made a motion to approve the agenda as mailed, seconded by MR. RUDOLPH. Motion carried.

4.) APPROVAL, ADDITIONS, OR CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES OF APRIL 27, 2016 COMMISSION MEETING:

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

5.) BUSINESS & DISCUSSION:

5.1 Executive Committee's Report

MR. BAKOVKA reported that the Executive Committee discussed a variety of items. The financial report was presented, and the NCWRPC is in good standing. Changes to the Employee Handbook were discussed regarding residency requirement, overtime compensation, and educational reimbursement. The Executive Committee recommended approval of the 2017 levy rate and levy cap. Authorization was made for the purchase of a new plotter.

The Committee also went into closed session for the discussion of the Executive Director's annual performance evaluation. The

Committee is very satisfied with Mr. Lawrence's work performance and congratulated him for his hard work and effort.

MR. McEWEN made a motion to approve this report, and MR. CUSHING seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.2 State and Federal Updates

MR. LANGENHAN stated the legislative team is busy. He specifically highlighted "Just Fix It Wisconsin," which is an initiative of the Wisconsin Transportation Development Association focused on fixing Wisconsin roads.

MR. SNYDER, Outreach Director, Congressman Sean Duffy, stated that Congress recessed early for the summer due to the Presidential election. He said Congressman Duffy will be meeting with several groups in August. Recently the Congressman's office has been assessing the damage in northern Wisconsin from recent rains and flooding. That area is expected to receive federal disaster declaration and funding.

5.3 Budget Process Overview & Preliminary 2017 Budget

MR. LAWRENCE reviewed the NCWRPC overall budget process. First he mentioned the three primary revenue sources, which include: membership fee or levy collection, continuing grants, and project contracts. For the membership fee the Commission sets a rate, as well as a cap rate, that is calculated against real estate values of member counties. In addition continuing grants are sought to leverage those membership fees to secure funding for the five program areas of the NCWRPC. The rate and cap are set in July and are included in the Annual Budget that is adopted in October. The budget also identifies numerous project contracts that are secured, including many that are derived from grants received by local communities written by the NCWRPC.

Over the years the levy rate and cap have been reduced and continuing grants have remained stable, so all revenue growth has been through project contracts. Many of these are grant funded on behalf of local communities, but some are additional fees for specific projects.

He reviewed revenue trends over the history of the organization and highlighted revenues and expenditures from the 2015 budget, which is the last fully audited year. He also provided a preliminary review of the 2017 budget.

5.4 Resolution 2016-3: Establish 2017 Levy Rate

MR. LAWRENCE stated that the Executive Committee had discussed the 2017 Levy Rate and recommended that the rate be set at "not to exceed 0.000943%." Real Estate valuations will not be available until late mid-August but it is estimated that this rate along with the collection from those counties at the cap rate will collect about \$215,000, which will cover the five basic program areas.

MR. RUDOLPH made a motion to approve Resolution 2016-3: Certifying a 2017 Service Charge for Member Governments "not to exceed 0.000943%." MR. SAAL seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

5.5 Establish 2017 Levy Cap for Counties

MR. LAWRENCE stated that the Executive Committee had also discussed the 2017 Levy Cap and recommended a reduction from \$44,000 to \$43,000.

MR. BORNEMANN made a motion to approve the 2017 County Levy Cap at \$43,000, and MR. CUSHING seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

5.6 Overview of Northwoods Rail Transit Commission

MR. LANDEAU presented an overview of the Northwoods Rail Transit Commission. The Northwoods Rail Transit Commission started in June 2011. A bi-state cooperative agreement was formed, and it was approved in October 2013. Now the Commission consists of 13 Wisconsin counties and 9 upper Michigan counties. MR. LANDEAU mentioned several achievements reached by the Commission. Some of these include coordinating a Rail Market Study with the DOT, developing an initial Rail Siding Inventory, completing two TIGER Grant applications for log car fleet concept, and promoting the economic importance of restoring/improving northern rail

service. Meetings are typically held at Nicolet Area Technical College, and they are open to the public. After his presentation, MR. LANDEAU answered various questions from members.

5.7 Presentation: State Freight Plan Overview and Development

MR. LANDEAU introduced MR. DAVID LEUCINGER who is a Policy Analyst with WisDOT. MR. LEUCINGER gave an overview of the State Freight Plan. He explained that this is the first Freight Plan and the purpose is to link freight-specific transportation policy to planning and investment decisions. He discussed several key themes including placing Wisconsin within a national and global context, reflecting interests of a variety of freight stakeholders, implementing at all levels, and measuring performance. A final plan is expected sometime in 2017.

He mentioned an upcoming public meeting being held in the area on October 11 related to the plan, as well as the annual Freight Industry Summit on October 13, both being held at the Stoney Creek Conference Center in Rothschild. MR. LEUCINGER answered questions after his presentation as well.

5.8 Announcements

MR. MILLAN asked if there were any announcements. MR. LAWRENCE stated the next meeting will be Wednesday, October 26th, 2016 at the same location.

6.) ADJOURNMENT:

MR. RUDOLPH made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 PM, seconded by MR. BORNEMANN. All were in favor.

Lunch was provided following the meeting.

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

Minutes Approved on October 26, 2016:

