

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

April 26, 2017

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ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

LORETTA BAUGHAN  
ANGELA CLOSE  
WILLIAM CONNORS, JR.  
TED CUSHING  
ROCKY GILNER  
PETER HICKETHIER  
HARLAND LEE  
CRAIG McEWEN  
PAUL MILLAN  
JERRY NELSON  
JERRY NILES  
RON NYE  
CHARLES RAYALA, III  
THOMAS RUDOLPH  
FRANK SAAL, Jr.  
PAUL SCHUMAN  
KIM SIMAC  
JAY VERHULST  
EDMUND WAFLE  
CATHERINE WINEMAN  
KENNETH WINTERS  
BILL ZEITZ

STAFF PRESENT:

DENNIS LAWRENCE  
MEGAN WILL  
PAM WINKELS

GUESTS PRESENT:

SARA GUILD, Outreach Director,  
Congressman Sean Duffy

DOUG HILL, Outreach Director,  
US Senator Baldwin

JON TRAUTMAN, Schenck, SC

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

RICHARD BAKOVKA  
BUCKY DAILEY  
DANIEL GUILD

1.) CALL TO ORDER:

MR. MILLAN called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M.

2.) AUDIENCE COMMENT:

MR. MILLAN asked if there were any comments from the guests present. There was none. He then asked guests to introduce themselves. Guests in attendance were Sara Guild, Doug Hill, and Jon Trautman.

3.) APPROVAL, ADDITIONS, OR CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 25, 2017 MEETING:

MR. MILLAN asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes as mailed. There being none, MR. VERHULST 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 and thanked them for attending the meeting.

4.2 Introduction of New Commissioner – Charles Rayala, III

MR. MILLAN introduced a new Commissioner, Charles (Chuck) Rayala, III. MR. RAYALA was nominated by Vilas County and appointed by Governor Walker to serve as the County's Joint Appointment. He succeeds Mr. Bob Egan. MR. RAYALA provided a brief overview of his background.

4.3 Executive Committee's Report

MR. WAFLE reported that the Executive Committee had met and discussed a variety of items. The Executive Director provided a report, where he mentioned that the Association of Wisconsin Regional Planning Commissions (AWRPC) Annual Meeting would be held in June; that he is working with the Appointment Office since there are several Commissioners with terms expiring; he also

noted that the Nicolet-Wolf River Scenic Byway was officially designated; the 2020 WROC vendor was selected and they will be present at an upcoming meeting. Various projects underway may require an intern be hired this summer.

MR. WAFLE then reported that the Committee reviewed and approved the Financial Report and discussed a variety of grants and local agreements that have been recently approved. He also mentioned that the Audit Report was reviewed in detail and that the 2017 Designation of Funds was approved. There was also some discussion about the upcoming 2018 budget.

#### 4.4 Federal Update: Sara Guild (Rep. Duffy) and Doug Hill (Sen. Baldwin)

SARA GUILD, Outreach Director, Congressman Sean Duffy, covered a variety of topics. She stated that Congressman Duffy's Office is hopeful that there will not be a government shutdown. She also briefly discussed the following topics: tax reform, a highway bill, tariffs on forestry and the impact of these tariffs. She stated that nothing formal has been released regarding health care. She answered questions from the members present.

DOUG HILL, Outreach Director, US Senator Baldwin, mentioned a variety of federal issues. He reiterated what MS. GUILD stated regarding being hopeful that a government shutdown would not occur in the near future. He emphasized that healthcare, taxes, and infrastructure are currently very important topics in the Senator's Office. He highlighted legislation on Buy America, Restrictive Canadian Trade Barriers that are affecting dairy farmers, and federal funding to assist Wisconsin with the opioid epidemic. He also stated that the Senator's Office wrote a letter of support regarding the Brokaw EDA Grant.

#### 4.5 2016 Audit Report Presentation: Jon Trautman - Schenck, SC

MR. MILLAN introduced Auditor JON TRAUTMAN from Schenck, SC. MR. TRAUTMAN began his presentation by reviewing the management letter. He stated there were no deficiencies in Internal Control.

He then highlighted the financial statements. He stated that overall the organization is in good financial condition. The Total

Net Position in 2016 was \$1,377,995; in 2015 it was \$1,407,665. He did point out that net investment in capital assets increased from the previous year and reviewed restricted funds. He then discussed the reporting requirements for WRS. Last year this was listed as an asset where this year is listed as a liability.

MR. TRAUTMAN reminded those present that the State has full control of WRS. He then went on to explain in more detail the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position report and Statement of Cash Flows report as well as answered general questions regarding the financial report. Overall, there were no issues identified.

MR. BAKOVKA made a motion to approve the 2016 Audit Report. MR. CUSHING seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

#### 4.6 2016 Annual Report Review & Adoption

MR. LAWRENCE presented the draft of the 2016 Annual Report. He explained that this is an overview of NCWRPC activities for the year. He also mentioned that regional planning commissions are required to prepare an Annual Report, under state statute.

He briefly reviewed each part of the document including the purpose and history, mission statement, leveraging dollars, federal and state relationships, types of assistance provided by NCWRPC, regional programs, regional accomplishments, local assistance, accomplishments by county, audited 2016 financial statements, North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation 2016 Annual Report, and information on professional staff and commissioners.

Once the report is adopted, it will be sent to the printer to be reformatted and printed in color. The Annual Report is distributed to all county supervisors, city, village and town contacts, state and federal officials and other interested parties.

MR. CUSHING made a motion to adopt the 2016 Annual Report, and MR. McEWEN seconded this motion. Motion carried.

4.7 Resolution 2017-3: Match Funds to EDA Grant Adams-Juneau Resiliency Project

MR. LAWRENCE explained that this EDA grant is in response to the 2016 natural disaster that affected Adams and Juneau counties. This is a \$100,000 project with a grant of \$80,000 and the NCWRPC committing to \$20,000 (20%) matching funds to assist with modeling and assessment efforts.

MR. NYE made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-3: Commitment of Adams-Juneau Resiliency Project Grant Match Funds; MS. WINEMAN seconded this motion. Motion carried.

4.8 Resolution 2017-4: Recognition of Bob Egan for Service to the NCWRPC

MR. LAWRENCE stated for all outgoing Commissioners a resolution of recognition is passed as a way to thank them for their commitment to the region. Resolution 2017-4 is to recognize the efforts of MR. BOB EGAN for his many years of dedicated service. MR. EGAN served as a Commissioner from 2009 to 2017 representing Vilas County.

MR. VERHULST made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-4: Recognition of Bob Egan for Service to the NCWRPC; MR. RAYALA seconded this motion. Motion carried.

4.9 Resolution 2017-5: Lead Applicant for EDA Brokaw Grant Application

MR. LAWRENCE explained that Resolution 2017-5 states that NCWRPC will be the lead agency for submitting the application for an EDA Grant. This project includes both the Villages of Brokaw and Maine, and the Town of Texas. All three of these communities were negatively impacted when the Wausau Paper Mill closed. The communities are providing the required match of \$25,000 for this project. If awarded, the NCWRPC will complete part of the grant scope of work and a consultant will prepare the other part.

MR. SAAL made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-5: Pledge NCWRPC as Lead Applicant for Brokaw EDA Grant; MR. McEWEN seconded this motion. Motion carried.

#### 4.10 CEDS Executive Summary & Regional Profile

MS. MEGAN WILL provided an overview of both the CEDS Executive Summary and discussed the North Central Wisconsin Regional Profile.

She stated that the Executive Summary provided some of the major findings from the full CEDS document that was adopted at the last meeting. The Economic Development Profile displays some of the important demographic information for the region. She also stated that the NCWRPC has prepared similar profiles for each county. The Profiles were last updated in 2012. Each county economic development corporation in our region has received copies of both.

#### 4.11 Presentation: Tim Weber & Chris Berry, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

MR. LAWRENCE stated that MR. TIM WEBER from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation had to cancel on short notice due to a family emergency. He plans to attend a Commission meeting in the near future.

#### 4.12 Announcements

MR. MILLAN updated members on a couple of Forest County items: the nursing home will be closing due to financial reasons, and the State is looking at purchasing homes for sexual predators in Forest County. Both are of obvious concern for residents.

MR. LAWRENCE announced that the next meeting will be Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the same location.

#### 5.) ADJOURNMENT:

MR. RUDOLPH made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 PM and MR. NELSON seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Lunch was provided following the meeting.

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

Minutes Approved on July 26, 2017;

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