

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

July 26, 2017

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

RICHARD BAKOVKA
LORETTA BAUGHAN
WILLIAM CONNORS, JR.
TED CUSHING
BUCKY DAILEY
ROCKY GILNER
DANIEL GUILD
CRAIG McEWEN
JERRY NELSON
JERRY NILES
THOMAS RUDOLPH
PAUL SCHUMAN
JAY VERHULST
EDMUND WAFLE
KENNETH WINTERS
BILL ZEITZ

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

ANGELA CLOSE
PETER HICKETHIER
HARLAND LEE
PAUL MILLAN
RON NYE
CHARLES RAYALA, III
FRANK SAAL, JR.
KIM SIMAC
CATHERINE WINEMAN

STAFF PRESENT:

DARRYL LANDEAU
DENNIS LAWRENCE
MEGAN WILL
PAM WINKELS

GUESTS PRESENT:

SARA GUILD, Outreach Director,
Congressman Sean Duffy

MARYANN LIPPERT, Director, DOA-
Northern Office

JONI KEARN, Loan Fund Specialist,
Central Wisconsin Economic
Development Fund Inc. (CWED)

GEORGE KRAFT, Director, Center for
Watershed Science & Education

TIM WEBER, Regional Director,
Wisconsin Economic Development
Corporation (WEDC)

1.) CALL TO ORDER & CHAIR WELCOME:

MR. MILLAN was unable to attend the meeting; therefore, MR. BAKOVKA called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M. MR. BAKOVKA asked that guests introduce themselves. Guests in attendance were Sara Guild, Maryann Lippert, Joni Kearn, George Kraft, and Tim Weber.

2.) AUDIENCE COMMENT:

There were no comments from the audience.

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

MR. BAKOVKA asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda as mailed. There being none, MR. VERHULST made a motion to approve the agenda as mailed, seconded by MR. RUDOLPH. Motion carried.

4.) APPROVAL, ADDITIONS, OR CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 26, 2017 MEETING:

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

5.) BUSINESS & DISCUSSION:

5.1 Executive Committee's Report

MR. BAKOVKA reported that the Executive Committee met and discussed a variety of items. The Executive Director provided a report, where he mentioned that two planners have resigned; five vacant commissioner seats have been filled; a staff recognition process may be developed; and the option of receiving commission meeting packets electronically or by mail may be further discussed in the future.

MR. BAKOVKA then reported that the Committee reviewed and approved the Financial Report and discussed a variety of grants and local agreements including a new housing study and Brokaw redevelopment project. The Committee discussed the 2018 budget and recommended approval of the 2018 levy rate and levy cap. The recent planner job openings prompted an evaluation of the current salary and benefits of this position; it was recommended that the salary range be \$42,000 to \$52,000. Lastly, the process for evaluating the Executive Director position was discussed in closed session. MR. BAKOVKA stated that the Committee is very satisfied with the work performance of MR. LAWRENCE this past year.

5.2 State & Federal Updates

SARA GUILD, Outreach Director, Congressman Sean Duffy, covered a variety of topics. She stated that Congressman Duffy is active in trying to reform the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) as it expires Sept. 30 of this year. Congressman Duffy also recently introduced the ROAD Act which would improve the quality of roads in national forests allowing loggers to safely access and harvest timber. Another item being addressed is the funding of mold remediation in homes on the Lac Courte Oreilles Indian Reservation. Lastly, MS. GUILD stated that healthcare is still being debated as most members have seen in the media.

MARYANN LIPPERT, Director, DOA-Northern Office, encouraged members to attend a couple of upcoming events: Governor's Northern Economic & Community Development Summit held in Washburn County on October 25 & 26; and Governor's Small Business Summit in Wausau on September 26. Maryann will be holding a Round Table in Minocqua on July 27 as well. She was also happy to report that a Regional Director has been hired for the Northeast Wisconsin region; her name is Rachel Skenandore.

JONI KEARN, Loan Fund Specialist-CWED, also introduced herself and referred members to review the brochure she distributed regarding the Revolving Loan Fund; she mentioned that over \$6 million is available to lend for seven counties.

5.3 Budget Process Overview & Preliminary 2018 Budget

MR. LAWRENCE provided an overview of the budget process, current budget and preliminary 2018 budget. The budget process involves such items as: setting the levy rate and cap; communicating with counties, communities, state and federal agencies; identifying revenue sources; determining costs; and preparing and adopting the budget. Projects compose about 55% of the revenues, and the Levy provides approximately 30% of the budget; salaries and fringe benefits make up approximately 75% of the expenditures. The preliminary 2018 budget is comprised of \$802,390 in revenues and \$795,265 in expenses, leaving a fund balance of \$7,125 (this compares to \$6,787 in 2017). MR. LAWRENCE reminded members that the RE valuations vary greatly between the counties in our region. In addition, real estate valuations are not available until late summer.

5.4 Resolution 2017-6: Establish 2018 Levy Rate

MR. LAWRENCE stated that the Executive Committee had discussed the 2018 Levy Rate and recommended that the rate be set at "not to exceed 0.000915%."

MR. BAKOVKA asked that Resolution 2017-6 be amended prior to voting for adoption. The amendment should indicate that the service charge not exceed .000915%, instead of the .000943% as originally printed. MR. LAWRENCE apologized for the error. MR. VERHULST made a motion to amend Resolution to reflect service charge not to exceed .000915%. MR. CUSHING seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

MR. VERHULST made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-6: Certifying a 2018 Service Charge for Member Governments "not to exceed 0.000915%." MR. CUSHING seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

5.5 Establish 2018 Levy Cap for Counties

MR. LAWRENCE stated that the Executive Committee had also discussed the 2018 Levy Cap and recommended it remain the same as the previous year at \$43,000.

MR. VERHULST made a motion to set the 2018 Levy Cap for Counties at \$43,000, and MR. WAFLE seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

5.6 Resolution 2017-7: Updated Title VI Plan

MR. LANDEAU provided a brief overview of the Title VI Plan. He also highlighted the changes since the plan was last adopted. Three basic areas were updated, these were regional demographics, accomplishments, and future compliance efforts.

MR. McEWEN made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-7; Adoption of Title VI Plan; MR. RUDOLPH seconded this motion. Motion carried.

5.7 Presentation: Tim Weber, Regional Director, WEDC Overview

MR. TIM WEBER, Regional Director at WEDC, referred members to a brochure he distributed regarding programs and services offered by the WEDC. He highlighted some programs such as the Historic Preservation Tax Credit, Community Development Investment Grant, and Brownfields Grant Program and a program that assists with importing and exporting. MR. WEBER encouraged members to contact him with questions or inquiries.

5.8 Presentation: George Kraft, Director, Center for Watershed Science & Education

The effects of groundwater pumping were the subject matter of the presentation given by MR. GEORGE KRAFT, Director for the Center for Watershed Science & Education. Groundwater is under the surface of the Earth which comes from precipitation. Any pumping well will affect aquifers and groundwater flow, and pumping groundwater lowers the level of lake water. He provided an overview of the history of irrigation in Wisconsin's Central Sands region and when discussion about managing groundwater pumping began. Also, the number of high capacity wells has increased dramatically over the last several decades. In 2005 and several years thereafter, precipitation was much less; however, in the last few years, precipitation has been much higher. It appears that better groundwater management would be beneficial not only in Wisconsin, but statewide.

5.9 Update: Sand Valley Golf Resort

MR. BAKOVKA stated that three years ago he discussed Sand Valley as economic opportunity for Adams County. That project has had a tremendously positive economic impact on Adams County. Over 450 people are currently employed at the Resort; also, Mid-State Technical College is working with the Resort to discuss hospitality jobs. In January of this year, the Resort was \$3,000,000 ahead of projected value, and the Resort is receiving national accolades. MR. BAKOVKA also mentioned a resort in Oregon that he visited this spring that is similar to Sand Valley Golf Resort. He encouraged members to visit the Resort in Adams County.

5.10 Announcements

The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 25th, 2017 at the same location.

6.) ADJOURNMENT:

MR. NELSON made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:20 PM and MR. McEWEN seconded this motion. 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 25, 2017;
