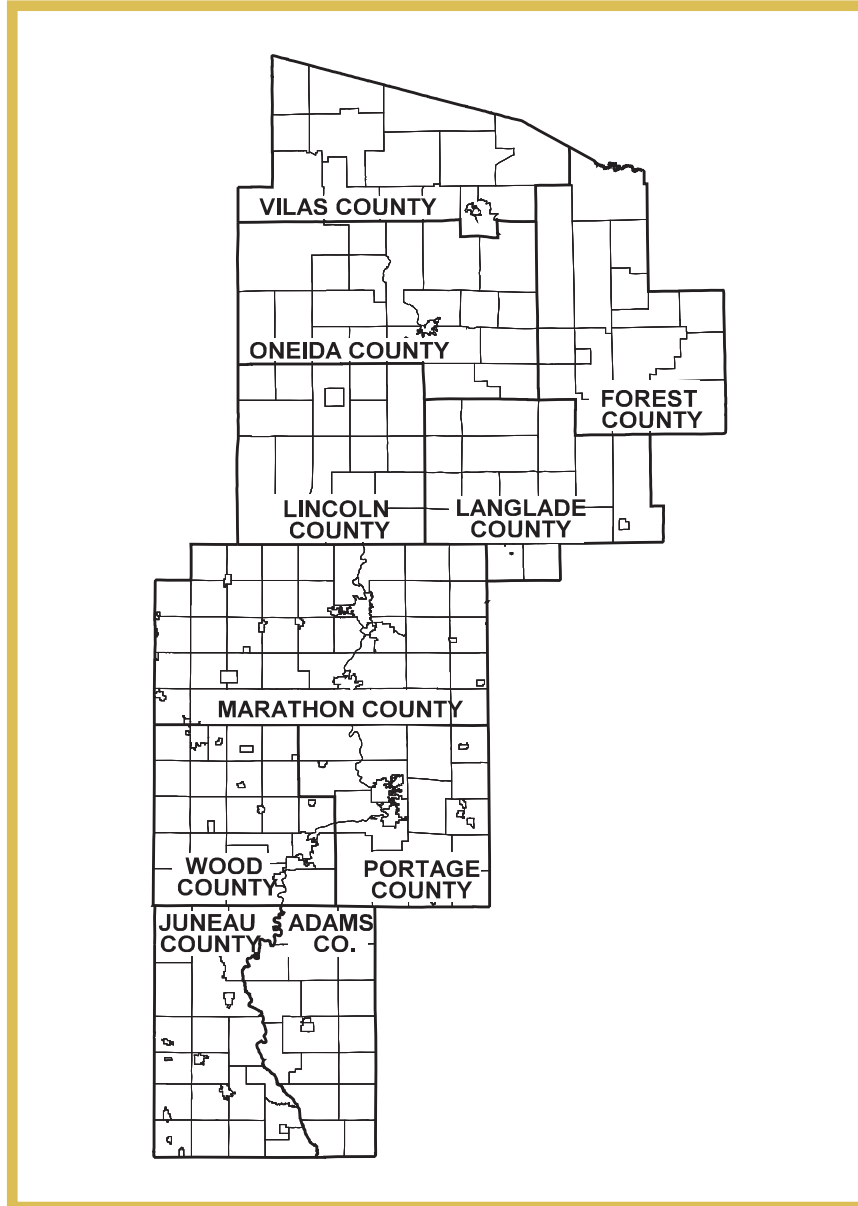


45
YEARS

**North Central Wisconsin
Regional Planning Commission**

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



REGIONAL FACTS:

2017 Population (DOA Estimate): 425,268
Square Miles: 9,325

Counties: 10
Cities: 22
Illages: 41
Towns: 196
Tribal: 4

Total Governmental & Tribal Units: 273

NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403
Telephone: (715) 849-5510 Fax: (715) 849-5110
Web Page: www.ncwrpc.org Email: staff@ncwrpc.org



SERVING ADAMS, FOREST, JUNEAU, LANGLADE, LINCOLN, MARATHON, ONEIDA, PORTAGE, VILAS AND WOOD COUNTIES

June 1, 2019

To the Citizens and Elected Officials of North Central Wisconsin:

On behalf of the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC), we are proud to present you with the **2018 Annual Report**, our 45th! Throughout the *Annual Report*, you will see many regional and local level projects NCWRPC has accomplished this past year.

The report is prepared to provide interested citizens and local officials with an overview of the activities undertaken by the NCWRPC over the last year. The report highlights the five core work areas of economic development, geographic information systems, intergovernmental cooperation, land use, and transportation. In addition, the report meets the requirements as outlined in Wisconsin Statute 66.0309(8)(b) for annual report preparation. Also included in this report is information for the North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation (NCWDC), our economic development organization responsible for managing a revolving loan fund.

On behalf of the entire organization, we would like to thank you for your continued support over these many years. We look forward to continuing to serve the Region by providing planning services to address the issues and needs of North Central Wisconsin. Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions regarding the NCWRPC or this *Annual Report*.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul J. Millan".

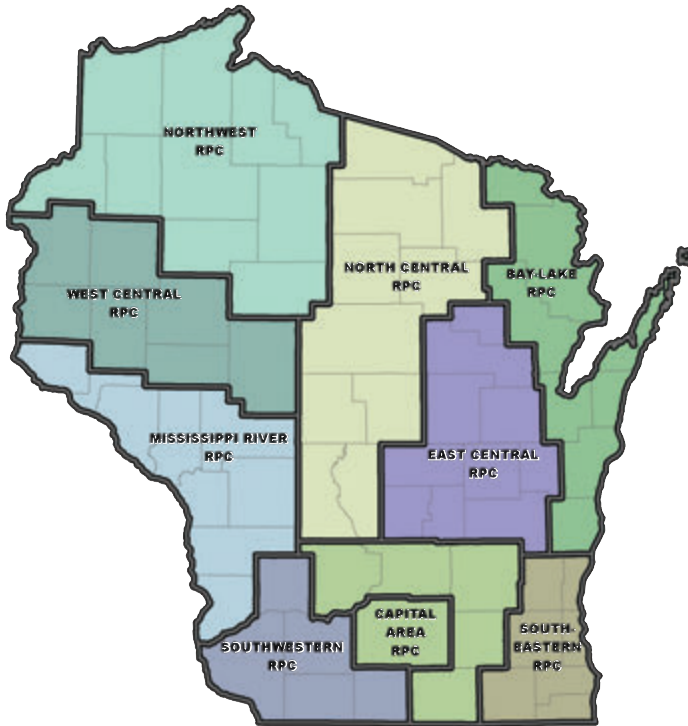
Paul Millan
NCWRPC Chairperson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dennis Lawrence".

Dennis Lawrence, AICP
Executive Director

The North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) was created in 1973 under Wisconsin Statute 66.0309 as a voluntary association of governments for the purpose of preparing plans for the physical development of the Region and its communities; to conduct research; to serve as a data center; and serve as a forum for communication, cooperation and coordination among federal, state, regional, and local interests; and to provide technical services to its membership.

Regional planning commissions provide assistance throughout the state. NCWRPC is one of nine regional planning commissions in Wisconsin; while nationwide there are about 500 similar type regional organizations.



ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS:

The goals of the NCWRPC are to:

- Provide cost-effective planning services to our members,
- Identify strategies and solutions to planning issues, and
- Help communities meet the planning challenges facing them.

MISSION STATEMENT:

In an advisory capacity to local units of government and tribes, the NCWRPC offers cost-effective, specialized planning services and expertise that support responsible development of the Region’s economic, social, natural, and human-built environments.

The NCWRPC also provides leadership and a regional forum for the creation of cooperative responses to shared opportunities and the challenges facing the counties and communities of the ten-county Region.

IMPACT

LEVERAGING DOLLARS:

To keep membership contributions low, additional dollars are secured from other sources to fund the organization. A simple Return on Membership (ROM) analysis shows that every membership dollar provided to the NCWRPC leverages additional dollars. In 2018, for every 1 dollar the NCWRPC received from membership it directly leveraged another 3.3 dollars from grants, local projects, and other sources.

PUBLICATIONS:

Annually the NCWRPC prepares and publishes several planning documents. The NCWRPC also publishes a quarterly print newsletter, NCWRPC NEWS, which is sent to over 1,100 people, including county supervisors, chief-elected officials, clerks and many other interested parties throughout the region, state and nation. In addition, the NCWRPC electronically distributes EDNews, which is focused on economic and community development issues.

A list of plans, reports and other information is available at the NCWRPC website. See www.ncwrpc.org.

FEDERAL AND STATE RELATIONSHIPS:

NCWRPC is an independent area-wide planning agency that is governed by an appointed board, called a Commission, and serves the towns, villages, cities, tribes, and counties within the Region. In addition, there are two long-standing relationships with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA), and with the State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) that support planning.

Since 1980 the NCWRPC has maintained EDA designation as an economic development district. As such, the NCWRPC receives an annual economic development planning grant to provide local economic development assistance and prepare a regional report called a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs). WisDOT designated the NCWRPC as a rural transportation planning region in 1975. As such, the NCWRPC receives a planning grant annually to provide transportation planning assistance to support the state transportation work program.

TYPES OF ASSISTANCE:

NCWRPC is a regional planning and economic development agency, which provides assistance to local governments throughout the ten-county Region in the areas of economic development, geographic information systems (GIS), intergovernmental cooperation, land use planning, and transportation. The NCWRPC supplements existing staff, or takes the lead where there is no staff. The goal is to not duplicate efforts but rather provide an effective system of planning to fit each community's need.

The NCWRPC undertakes both regional and local planning projects. Regional Accomplishments are highlighted on page 5 and Local Assistance projects are highlighted by county on pages 8 and 9.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING:

NCWRPC annually prepares a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) that analyzes the regional economy and identifies potential economic development projects. This report maintains the Region's eligibility for U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration public works programs. Other federal and state programs utilize this plan as well. NCWRPC also prepares grant applications to bring funding into the Region to promote growth.

NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:

NCWRPC provides management assistance for two multi-county revolving loan funds operated by the North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation, which provide financing to a variety of businesses throughout the Region. One fund was created through a grant from HUD, while the other was established through USDA-RD intermediary lending program. Increasing jobs and expanding the local tax base within the Region are the primary goals of this program.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING:

NCWRPC provides local transportation assistance with the Wisconsin Information System for Local Roads (WISLR), and represents North Central Wisconsin on state level transportation planning committees to help bring more dollars for the repair and construction of our transportation infrastructure. The NCWRPC also provides on-going assistance to the Wausau Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

REGIONAL LAND USE PLANNING:

NCWRPC is responsible for the development of a regional comprehensive plan for the ten county Region. The Regional Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2004, the first regional plan under the state's new planning law, and was last updated in 2015. NCWRPC also prepares other regionally focused plans from time to time.

REGIONAL DATA AND MAPPING CENTER:

NCWRPC is a depository for a variety of demographic information for the area, including U.S. Census data. In addition, the NCWRPC also maintains a Regional GIS database and computerized mapping system, including digital orthophotography. County Profiles are also prepared and updated as needed. Also, in partnership with WEDC, NCWRPC prepares quarterly economic development reports for each county in the Region using EMSI, a specialized economic development analysis software.

REGIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS - 2018

- Sought and received designation from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation as the regional Business Disaster Recovery Microloan lender. The loans will provide funding to area businesses impacted by disasters for clean-up and other costs to maintain operations.
- Began a multiyear regional Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program to improve walking and biking conditions for 25 schools in eleven different school districts.
- Prepared the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Annual Performance Report to maintain the Region's Economic Development District designation, as defined by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).
- Coordinating final efforts for the 2020 WROC air photo project, similar to previous efforts in 2005, 2010 and 2015. As part of this effort, securing state and federal grants to reduce overall costs for county and local projects.
- Provided staff assistance to the North Central Wisconsin Stormwater Coalition, which serves thirteen communities throughout the Region.
- Maintained and developed a Regional Mapping Information System, Census and Demographic Information, and a Planning Library for the Region.
- Continued to coordinate the North East Wisconsin Public Safety Communication (NEWCOM) organization to promote better emergency service communication throughout a 16 county Region.
- Continued a partnership with WEDC to provide EMSI economic development modeling tools to communities within the Region.
- Provided staff assistance to the Northwoods Rail Transit Commission, a multicounty, bi-state organization promoting freight rail in northern Wisconsin and Upper Michigan.
- Maintained designation as a rural transportation planning region by WisDOT to coordinate transportation strategies on a regional basis.
- Provided staff assistance to the North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation (NCWDC) to manage two revolving loan funds. During 2018 worked to de-federalize and consolidate funds into one fund to assist businesses in the Region.
- Provided region-wide assistance to the US Census Bureau related to demographics and mapping for the upcoming 2020 Census.
- Prepared a Regional Bike Plan for the ten county region of northcentral Wisconsin. This plan stems from our Regional Livability Plan and provides a framework for county and local level bike and pedestrian planning efforts.

NCWRPC is involved in various other regional efforts throughout the year that are not mentioned above.

NCWRPC provides members with assistance in the following five areas:

ED – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

NCWRPC provides communities with assistance in a variety of other economic development related studies, including preparing detailed economic development plans that examine the local economy, assess local trends and identify strategies to spur development. In addition, the NCWRPC provides grant writing and administrative assistance to communities that are seeking funds from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, as well as a variety of other grant programs, including WEDC, DNR, WisDOT, and USDA-Rural Development. We also provide economic modeling software assistance.

GIS – GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

NCWRPC maintains an extensive digital mapping database for the Region. In addition, the NCWRPC has access to a wide array of data, including U.S. Census and American Community Survey, Economic Census, State Employment and Labor Information, and other specialized data sets. In addition, we assist with preparing County Land Information Plans and various grant applications for digital imagery. Custom data sets and maps can also be created for communities on request or as part of larger planning efforts. In addition, we coordinate efforts related to regional and statewide air photo acquisition.

IGOV – INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

NCWRPC is available to conduct specialized studies on request. Over the years, a wide range of studies have been completed on subjects such as merging ambulance services, community consolidation, economic impact analysis, and boundary agreements. Many of these projects include a regional focus because they involve multiple units of government.

LU – LAND USE

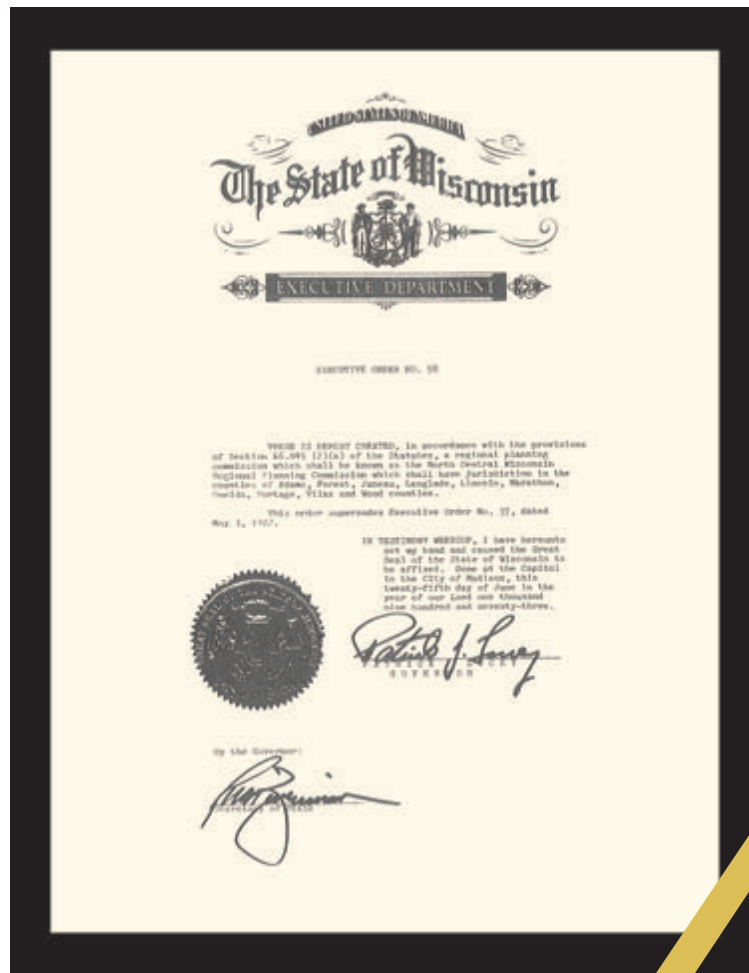
NCWRPC prepares a variety of natural resource based plans for communities, including outdoor recreation plans, all hazard mitigation plans, land and water resource management plans, sewer service area plans, wellhead protection plans, and wildfire protection plans, among others. In addition, the NCWRPC assists local governments in the preparation of comprehensive plans under Wisconsin's Comprehensive Planning Law, as well as assistance with zoning and land division ordinances that implement local plans.

TR – TRANSPORTATION

NCWRPC prepares specialized transportation documents including: highway corridor studies, long-range urban area plans, parking studies, county-wide bicycle planning, Safe Routes To School (SRTS) plans, and grant writing for various WisDOT funding sources. In addition, the NCWRPC assists local governments in a variety of areas, including the preparation of local road improvement programs. These road plans provide a capital improvement schedule for upgrading local roads and help local units obtain Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) funding for road reconstruction projects. Pavement rating and other assistance with the Wisconsin Information System for Local Roads (WISLR) program is also available.

THE NCWRPC CELEBRATED 45 YEARS OF SERVICE IN 2018!

Executive Order No. 58 was signed on June 25, 1973 by Governor Patrick Lucey creating the NCWRPC.



45
YEARS

NCWRPC prepares numerous projects throughout the Region each year. The projects reflected below are for those completed within our eight full member counties. Note that we do have local members in the other two counties, but those communities and projects are not listed below.

ADAMS COUNTY

- ✓ County Comprehensive Plan Update
- ✓ Census Boundary Annexation Survey
- ✓ County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
- ✓ Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA)
- ✓ County Outdoor Recreation Plan
- ✓ Village of Friendship Comprehensive Plan Update
- ✓ County Flood Resiliency Study
- ✓ Online County Records System

FOREST COUNTY

- ✓ County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan FEMA Grant Application
- ✓ Census Boundary Annexation Survey
- ✓ County Land Use Update
- ✓ Economic Development Loan to Local Business
- ✓ County GIS & Parcel Mapping Assistance
- ✓ Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA)
- ✓ County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan

JUNEAU COUNTY

- ✓ County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
- ✓ County Flood Resiliency Study
- ✓ Town of Cutler Comprehensive Plan Update
- ✓ Human Services Transportation Needs Assessment
- ✓ Census Boundary Annexation Survey
- ✓ County All Hazard Mitigation Plan
- ✓ County Workforce Housing Survey with JCEDC

LANGLADE COUNTY

- ✓ County All Hazard Mitigation Plan FEMA Grant Application
- ✓ City of Antigo Comprehensive Plan Update
- ✓ County Outdoor Recreational Map
- ✓ Antigo School District Mapping Assistance
- ✓ Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA)
- ✓ Land Records and GIS Assistance
- ✓ County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
- ✓ Town of Antigo Comprehensive Plan Update
- ✓ County Campground Study – Camp Lyle

LINCOLN COUNTY

- ✓ County Outdoor Recreation Plan
- ✓ City of Tomahawk Comprehensive Plan
- ✓ County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
- ✓ Town of Harding Road Surface Management Plan
- ✓ County Hazard Mitigation Plan
- ✓ City of Tomahawk TAP Grant Application

MARATHON COUNTY

- ✓ County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
- ✓ Wausau Metro Sewer Service Area Plan
- ✓ Town of Stettin Safe Routes to School Plan
- ✓ Village of Hatley Comprehensive Plan Update
- ✓ Town of Rib Mountain Comprehensive Plan Update
- ✓ Village of Stratford Outdoor Recreation Plan
- ✓ City of Wausau Economic Indicators Dashboard
- ✓ Towns of Cassel and Frankfort Comprehensive Plan Updates
- ✓ Village of Maine and Town of Texas Economic Adjustment Strategy

ONEIDA COUNTY

- ✓ County Outdoor Recreation Plan
- ✓ Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA)
- ✓ County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
- ✓ Mining Impact Scenario Reports
- ✓ Census Boundary Annexation Survey
- ✓ Online County Survey Records System
- ✓ Rhinelander/County Airport Website Assistance

VILAS COUNTY

- ✓ County All Hazard Mitigation Plan
- ✓ Census Boundary Annexation Survey
- ✓ County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
- ✓ Updated County Land Use Coverage
- ✓ County Multiuse Trail & Routes Study
- ✓ Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA)
- ✓ County Outdoor Recreation Plan
- ✓ Lac du Flambeau Workforce Training & Development Center EDA Grant

Staff also attends various meetings, responds to inquiries, provides assistance to a variety of departments, agencies, and organizations, and completes numerous projects throughout the region not mentioned above.

The NCWRPC is funded from three basic sources. These are federal and state grants, local contracts, and a local membership fee (levy) based on equalized valuation of member governments.

Below is the December 31, 2017 Statement of Net Position:

ASSETS:		
Current Assets	1,666,107	
Noncurrent Assets	465,064	
Other Assets	85,827	
Capital Assets	<u>26,339</u>	
TOTAL ASSETS:		\$2,243,337
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS:		\$156,114
LIABILITIES:		
Current Liabilities	554,277	
Long-Term Liabilities	<u>134,050</u>	
TOTAL LIABILITIES:		\$688,327
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS:		\$391,333
Net Invested Capital Assets	26,339	
Restricted	85,827	
Unrestricted	<u>1,207,625</u>	
TOTAL NET POSITION:		<u>\$1,319,791</u>

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP prepared the Audit.
A copy of the complete Audit Report is available for review at the NCWRPC Office.

ANNUAL LEVY RATE:

By state statute the membership charge or levy rate to local governments cannot exceed 0.003% of equalized value. In 2000 the NCWRPC rate was set at 0.00275% and by 2018 that rate was reduced to 0.000881% - well less than one third of the statutory limit. Since 2000, the rate has been reduced multiple times as the NCWRPC seeks other revenue sources.

North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation – NCWDC

2018 Annual Report

The NCWRPC with the support of its counties, area economic development corporations, private lenders, and others, established the North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation (NCWDC). The NCWDC is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, staffed by the NCWRPC, to manage multi-county loan funds. In 2018, the Board took action to de-federalize and consolidate the two current funds into one fund.

An eleven member Board of Directors provides oversight to the NCWDC, which includes one person from each of the counties in the Region, along with one representative from the NCWRPC. Board of Directors listed is current as of December 31, 2018:

Adams County	Daric Smith	Marathon County	Jim Warsaw
Forest County	Bev Collins, Pres.	Oneida County	Stacey Johnson
Juneau County	Terry Whipple	Portage County	Todd Kuckkahn
Langlade County	Angie Close, VP	Vilas County	Bob Egan
Lincoln County	Ken Maule	Wood County	Zach Vruwink
NCWRPC	Craig McEwen, Sec./Tres.		

In addition, there is a five person Loan Review Committee that reviews and makes the final funding decision on each loan application. The current members are: Bev Collins, Dan Daubert, Ken Maule, Linda Prehn, and Bill Vanden Heuvel.

Although a small fund, since 1995, the NCWDC has made over 20 loans and created or retained over 445 jobs in the Region. During the consolidation of funds in 2018, there was only one active loan in the portfolio. A revised loan manual is being prepared.

Below is the 2018 Statement of Financial Position:

ASSETS:	
Regional Loan Funds	414,728
RBEG Funds	5,397
Loans Outstanding	<u>66,488</u>
	\$486,613
 LIABILITIES:	
Long-Term Liabilities	<u>0</u>
	<u>\$0</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS:	\$486,613

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP prepared the Audit for the NCWDC.
A copy is available for review at the NCWRPC Office.

An appointed commission oversees the activities of the executive director and the organization. As detailed in Wisconsin statute, three commissioners from each member county govern the NCWRPC. One is selected directly by the County (C), one directly by the Governor (G), and the third is a Joint (J) selection between the County and Governor. Term ending is also displayed. Commissioners serve until reappointed or replaced. Commissioners listed are current as of December 31, 2018.

NCWRPC officers are Paul Millan, Chairperson; Richard Bakovka, Vice-Chairperson; and Edmund Wafle, Secretary – Treasurer.

Adams County

Rocky Gilner, C (6/24)
Richard Bakovka, G (6/22)
Peter Hicketier, J (6/20)

Forest County

Tom Tallier, C (1/20)
Paul Millan, G (1/24)
Appointment Pending, J (1/22)

Juneau County

Edmund Wafle, C (6/19)
Kenneth Winters, G (6/23)
Jerry Niles, J (6/21)

Langlade County

Ronald Nye, C (1/20)
Angela Close, G (1/22)
Paul Schuman, J (1/18)

Lincoln County

William Zeitz, C (6/19)
Loretta Baughan, G (6/21)
Frank Saal, Jr., J (6/23)

Marathon County

Catherine Wineman, C (6/21)
Daniel Guild, G (6/23)
Craig McEwen, J (6/19)

Oneida County

Thomas Rudolph, C (1/20)
Ted Cushing, G (1/22)
Harland Lee, J (1/24)

Portage County

None Participating

Vilas County

Robert Hanson, C (6/19)
Jay Verhulst, G (1/23)
Charles Rayala, III, J (1/21)

Wood County*

Gerald Nelson, C (6/23)
Appointment Pending
Appointment Pending

In addition, by Wisconsin Statute, the Secretary of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) - Mark R. Hogan - is an ex-officio officer of the NCWRPC.

* Note: Although the county appoints the commissioners, the county is not the financially participating member. Each local member contributes individually.

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Dennis Lawrence, EDFP, AICP, Executive Director

Dennis has worked with the NCWRPC since 1992 and became the Executive Director in 1997. He has a bachelor's degree in public administration from UW-La Crosse and a master's degree in urban planning from UW-Milwaukee. He is certified as an Economic Development Finance Professional (EDFP) and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Dennis provides overall management to the organization and works in all areas of planning.

Carrie Edmondson, Planner

Carrie started work with the NCWRPC in 2018. She has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Arizona State University and a master's degree in public administration with an emphasis in urban and regional planning from Cal State Fullerton. Carrie works mainly in the area of transportation.

Andrew Faust, GISP, Senior GIS Analyst

Andy has worked with the NCWRPC since 1995. He has a bachelor's degree in urban and regional studies from UW-Oshkosh. He is also certified as a Geographic Information System Professional (GISP). Andy works in the areas of GIS and intergovernmental cooperation.

Fredrick Heider, AICP, Planner

Fred has worked with the NCWRPC since 2004. He has a bachelor's degree in natural resources and land use from UW-Stevens Point and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Fred works mainly in the areas of land use and transportation.

Darryl Landeau, AICP, Senior Planner

Darryl has worked with the NCWRPC since 1993. He has a bachelor's degree in natural resources from UW-Stevens Point and a master's degree in urban studies from Mankato State University. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Darryl works mainly in the areas of transportation and land use.

Eric Sonnleitner, Planner

Eric has worked with the NCWRPC since 2017. He has a bachelor's degree in natural resources and land use from UW-Stevens Point. Eric works mainly in the areas of land use, community development and GIS.

Pam Winkels, Office Assistant

Pam has worked with the NCWRPC since 2015. She has a bachelor's degree in graphic communications from St. Norbert's. Pam provides program support, staff support, and general office assistance.



NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

45th Annual Report

210 McClellan Street, Suite 210 • Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

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Website: www.ncwrpc.org