

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

July 31, 2024

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

REINHARDT BALCERZAK
LORETTA BAUGHAN
ALAN BISHOP
HANS BREITENMOSER
WILLIAM CHANEY
JAMI GEBERT
ROCKY GILNER
ALLEN HAGA, JR.
DAVE LAFONTAINE
BETTY MANSON
PAUL MILLAN
RONALD NYE
LARRY RAIKOWSKI
HOLLY TOMLANOVICH
KENNETH WINTERS

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

ANGELA CLOSE
TED CUSHING
CINDY GRETZINGER
JASON GRUENEHRG
ROBB JENSEN
JOSHUA KLINGBEIL
DOUG MACHON
RICK PEASE
JOHN PAVELSKI
STEVEN SCHREIER

STAFF PRESENT:

DAWN JOHNSON
DENNIS LAWRENCE
SAM WESSEL

OTHERS PRESENT:

LANDIS HOLDORF – DISTRICT
DIRECTOR, US CONGRESSMAN TOM
TIFFANY

1.) CALL TO ORDER:

MR. MILLAN called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

2.) APPROVAL, ADDITIONS, OR CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES OF THE 4/24/24 MEETING:

MR. MILLAN asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes as mailed. MS. GEBERT stated that under the description in item 3, the word agenda should be replaced with the word minutes. MR. CHANEY made a motion to approve, seconded by MR. REINHARDT. Motion passed.

3.) BUSINESS & DISCUSSION:

3.1 CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME

MR. MILLAN welcomed everyone to the Wausau Entrepreneurial & Education Center and acknowledged MS. GEBERT as a returning commissioner. MS. GEBERT introduced herself and provided an overview as a previous commissioner from Adams County to her current commission role with Marathon County.

3.2 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

MS. BAUGHAN provided a recap of agenda items, including the approval of a 5-year office lease keeping the organization in its current location, recommended 2025 levy rates and caps, and the follow-up of the Main Street Bounceback Program. Statewide 70% of the recipients are still in business, within the NCWRPC region 85% continue their business operations. WEDC has partnered with the Small Business Development Center to offer training and technical assistance programming to ensure grant recipients continue to succeed.

3.3 REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE REPORT

MR. WESSEL stated that the first meeting had been conducted. Staff provided an overview of the planning process, a tentative timeline, public participation plan, and reviewed the introduction and the first chapter. The committee openly discussed regional issues that should be integrated into the plan.

3.4 STATE & FEDERAL UPDATES

MR. HOLDORF discussed that the House is currently in recess and will return to session on September 9th, 2024. CONGRESSMAN TIFFANY introduced a bill that would make the Apostle Islands Wisconsin's first national park if passed. Support of the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act (SAVE ACT) which requires individuals to provide documentary proof of U.S. Citizenship in order to register to vote in federal elections.

3.5 RESOLUTION 2024-3: RECOGNITION OF HARLAND LEE

MR. LAWRENCE stated that MR. LEE has served on the commission since 2013 as the Governor's appointee to represent Oneida County. He has been involved with various local and county organizations, including serving on the Hazelhurst Town Board. MR. NYE made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by MR. LaFONTAINE. Motion passed.

3.6 RESOLUTION 2024-4: EDA GRANT MATCH

MR. LAWRENCE stated that there is an opportunity to apply for a technical assistance grant from US EDA. This is a 50/50 grant. The request is to use \$75,000 of reserve funds to match with \$75,000 EDA funds for a total project of \$150,000. The grant would be focused on entrepreneurship and regional economic resiliency. We expect to have the application submitted later this year. MS. TOMLANOVICH made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by MR. BALCERZAK. Motion passed.

3.7 RESOLUTION 2024-5: ESTABLISH 2025 LEVY RATE & LEVY CAP

MR. LAWRENCE stated that Wisconsin statute allows the NCWRPC to levy a service charge not to exceed 0.003 percent of the equalized real estate value to each member government. Considering the anticipated 2025 Work Program and Annual Budget of the NCWRPC will require a service charge not to exceed 0.0005579% and any one county shall be capped at \$41,000. MR. LaFONTAINE made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by MR. CHANEY. Motion passed.

3.8 COMMISSIONER SURVEY REVIEW

MR. LAWRENCE recapped the strategic planning survey results requested during April's meeting consisting of issues facing the region, goals for the organization, and a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis. Open discussion included workforce, housing, and water quality.

3.9 STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW & ADOPTION

MR. LAWRENCE provided an overview of the strategic plan. Highlights included the mission statement, SWOT analysis, emerging trends, and recommendations. The open discussion consisted of communication and marketing. A motion was made by MR. NYE for the adoption of the plan, seconded by MR. LaFONTAINE. Motion carried.

3.10 ANNOUNCEMENTS

MR. MILLAN announced that the next meeting will occur on October 30, 2024.

5.) ADJOURNMENT

MR. MILLAN adjourned the meeting at 11:52 am.

The meeting was advertised and open to the public. The meeting was held at the Wausau Entrepreneurial & Education Center, 100 N. 72nd Avenue, Wausau, WI.

Minutes Approved on October 30, 2024:
