

**Minutes of the
West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
Thursday, January 14, 2016 Meeting; 10:00 a.m.
New Auburn Area Fire Station, New Auburn, WI**

Commissioners Present: Jess Miller, Ken Jost, Travis Turner, Lee McIlquham, Florian Skwierczynski, Mike Goettl, Chuck Rueth, Norman Wesenberg, Joe Waichulis, Richard Creaser, Steve Rasmussen, Robert Walter, Kathy Clark, Gordy Steinhauer, John Frank, William Johnson, Agnes Ring, Larry Weisenbeck

Commissioners Absent: Craig Moriak, Warren Nelson, Travis Schachtner

Staff Present: Lynn Nelson, Lisa Ruth, Tobi LeMahieu

Visitors Present: Steve Jahn, Momentum West; Dan North, Town of Dovre; MaryAnn Lippert, Governor's Northern Office

1. **Call to Order:** Chairperson Miller called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. **Welcome and Introductions:** Commissioners and guests were introduced.
3. **Minutes of November 12, 2015 Commission Meeting:** Mr. Waichulis moved to accept the minutes as distributed; seconded by Mr. Rueth; motion carried.
4. **Review and Approve Disbursements:** A motion was made by Mr. Johnson to approve the disbursements, seconded by Mr. Weisenbeck; motion carried.
5. **Presentation on the 2016 Momentum West Talent Initiative:** Mr. Jahn gave a brief background of Momentum West, including organizational goals and priorities. One item that Momentum wants to address in 2016 is the shortage of skilled workers in the region. They are planning to do this through the newly established Talent Initiative. The Talent Initiative will address the talent shortage and identify other efforts currently underway to keep workers in the area. A working group will be created and will coordinate efforts with universities, Workforce Development, and other parties. A Regional Planning representative will be included in these efforts as work is underway.
6. **Presentation on the 2015 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Document:** Ms. LeMahieu provided follow up information to Commissioners in response to questions and/or clarification requests that had been asked at the last Commission meeting. Commissioners again praised the new look and plethora of information contained in the CEDS document.

At this time, Ms. Lippert joined the meeting and gave an update on the activities of the Governor and her office.

7. **Town of St. Joseph Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Application Agreement:** Ms. Nelson noted that the Town of St. Joseph asked for assistance in preparing a TAP application requesting funds to complete a segment of a bike trail in the Town. Ms. Clark made a motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Mr. Johnson; motion carried.
8. **City of Chippewa Falls Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Application Agreement:** Ms. Nelson explained that the City is requesting assistance in preparing a TAP application. The funds will be used to implement projects identified in the Safe Routes to School Plan. A motion was made by Mr. Johnson to approve the agreement, seconded by Mr. Turner; motion carried.
9. **Resolution of Support for a Regional WisDOT 2016-2010 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Safe Routes to School Application:** Ms. Nelson stated that WCWRPC is submitting a TAP application for completion of Safe Routes to School Plans for three communities/school districts in the region (Cadott, Altoona, Eau Claire). Since the WCWRPC is the application sponsor, a Resolution of Support needs to be included with the application. Mr. Weisenbeck moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Waichulis; motion carried.
10. **Agreement for Facilitation of a Planning Project to Define Environmentally Sensitive and Conservation Features in Dunn County:** Staff is proposing to enter into an agreement with Dunn County to facilitate a planning project discussing and developing a consensus on shared definitions for environmentally sensitive areas/conservation features. A document will be developed to be utilized by

individuals and organizations throughout the County. Motion made by Mr. Rasmussen to approve the agreement; seconded by Mr. Walter; motion carried.

11. **Cooperative Agreement with Eau Claire County for Storm Water Outreach Coordinator Position:** WCWRPC is proposing to enter into an agreement with Eau Claire County to provide staffing to fill a Storm Water Outreach Coordinator position for the Rain to Rivers Coalition. Some concern was expressed by Commissioners if the fee would cover the costs. After some discussion, Ms. Clark moved to approve the agreement, seconded by Mr. Turner; motion carried.
12. **Resolution Authorizing Submission of a DNR Lake Management Planning Implementation Grant on Behalf of the Red Cedar Watershed Working Group:** The Red Cedar Watershed Working Group requested WCWRPC to act as a sponsor and submit an application to the DNR. The WCWRPC will provide overall coordination if the project is funded. Mr. Rasmussen moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Walter; motion carried.
13. **Town of Lakeland Land Division Ordinance Development Agreement:** The Town is requesting technical assistance for the development of a land division ordinance and procedural handbook. Mr. Williams moved to approve the agreement, seconded by Mr. Turner; motion carried.
14. **Discussion/Approval of 2016 Budget and Work Program:** Ms. Nelson explained that the work program report shows the project activities under various program areas and how funds (including levy monies) are spent for 2016. Mr. Turner made a motion to approve the budget and work program, seconded by Mr. Waichulis; motion carried.
15. **Director's Report:** Ms. Nelson updated Commissioners on project, budget, and staffing activities. She reminded Commissioners that there will be a tour of the Fire Station following lunch.
16. **Next Executive Committee Meeting Date:** A date for the next meeting has not been established.
17. **Next Commission Meeting Date:** The next Commission meeting will be Friday, March 11, 2016 in Barron County.
18. **Adjournment:** Mr. Waichulis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Walter; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Prepared by: Lisa K. Ruth