

**Minutes of the
West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC) Meeting
Thursday, July 13, 2017 - 10:00 a.m.
Interstate Park, St. Croix Falls, WI**

Commissioners Present: Jess Miller, Ken Jost, Gary Taxdahl, Anson Albarado, Joe Waichulis, Chuck Rueth, Norman Wesenberg, Richard Creaser, Robert Walter, John Frank, Kathleen Clark, Gordy Steinhauer, William Johnson, Joe Demulling, Tracy LaBlanc, Larry Weisenbeck, Tom Coulter, Agnes Ring

Commissioners Absent: Jason Bergeron, Steve Gerrish, Tom Quinn

Staff Present: Lynn Nelson, Lisa Ruth, Chris Straight

Visitors Present: Wayne Hendrickson, Clark County Board Chair; Mary Ann Lippert, Governor's Northern Region Office

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. **Welcome and Introductions:** William Johnson welcomed the Commissioners to Polk County.
3. **Minutes of May 11, 2017 Commission Meeting:** Mr. Waichulis moved to accept the minutes as distributed; seconded by Mr. Coulter; motion carried.
4. **Review and Approve Disbursements:** A motion was made by Mr. Taxdahl to approve the disbursements, seconded by Mr. Demulling; motion carried.
5. **Staff Presentation on Water Quality Projects:** Mr. Straight provided an update on several water quality related projects staff have been working on. These include: Dunn County Livestock Operations Study Group, Eau Claire River Watershed Strategy, Rain to Rivers staffing assistance, Environmentally Sensitive Areas project for Dunn County, and a regional Floodplain Mapping Survey.
6. **Three County Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan Agreement:** Chippewa, Dunn, and Eau Claire Counties would like to utilize staff expertise for completion of three county bicycle and pedestrian plans. Ms. Nelson also noted that WCWRPC is requesting suggestions for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) applications for the next funding cycle. Those applications should be due in late 2017. Mr. Walter moved to approve the agreement, seconded by Mr. Frank; motion carried.
7. **Policy and Procedural Update of the Chippewa/Eau Claire Sewer Service Area Plan Agreement:** Mr. Straight stated that the region has three sewer service areas – Eau Claire, Hudson, and Menomonie. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has, up until this point, lacked funding to begin updating plans covering these areas. This DNR funding will allow WCWRPC to update the policies and procedures portion of the Chippewa/Eau Claire Sewer Service Area Plan. Mr. Johnson moved to approve the agreement, seconded by Mr. Albarado; motion carried.
8. **Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Economic Development Activities in Eau Claire County:** Ms. Nelson explained that Eau Claire County, along with a variety of partner organizations, has been going through a strategic planning process to examine economic development activities and delivery mechanisms for the county. WCWRPC has attended meetings as part of that process. The County is now asking participants to sign an MOU as a sign of their willingness to continue participation into the next phase of discussions. WCWRPC participation is limited to attendance at meetings. Mr. Frank moved that WCWRPC enter into the MOU, seconded by Mr. Walter; motion carried.
9. **2018 Preliminary Budget Review:** Ms. Nelson stated that WCWRPC must adopt a draft budget for the coming calendar year prior to October 1st of the current year. The final review/adoption of the 2018 preliminary budget will be at the September meeting. The presented 2018 draft budget was an initial look at the budget for review and input. After some discussion, the Commissioners stated the 2018 budget looked good.
10. **Director's Report:** Ms. Nelson reported on various project, budget, and staffing activities. The highlights included floodplain mapping, the transport of people with mental health issues, having the Association of Wisconsin Regional Planning Commissions (AWRPC) host a summit for staff and commissioners (which was directed to be discussed at the Wisconsin Counties Association annual

conference in September and possibly the next Executive Committee meeting), and a potential regional housing study regarding housing shortages. Commissioners provided input regarding what they have been seeing regarding housing needs for their respective areas.

Mary Ann Lippert of the Governor's Northern Office updated Commissioners on assorted activities of the Governor and his staff.

11. **Next Executive Committee Meeting Date:** To be determined.
12. **Next Commission Meeting Date:** The next full Commission will be meeting September 14, 2017 in Eau Claire County.
13. **Adjournment:** Mr. Albarado moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Waichulis; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Prepared by: Lisa K. Ruth