

**Minutes of
West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
9:00 a.m., Thursday, July 22, 2015
Momma Maria's, North Hudson, WI**

Commissioners Present: Jess Miller, Lee McIlquham, Florian Skwierczynski, Mike Goettl; Chuck Rueth, Norman Wesenberg, Joe Waichulis, Richard Creaser, Steve Rasmussen, Robert Walter, Kathy Clark, John Frank, William Johnson, Warren Nelson, Craig Moriak, Agnes Ring, Larry Weisenbeck
Commissioners Absent: Ken Jost, Travis Turner, Gordy Steinhauer, Travis Schachtner
Staff Present: Lynn Nelson, Lisa Ruth, Ann Schell, Tobi LeMahieu, Jason Duba, Landon Profaizer
Visitors Present: Jon Hochkammer, Wisconsin Counties Association; Scott Bolstad, Senator Ron Johnson's Office

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Welcome and Introductions:** Chair Miller introduced the new member of the staff, Landon Profaizer.
3. **Action Items:**
Minutes of May 14, 2015 Commission Meeting: Mr. Johnson moved to accept the minutes as distributed; seconded by Mr. Rueth; motion carried.
4. **Review and Approve Disbursements:** A motion was made by Mr. Waichulis to approve the disbursements, seconded by Ms. Clark; motion carried.
5. **Presentation by Jon Hochkammer from Wisconsin Counties Association:** Mr. Hochkammer made a presentation on the State of Wisconsin's budget process. He explained legislative composition, assembly/senate matters (i.e., turnovers, historical make-up, approval ratings of the senate/assembly), tax structure, state expenditures, budget challenges, and revenue growth. He emphasized the importance of communicating with our state representatives regarding the work that Regional Planning Commissions do, and also the importance of Commissioners reporting on WCWRPC matters to their county boards.
6. **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Process Update and Input Session:** Ms. LeMahieu noted that EDA requires an update to the CEDS every five years, with annual reports submitted in the other years. In 2015 we are due to prepare an update, a process that is already underway. She described the background data that has been collected, the process that will be used to ensure an accurate portrayal of the region, and a survey that will be sent out to entities involved in the economy of the region. Input will be asked of Commissioners at the next meeting as well. Ms. Ring asked that the final report be posted to our web site.
7. **Director's Report:** Ms. Nelson gave a report on the RBF situation, RPC finances, and projects and activities of the staff.

At this time, Chair Miller asked if Mr. Bolstad had any news he would like to share. Mr. Bolstad gave a brief update on Senator Johnson's legislative activities and activities of the Senate in general.

8. **City of Rice Lake Comprehensive Plan Update Agreement:** Ms. Nelson noted that the City of Rice Lake is requesting the WCWRPC to update their comprehensive plan. Motion by Mr. Johnson to approve the agreement, seconded by Mr. Rueth; motion carried.
9. **Subcontract Agreement with Toole Design, LLC for Completion of the St. Croix County Bike and Pedestrian Plan:** Ms. Nelson stated that the RPC will be coordinating with Toole Design, LLC to assist with the completion of a Bike and Pedestrian Plan for St. Croix County. Mr. Rasmussen moved to approve the agreement, seconded by Ms. Ring; motion carried.

10. **City of Neillsville Project Plan Amendment for TIF District #2 Agreement:** Ms. Nelson explained the City of Neillsville has requested assistance in preparing a plan amendment for TIF District #2. Mr. Waichulis moved to approve the agreement, seconded by Mr. Walter; motion carried.
11. **Presentation by Agnes Ring, St. Croix County Community Development Committee Chair on the St. Croix Crossing Bridge and Its Impacts:** Ms. Ring noted that Tom Spaniol, Chair for the Town of St. Joseph could not attend. Ms. Ring gave an overview of the work that has gone into this project. She briefly explained the numerous meetings with various groups, committees, and government agencies. She went over the costs involved and how many years it has taken for the bridge to finally come about.
12. **Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be Thursday, September 10th to be held in Clark County.
13. **Adjournment:** Mr. Waichulis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Goettl; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Prepared by: Lisa K. Ruth