

Minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee
Chippewa-Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Organization
Wednesday, January 13, 2021, 1:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting, Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Members Present: Rod Eslinger, Eau Claire County; Mary Forlenza, FHWA; Evan Gross, FTA; Janelle Henning, Town of Washington; Brad Hentschel, City of Chippewa Falls; Jon Johnson, Eau Claire County; Diane Paoni, WisDOT; Rick Rubenzer, City of Chippewa Falls; Dena Ryan, WisDOT; Trevor Wittwer, City of Eau Claire

Staff Present: Edwin Rothrock, WCWRPC; Eric Anderson, WCWRPC; Ann Schell, WCWRPC;

1. The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:30 p.m.
2. Welcome and introductions were made.
3. The minutes of the September 23, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved following a motion by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Henning.
4. Mr. Eric Anderson presented Amendment #9 to the *Transportation Improvement Program for the Eau Claire Urbanized Area, 2020-2024*. The Amendment was unanimously recommended for approval following a motion by Mr. Rubenzer and seconded by Mr. Johnson.

5. Mr. Eric Anderson presented the Draft chapters the *Long Range Transportation Plan* update. There was some discussion of the long-range funding shortfall depicted in the Financial Plan for Implementation chapter. It was agreed that more MPOs were displaying the projected shortfalls, while maintaining the required financial constraint of the plan. It was also discussed that this practice was good for making the case for increased funding from federal and state sources as legislation and budgets are being considered.

With a motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Rubenzer, the Long Range Transportation Plan – Chippewa-Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Organization was unanimously recommended for approval by the MPO Council.

6. Mr. Anderson presented a list of projects to be undertaken by the MPO staff in 2021. This item required no action by the TAC.
7. Other Business:

Mr. Eric Anderson introduced Mr. Edwin Rothrock, the new transportation staff member at WCWRPC. Mr. Rothrock noted that he had worked in publishing for his first career, returning to school in recent years to complete his masters' degree in planning, most recently working for Topeka Metro (Kansas). He has been with the RPC for a couple of months and is looking forward his future work with the TAC.

Ms. Schell thanked the TAC for the past 13 years and noted that she would be retiring, as of February 5, 2021. She noted that she had no particular plans, but is looking forward to future travels.

Ms. Paoni informed the TAC of upcoming links to the Freight Advisory Committee meeting with some interesting data relative to the effects of COVID-19 on freight flow in the State and beyond. That link will be available on the WisDOT website, soon.

8. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 14, 2021.
9. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:10 p.m. following a motion by Mr. Rubenzer and seconded by Mr. Eslinger.