

**Minutes of the
West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC) Meeting
Thursday, January 13, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.
Zoom Video/Dial-In Meeting**

Commissioners Present: Stan Buchanan, Louie Okey, Gary Taxdahl, Dave Eisenhuth, Don Hauser, Joe Waichulis, Peter Kaz, Diane Morehouse, Tom Quinn, Steve Rasmussen, John Frank, Connie Russell, Dane Zook, Terry Hauer, Judy Achterhof, Larry Weisenbeck, Dan Hansen

Commissioners Absent: Lee McMenamin, Allen Krause, Steve Warndahl, Tracy LaBlanc

Staff Present: Lynn Nelson, Lisa Ruth, Chris Straight, Landon Profaizer, Karman Briggs, Michael Mills

Others Present: Tyler Gruetzmacher, Barron County Conservationist; Jim Arch, Clark County Conservationist; Greg Leonard, Eau Claire County Land Conservation Manager; Heather Wood, Dunn County Water Resources Specialist; Lynda Schweikert, Grant County Conservation; Dan Zerr, UW Extension Natural Resources Educator; Eric Olson, UW-Stevens Point Director and Lake Specialist at the Extension Lakes Program; Katelin Anderson, Polk County Environmental Services

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Chair John Frank.
2. **Welcome and Introduction of Commissioners and Guests:** Guests were introduced.
3. **Welcome and Introduction of New Lending Specialist Karman Briggs and New Assistant Planner Jessica Peterson:** Ms. Briggs gave a brief background of her qualifications and previous employment. Ms. Peterson was unable to attend the meeting.
4. **Review and Approve Minutes of November 11, 2021 Commission Meeting:** Mr. Okey moved to accept the minutes as distributed, seconded by Mr. Rasmussen; motion carried.
5. **Review and Approve Disbursements:** A motion was made by Mr. Waichulis to approve December 2021 and January 2022 disbursements, seconded by Mr. Weisenbeck; motion carried.
6. **Presentation by Staff and Guests Regarding Surface Water Quality Resources in West Central Wisconsin:** Executive Director Lynn Nelson noted that conversations have taken place regarding resources available to lake groups and others interested in surface water quality in west central Wisconsin. This presentation was meant to provide information on existing resources and the roles of participating organizations/partners. Eric Olson provided information on state funding resources and staffing assistance available through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and other organizations. Senior Planner Chris Straight went over surface water activities undertaken by the WCWRPC, various partners and organizations in the region, and what should/could be WCWRPC roles. Creative Content Manager/Associate Planner Landon Profaizer provided background on the Rain to Rivers initiative, members and support groups, and examples of public outreach. Other guests present from the various county conservation agencies touched on lake management programs and activities in their areas.
7. **Discussion/Approval of 2022 Work Program and Budget:** Ms. Nelson explained that a preliminary 2022 budget was approved by the Commission in September of 2021. The final 2022 work program and budget is now being presented for approval. She noted some minor changes from the preliminary budget approval. Mr. Okey moved to approve the 2022 Work Program and Budget, seconded by Mr. Zook; motion carried.
8. **Resolution Authorizing Submission and Matching Funds for a Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation, Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Application for Continuation of a Regional Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program:** A TAP application is being proposed for

submission to the Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation. The application will request funding for continuation of a regional SRTS program for state fiscal years 2024-2026. Mr. Waichulis moved to approve the submission of the TAP application and commitment of matching funds for component three at a dollar amount of \$7,875, seconded by Ms. Morehouse; motion carried.

9. **Director's Report:** Ms. Nelson highlighted project, budget, and staffing activities.
10. **Next Executive Committee Meeting Date:** The next Executive Committee meeting is immediately following today's Commission meeting.
11. **Next Commission Meeting Date:** The next Commission meeting is FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2022.
12. **Adjournment:** Motion was made by Ms. Morehouse, seconded by Mr. Taxdahl to adjourn; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Prepared by: Lisa K. Ruth