

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC)
Thursday, July 11, 2024; 10:00 a.m.
Turtleback Golf Course Events Center
1985 18 ½ Street, Rice Lake, WI**

Commissioners Present: John Frank, Louie Okey, Joe Waichulis, George Rohmeyer, Steve Rasmussen, Chuck Hull, Peter Kaz, Dane Zook, Patti Anderson, Chuck Rueth, Carl Vandermeulen, Lorelee Clark, Paul Berning, Terry Hauer, Craig Fowler, Keith Karpenski, Sharon Kelly

Commissioners Absent: Dan Hansen, Diane Morehouse, Joel Seidlitz, Ryan Sicard

Staff Present: Scott Allen, Erin Whyte

1. **Call to Order** – John Frank called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. **Welcome and Introductions** – Frank welcomed the commissioners and introductions were made around the room. Special guest Larry D. Wiemer II, Executive Director of WHEFA, was also introduced and present.
3. **Review and Approve Minutes of May 23, 2024, Commission Meeting** – A motion was made by Rasmussen to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2024, Commission Meeting, seconded by Kaz; motion carried.
4. **Review and Approve Disbursements** – A motion to approve the disbursements was made by Kaz, seconded by Berning; motion carried.
5. **2025 Preliminary Budget Review** – Chair Frank called on WCWRPC Director Allen to review the handout of the 2025 budget; feedback from the Commission was discussed with a main focus on a new staff vehicle for the office. Options were discussed such as leasing and renting vehicles versus buying one. More information will be researched on these options. Other budget items mentioned were the increases to health insurance, office rent, certifications for staff, and travel for meetings and Commissioner expenses.
6. **Report on WCWRPC Employee Handbook’s Remote Work Policy** – Director Allen presented his report (handout) on Remote Work Policy updates as requested by the Commissioners; a status report on the policy’s implementation was discussed and everything looked to be on par.

BREAK @ 10:40 am to 10:50am; Chair Frank recessed the meeting for a 10-minute break.

7. **Presentation on WHEFA** – Larry Wiemer presented on the work of his agency, Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority (WHEFA), particularly on the value of non-profit bond financing for healthy and education projects.
8. **Director’s Report** – Director Allen provided an update on project, budget, and staffing activities such as RBF updates on loans, SRTS Walk and Roll challenge, updated HUD CDBG-eligible communities, County Economic profiles, AWRPC Summit, and staff strategic planning updates.
9. **Any Other Business or Updates** – Executive Director Allen did not have any other business or updates to share at this time.

10. **Next Commission Meeting Date** – Thursday, September 12, 2024; 10:00 a.m. at Banbury Place, Eau Claire Conference Room, Eau Claire
11. **Next Executive Committee Meeting Date** – Thursday, August 8, 2024; 10:00 a.m. at Banbury Place, Eau Claire
12. **Adjournment** – On a motion by Waichulis, seconded by Berning, the meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Prepared by Erin Whyte

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