

**Minutes of the  
West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Executive Commission (WCWRPC)  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Thursday, October 12, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.  
Banbury Place, 800 Wisconsin Street, Building D, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Suite 405 H  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703  
(Down the Hall from the WCWRPC Offices)**

**Commissioners Present:** Louie Okey, George Rohmeyer, Steve Rasmussen, John Frank, Ryan Sicard (via Zoom)

**Commissioners Absent:** Joe Waichulis, Jeremy Hall

**Staff Present:** Scott Allen, Erin Whyte, Kim Zimmerman

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Louie Okey.
2. **Review and Approve Minutes of August 10, 2023, Executive Committee Meeting –** Okey- Motion by Rohmeyer and seconded by Rasmussen; motion carried.
3. **Approval of Candidate for Open Assistant Planner Position –** Executive Director Allen/ Okey-Candidate Emily Huerta is recommended as our new Assistant Planner, to start Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>. Motion by Rohmeyer and seconded by Rasmussen; motion passed.
4. **2024 Changes to WCWRPC Staff Health Insurance Rates-** Finance Manager Zimmerman/Allen/Okey- In October 2022 the Commission adopted a policy change to cover 88% of the lowest cost insurance plan for 2023. As of the review and adoption of the 2024 preliminary budget, newly released prices of insurance for 2024 reflect an increase in price. The changes in health insurance cost were assessed and options reviewed, a motion by Sicard to update the policy to cover 88% of the lowest average cost of all Tier 1 plan premiums, seconded by Rohmeyer; motion carried.
5. **Update to WCWRPC Employee Handbook to Add a Remote Work Policy–** Allen/Okey- Director Allen presented a more formal Remote Work Policy; in order to promote a consistent and equitable, yet flexible, work environment. Sicard noted that he supports a remote work policy and recommended that this draft be reviewed and revised. He added that a status report be provided 6-9 months following adoption of final policy. The Committee recommended that Frank and Allen work on a revised draft policy. This will be discussed at the next November Commission meeting, providing that Allen and Frank are able to come up with procedures to the policy that are fitting for everyone involved.
6. **WEDC Policy Academy Update-** Allen gave an overview of the 'Policy Academy'; to identify and align policies and plans that will improve efficiency and collaboration in a shared effort to promote rural economic prosperity with Momentum West; workshop planned as part of the WEDC Annual Summit on October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

7. **Any Other Business or Updates-** Allen/Okey-Allen reviewed other updates within the office with future events and agenda items coming soon.
8. **Next Executive Committee Meeting Date-** Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023- Location TBD
9. **Next Commission Meeting Date-**Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023-Dunn County Government Center, 2001 Highway 12 East, Room 54, Menomonie, WI.
10. **Adjournment-**Okey- Meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.  
Prepared by: Erin Whyte