

# CHIPPEWA-EAU CLAIRE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



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## **Minutes of the Chippewa-Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Policy Council**

*Wednesday, October 9th, 2024, 5:30 p.m.*

*Held at: L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library, Carnegie Room, 400 Eau Claire Street, Eau Claire, WI*

**Members Present (10):** Gary Spilde - Village of Lake Hallie (Chair), Connie Russell – Eau Claire County (Vice-chair), Duane Shoebridge - Chippewa County, Matt Biren – City of Altoona, Greg Hoffman – City of Chippewa Falls, Emily Berge – City of Eau Claire, Rod Eslinger – Town of Hallie, Jennifer Meyer – Town of Union, Robert Solberg – Town of Washington, Carolyn Kaiser – Town of Wheaton

**Members with no representative present (7):** Town of Anson, Town of Brunswick, Town of Eagle Point, Town of Lafayette, Town of Pleasant Valley, Town of Tilden

**Staff Present:** Eric Anderson & Edwin Rothrock - Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO, Scott Allen – WCWRPC

### **Minutes**

1. Chairman Spilde called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Review and Approval of the minutes of the August 28th, 2024, MPO Policy Council meeting. Mr. Solberg moved to approve; Mr. Eslinger seconded the motion. The motion to approve passed unanimously.
4. The minutes of the September 18th, 2024, MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting were reviewed.
5. Mr. Anderson presented Amendment #4 (Projects) to the Chippewa – Eau Claire MPO Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) 2024-2028. He explained that the Eau Claire section of the amendment was to update operating expenses for the transit operations. Mr. Hoffman moved to approve, Ms. Berge seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
6. Mr. Anderson asked the Policy Council to recertify the 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He explained that since the MPO uses a two-year cycle to update the TIP, as opposed to some which use a 1-year cycle, WisDOT requires that the TIP be recertified by the Policy Council on the years it is not being updated. Mr. Biren moved to recertify the TIP, seconded by Ms. Berge. The motion to recertify passed unanimously.
7. Mr. Anderson presented an amendment to the 2024 Urban Work Program to include the work being done on the Sewer Service Plan update. WisDOT has asked that this amendment be made to specifically cover that work being done by the MPO. Mr. Eslinger moved to approve the amendment, Mr. Solberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
8. Mr. Anderson presented the updated draft of the 2025 Urban Work Program for approval. He explained that the only change from the draft presented at the Last Policy Council meeting was the addition of the Sewer Service Area Plan work as requested by WisDOT. Ms. Meyer moved to approve, Mr. Hoffman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
9. Mr. Anderson stated that the City of Eau Claire had asked for a motion to reconsider the August 18<sup>th</sup> Policy Council approval of the Study Area Boundary (a.k.a. “Planning Area” boundary in controlling legislation) for the Sewer Service Area update. Ms. Berge spoke about her reconsideration of her vote on that day in favor of the plan with the two boundary changes from the boundary the RPC had proposed. She also shared that City staff was of the opinion that each of the changes should have been voted on separately. Ms. Berge made a motion

to reconsider the approval of the SSA boundary issue. The motion was seconded by Mr. Biren. A vote on the motion was taken resulting in 4 Yea (Berge, Biren, Eslinger, Hoffman) votes and 4 Nay (Kaiser, Meyer, Solberg, Spilde) votes (counties are not eligible to vote on water quality items, so neither Chippewa or Eau Claire County were eligible to cast a vote). The motion to reconsider was not approved.

10. Mr. Anderson presented the current list of entities eligible to participate as voting member of the TAC. He stated that while the TAC make-up had been approved at some point by the Policy Council, that approval was long enough ago that it would be prudent to reconfirm that membership list. He also suggested that, to be equitable with the representation that Eau Claire County has on the TAC, that Chippewa County be allocated an additional position to represent their Planning and Zoning Department. Mr. Biren made a motion to confirm that membership list with the addition of a member of the Chippewa County Planning and Zoning Department. Ms. Meyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
11. Other Business – Mr. Anderson briefly discussed the upcoming start of the Long Range Transportation Plan update process. He mentioned how the broad support from MPO members had been very helpful in getting extensive public participation for the last update and asked that staff receive the same support for this cycle. There was general agreement in the room that members would be supportive once again. Mr. Eslinger requested that the MPO Bylaws be distributed to the Policy Council.
12. The next meeting date was tentatively set for January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
13. Adjournment – Mr. Hoffman moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Shoebridge seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Spilde adjourned the meeting at 6:03 p.m.