

CHIPPEWA-EAU CLAIRE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



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

Wednesday, August 28th, 2024, 5:30 p.m.

Held at: Eau Claire Room, Building 2, Banbury Place, 800 Wisconsin Street, Eau Claire, WI

Members Present (9+1): Gary Spilde - Village of Lake Hallie (Chair), Connie Russell – Eau Claire County (Vice-chair), Matt Biren – City of Altoona, Emily Berge – City of Eau Claire, Deirdre Jenkins – Eau Claire County (attending, non-voting), Rod Eslinger – Town of Hallie, Jessica Janssen – Town of Seymour, Jennifer Meyer – Town of Union, Robert Solberg – Town of Washington, Caroline Kaiser – Town of Wheaton

Members with no representative present (8): Chippewa County, City of Chippewa Falls, 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, Chris Straight – WCWRPC

Minutes

1. Chairman Spilde called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Review and Approval of the minutes of the May 1st, 2024, MPO Policy Council meeting. Mr. Biren moved to approve; Mr. Eslinger seconded the motion. The motion to approve passed unanimously.
4. The minutes of the August 14th, 2024, MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting were reviewed. Mr. Rothrock noted an error in the next meeting date and will update the minutes.
5. Mr. Anderson presented Amendment #3 (Projects) to the Chippewa – Eau Claire MPO Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) 2024-2028. Ms. Berge moved to approve. Ms. Janssen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
6. Mr. Anderson presented the draft of the 2025 Urban Work Program. He discussed various projects included and stated that the final Program will be presented for approval at the next MPO Policy Council meeting. Various questions about specific tasks in the Program were asked by Members and answered by Mr. Anderson and Mr. Rothrock.
7. Mr. Straight presented the recommendation from the WCWRPC for the Study Area Boundary (a.k.a. “Planning Area” boundary in controlling legislation) for the Sewer Service Area update. He also presented feedback received during the Water Quality Management Technical Advisory Committee (WQM-TAC) and afterwards for suggested modifications including: Chippewa Falls requested that an area west of the intersection of US-53 and County Trunk Highway S be added; and the Town of Union requested that the Study Area Boundary within the Town be moved to the 2005 Study Area Boundary. Mr. Straight also discussed the limited budget provided by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the resulting limit on staff time and, in light of these limitations, a desire to move forward with an approved Study Area Boundary.

There was a discussion of the process for the SSA update, including the role of the WQM-TAC.

Mr. Biren made a motion to approve the WCWRPC proposed Study Area Boundary with the addition of the area requested to be added by the City of Chippewa Falls. That motion was seconded by Ms. Berge. There was further discussion about the boundaries within the Town of Union during which Ms. Meyers suggested that the recently approved Chippewa- Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) boundary would be a reasonable boundary within the Town of Union. A vote on Mr. Biren’s motion was taken resulting in 4 Yea votes and 4 Nay

votes (counties are not eligible to vote on water quality items, so Eau Claire County did not cast a vote). The motion failed.

Ms. Janssen made a motion to approve the WCWRPC proposed boundary with the addition of the area requested by Chippewa Falls as well as moving the Boundary with the Town of Union to follow the MPA boundary as closely as allowed for whole data units (Traffic Analysis Zones or Census Blocks) being used for data analysis. This would be inclusive of the whole data block if any of the block fell within the MPA boundary. This motion was seconded by Mr. Solberg. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Other Business – None

9. The next meeting date was tentatively set for October 9th, 2024.

10. Adjournment – Mr. Eslinger moved to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Meyers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Spilde adjourned the meeting at 6:44 p.m.