

**Minutes of the  
West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC) Meeting  
Thursday, May 11, 2023 - 1:00 p.m.  
Eau Claire Conference Room, Third Floor of Building D, Banbury Place 800 Wisconsin Street,  
Eau Claire, WI**

**Commissioners Present:** Louie Okey, Stan Buchanan, Chuck Hull, George Rohmeyer, Peter Kaz, Allen Krause, Joe Waichulis, Steve Rasmussen, John Frank, Dane Zook, Terry Hauer, Denise L'Allier-Pray, Gary Taxdahl, Mike Barcalow, Ryan Sicard

**Commissioners Absent:** Diane Morehouse, Joel Seidlitz, Tom Quinn, Kyle Johnson, Sharon Kelly, Dan Hanson

**Staff Present:** Lynn Nelson, Erin Whyte

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Louie Okey.
2. **Welcome and Introduction of Commissioners and Guests – Okey**
3. **Welcome and Introduction of New Staff Members - Senior Planner Ross Pietrzak and Office Manager Erin Whyte – Okey/Executive Director Lynn Nelson/Pietrzak/Whyte**
4. **Review and Approve Minutes of March 10th, 2023, Commission Meeting –** A motion was made by Mr. Waichulis to approve the minutes of March 10<sup>th</sup> commissioners meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Barcalow; Motion carried.
5. **Review and Approve Disbursements –** A motion was made by Mr. Buchanan to approve the disbursements provided, seconded by Mr. Rasmussen; Motion carried.
6. **Presentation of 2022 Audit –** April Anderson, CPA, CliftonLarsonAllen/Okey  
April Anderson presented the results of the WCWRPC 2022 audit, she informed us that the balance was positive and back to normal after the Main Street bounce back grants. A motion was made to accept the 2022 audit as presented by Mr. Sicard, seconded by Denise L'Allier-Pray; Motion carried.
7. **Staff Presentations on:**
  - **Upcoming Downtown Buildings Workshops –** Senior Planner Chris Straight
  - **GIS Capabilities –** Associate Planner Landon Profaizer and Assistant Planner Michael Mills
  - **Existing and New Economic Data/Analysis Tools (EMSI, ESRI, Implan) –** Senior Planner Chris StraightThe above staff presentations provided information on new projects and ongoing/updated services being provided by Commission staff.
8. **Approval of Agreement with Barron County for Completion of a Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan**  
Barron County is requesting WCWRPC assistance with completion of a countywide bicycle and pedestrian plan. The plan will be partially funded by a Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) award. A motion to approve the agreement with Barron County for completion of a countywide bicycle and pedestrian plan was first made by Mr. Rasmussen, seconded by Mr. Taxdahl, Motion carried.

9. **Approval of Agreement with the Village of Roberts and Town of Warren for Completion of an Update to a Joint Comprehensive Plan for the Two Units of Government** The Village of Roberts and Town of Warren in St. Croix County are requesting WCWRPC staff assistance in updating their joint comprehensive plan. The work will be completed with input and oversight from a joint Planning Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Waichulis, seconded by Mr. Barcalow; Motion carried.
10. **Approval of Lending Specialist Candidate:** Approval for Amanda Veith to fill WCWRPC's open Lending Specialist position was presented. Amanda has an extensive lending background with RCU, 12 years of experience and will be trained in on the commercial lending side of things with RBF. A motion was made to hire Amanda Veith for the lending specialist position by Mr. Kaz, seconded by Mr. Barcalow, Motion carried.

#### **11. Director's Report**

Nelson provided an update on project, budget, and staffing activities. Nelson informed all that the new Executive Director Scott Allen will be starting Monday May 15<sup>th</sup>; Nelsons last day will be June 23<sup>rd</sup>. She noted that all positions that were open for hiring are now filled.

#### Open Session

12. **Next Commission Meeting Date** – Thursday, July 13, 2023, 10:00 a.m. – Location to Be Determined
13. **Next Executive Committee Meeting Date** – Thursday, June 8, 2023, 10:00 a.m. – Banbury Place, Eau Claire
14. **Motion to Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.