

**Minutes of the
West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC) Meeting
Thursday, September 8 2022 - 10:00 a.m.
Cindy's
Thorp, WI**

Commissioners Present: Stan Buchanan, Louie Okey, Chuck Hull, George Rohmeyer, Joe Waichulis, Peter Kaz, Allen Krause, Steve Rasmussen, John Frank, Dane Zook, Sharon Kelly, Mike Barcalow, Dan Hansen

Commissioners Absent: Gary Taxdahl, Joel Seidlitz, Diane Morehouse, Tom Quinn, Kyle Johnson, Terry Hauer, Denise L'Allier-Pray, Ryan Sicard

Staff Present: Lynn Nelson, Lisa Ruth, Susan Badtke, Chris Straight, Hailee Bushman

Others Present: Sheila Nyberg, Clark County EDC and Tourism Bureau

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Chair Louie Okey. Roll call was taken.
2. **Welcome and Introduction of Commissioners and Guests:** Guests introduced themselves.
3. **Review and Approve Minutes of July 14, 2022 Commission Meeting:** Mr. Barcalow moved to accept the minutes as distributed, seconded by Mr. Krause; motion carried.
4. **Review and Approve Disbursements:** A motion was made by Mr. Buchanan to approve the disbursements as presented, seconded by Mr. Rasmussen; motion carried.
5. **Staff Presentations:**
 - Senior Planner Susan Badtke-Mainstreet Bounceback Program:** Ms. Badtke gave a presentation discussing program basics, purpose, criteria, and process of the Bounceback Program. She summarized grants awarded to-date and specifically grants awarded in Thorp.
 - Senior Planner Chris Straight-Outdoor Recreation Planning:** Mr. Straight noted the outdoor recreation plans that were being updated in our region. He informed the Commissioners of grants available from the Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources and eligible and non-eligible projects within those programs.
 - Assistant Planner Hailee Bushman-Safe Routes to School (SRTS):** Ms. Bushman started with summarizing the Safe Routes to School Program in Thorp. She then gave a background on funding, SRTS programs completed in our region, and programs being initiated.

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6. **2023 Preliminary Budget Approval:** Executive Director Lynn Nelson stated that as per state statutes a budget must annually be approved on or before October 1st for the coming calendar year. She noted that the Executive Committee reviewed a preliminary 2023 budget in June. The full Commission then reviewed the same budget in July. The 2023 preliminary budget is now before the Commission for approval. The final budget will be approved in January. Mr. Kaz moved to approve the preliminary budget as presented, seconded by Mr. Barcalow; motion carried.
7. **Barron County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Agreement:** Barron County is requesting assistance in preparing a countywide bicycle and pedestrian plan. Ms. Kelly moved to approve the agreement, seconded by Mr. Rohmeyer; motion carried.

8. **Chippewa County Outdoor Recreation Plan Update Agreement:** Chippewa County is requesting assistance in updating its Outdoor Recreation Plan which was last updated for the years 2010-2015. Motion by Mr. Rasmussen to approve the agreement; seconded by Mr. Kaz; motion carried.
9. **Polk County All Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Agreement:** Polk County is asking for assistance in updating the Polk County All Hazard Mitigation Plan. This update will assist the county in maintaining FEMA mitigation grant eligibility. Mr. Buchanan moved to approve the agreement, seconded by Ms. Kelly; motion carried.
10. **St. Croix County All Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Agreement:** St. Croix County is asking for assistance in updating the St. Croix County All Hazard Mitigation Plan. This update will assist the county in maintaining FEMA mitigation grant eligibility. Mr. Krause moved to approve the agreement, seconded by Mr. Hansen; motion carried.
11. **Director's Report:** Executive Director Nelson gave a summary of current projects and activities of the Commission. Ms. Nyberg highlighted activities, projects, and marketing events taking place in Clark County.
12. **Next Commission Meeting Date:** The next Commission meeting is Thursday, November 9, 2022 – River Falls.
13. **Next Executive Committee Meeting Date:** The next Executive Committee meeting will be Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. – Eau Claire. A sooner meeting may be necessary as well to approve staffing hires.
14. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Prepared by: Lisa K. Ruth