

**MINUTES**

**SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**QUARTERLY MEETING**

March 1, 2006

3:00 p.m.

Present:

Excused:

Commissioners:

Thomas H. Buestrin, Chairman  
Robert A. Brooks  
Kenneth C. Herro  
Gregory L. Holden  
Leonard R. Johnson  
Michael J. Miklasevich  
Allen L. Morrison  
James E. Moyer  
Daniel S. Schmidt  
Linda J. Seemeyer  
David L. Stroik  
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.

William R. Drew, Vice-Chairman  
Anthony F. Balestrieri  
Leon T. Dreger  
Adelene Greene  
Richard A. Hansen  
Lee Holloway  
Kenneth F. Miller  
Anselmo Villarreal  
Paul G. Vrakas

Absent:

Staff:

Philip C. Evenson  
Loretta Watson

Executive Director  
Executive Secretary

Guests:

Brad L. Steinke  
Lee Szymborski  
Julia Taylor

Director of Community Development, City of Mequon  
City Administrator, City of Mequon  
President, Greater Milwaukee Committee

## **ROLL CALL**

Chairman Buestrin called the 212<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Commission to order at 3:00 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum declared present. Mr. Evenson indicated for the record that Commissioners Balestrieri, Dreger, Drew, Greene, Hansen, Holloway, Miller, Villarreal, and Vrakas had asked to be excused.

## **WELCOME**

Noting that the Commission was meeting for the first time in the Mequon City Hall, Chairman Buestrin introduced Mr. Lee Szymborski, City Administrator, City of Mequon and Mr. Brad L. Steinke, Director of Community Development for the City of Mequon. Mr. Szymborski welcomed the Commission on behalf of Mayor Christine Nuernberg. He noted that Mequon has 47 square miles and a population of about 24,000, and is growing relatively slowly at one to two percent a year. The City was incorporated in 1950. The City Hall, originally a town hall, was built in 1936 with an addition built about ten years ago. He invited the Commissioners to tour the building after the meeting should time permit.

Chairman Buestrin thanked Mr. Szymborski for his remarks and Mr. Steinke for making all the necessary meeting room arrangements. Commissioner Brooks, as Chairman of the Ozaukee County Board of Supervisors, also welcomed the Commission to Ozaukee County.

## **REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE – MILWAUKEE 7**

Chairman Buestrin then asked Mr. Evenson to introduce Ms. Julia Taylor, President of the Greater Milwaukee Committee (GMC). Mr. Evenson indicated that it had been the Commission staff's pleasure to work with Julia Taylor over the past two years as the GMC lent its considerable support to the initiative that would extend commuter rail service from Kenosha through Racine to Milwaukee. In addition, Mr. Evenson indicated that the GMC was instrumental in bringing about an important private sector-public sector initiative relative to regional economic development. This initiative, branded as the Milwaukee 7, seeks to promote economic development throughout the seven southeastern Wisconsin counties served by the Regional Planning Commission. Many years ago, he said, he had come to the conclusion that such an effort had to have the strong support of the private sector and that he was glad to see that the time had come when the private sector, assisted by the public sector, was ready to promote southeastern Wisconsin as a single economic region. He had asked Ms. Taylor, he said, to brief the Commission on this important initiative.

With the aid of a series of slides (copy attached to the Minutes), Ms. Taylor then briefed the Commission on the Milwaukee 7 Economic Development Initiative. She noted that southeastern Wisconsin is competing not just within the United States but indeed globally, and that the places that are succeeding are those that view themselves as a single region. The initiative includes the creation of a thirty-one member Council comprised of leaders from both the private and public sectors. The Council is overseeing a \$12 million, five-year campaign of which over \$5 million is new money. The effort will focus on the retention, expansion, creation, and attraction of companies that create high value jobs. To do this, southeastern Wisconsin must attract both companies and talent. Projects underway, she indicated in her presentation, include initiating and operating a regional website, building and operating a resource center to be located in the We Energies headquarters, and other efforts to both market the region and retain and build companies.

A discussion followed Ms. Taylor's presentation. Mr. Miklasevich noted that a serious problem exists in the Racine area relative to the lack of young people receiving high school diplomas. The educational institutions, he noted, need to be involved in any economic development effort. Mr. Wirth commented on

the importance of telecommunications technology to economic development efforts. Mr. Morrison commented that a high work ethic in most of the Region remains, and that, too, is important to economic development.

Following the presentation and discussion, Chairman Buestrin thanked Ms. Taylor for her very informative remarks and her willingness to engage in discussion with the Commission. Mr. Evenson indicated that the Commission staff would continue to work with the Economic Development Council as it pursues its objectives over the next several years.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 7, 2005, MEETING**

On a motion by Mr. Miklasevich, seconded by Mr. Moyer, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of December 7, 2005, were approved as published.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Noting that Commissioner Hansen was unable to attend the meeting, Chairman Buestrin asked Mr. Evenson to present the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Evenson noted that a copy of the report had been provided to all Commissioners for review at the meeting. In commenting on the report, he called attention to the following items:

1. Based upon disbursements through February 5, 2006, it is projected that total disbursements for the year will approximate \$7.06 million. Revenues are projected at \$7.70 million.
2. The total amount of funds held by the Commission in the various operating, liability, and reserve accounts approximates \$2.51 million. The various accounts are identified on the second page of the report.
3. As of February 5, 2006, the Commission had in investments and cash on hand about \$5.85 million. About \$4.4 million are invested in the State of Wisconsin Local Government Pooled Investment Fund. As of February 5, 2006, that fund was yielding 4.16 percent interest. Other funds are held in savings and checking accounts at the Johnson Bank and in certificates of deposits at several banks throughout the Region.

There being no discussion, on a motion by Mr. Morrison, seconded by Mr. Herro, and carried unanimously, the Treasurer's Report for the period ending February 5, 2006, was approved (copy attached to Official Minutes).

### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Planning and Research Committee**

Noting that the Planning and Research Committee had met once since the Commission Quarterly meeting on December 7, 2005, Committee Chairman Schmidt reported the following items:

On February 15, 2006, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Reviewed and acted to recommend to the Commission for adoption an amendment to the regional water quality management plan pertaining to the sanitary sewer service area for the Village of Sussex. That amendment, scheduled for action later in this meeting, was requested by the Village of Sussex and the Town of Lisbon and involves

2. Reviewed and acted to recommend to the Commission for adoption an amendment to the regional water quality management plan pertaining to the sanitary sewer service area for the City of Mequon. That amendment, scheduled for action later in this meeting, was requested by the City of Mequon and involves
3. Reviewed and acted to recommend to the Commission for adoption an amendment to the regional water quality management plan pertaining to the sanitary sewer service area for the Village of Mukwonago. That amendment, scheduled for action later in this meeting, was requested by the Village of Mukwonago and involves
4. Reviewed and approved for publication Chapter 5 of SEWRPC Planning Report No. 52, **A Regional Water Supply Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin**. This chapter comprehensively describes the water supply system development objectives and standards.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Miklasevich, seconded by Mr. Herro, and carried unanimously, the Planning and Research Committee report was approved.

#### **Administrative Committee**

Noting that the Administrative Committee had met three times since the Commission Quarterly meeting on December 7, 2005, Committee Vice-Chairman Brooks reported the following items:

On December 22, 2005, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Reviewed and approved the Commission disbursements for three financial reporting periods: Year 2005 Nos. 23, 24, and 25, extending over the period October 31, 2005, to December 11, 2005.
2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending December 11, 2005. With about 95 percent of the year completed, the projections indicated a year end surplus of about \$60,000, exclusive of any miscellaneous revenues and interest income and not including \$200,000 set aside for placement next year in the Rockwood Drive Bond Redemption reserve account.
3. Discussed with the Commission's legal counsel, Mr. James R. Sommers potential areas of exposure to liability on the part of the Commission and its staff attendant to employment practices and professional work activities. Mr. Sommers is to work with the Commission's Executive Director and its insurance agent to address liability insurance issues and report back to the Committee with a recommendation for potential additional coverage.
4. Received a report that the Milwaukee Police Chief has communicated to the Commission that the extraordinary length of time that it took for the Milwaukee Police Department to respond to a report of a theft from a Commission survey crew vehicle may be attributed entirely to higher priority activities.
5. Received a report that the Rockwood Drive Building was broken into just prior to November 28, 2005, through entering a window in the tenant space of the building. The tenant reported that computers had been taken. The incident is being investigated by the Pewaukee Police Department. The window replacement has been completed at a cost of about \$450.
6. Approved a request by Mr. Thomas D. Patterson, a retiring Commission employee, that deferred compensation monies accumulated on his behalf in a Commission account be released to him.

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On January 26, 2006, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Reviewed and approved the Commission disbursements for two financial reporting periods: Year 2005 No. 26 and Year 2006 No. 1, extending over the period December 12, 2005, to January 8, 2006.
2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending January 8, 2006. The review focused primarily on the revenue estimates for 2006. While certain Federal and State revenues, together with limited amounts of service agreement revenues, remain to be secured, there is no reason to believe that all of the funds included in the Commission budget adopted in June 2005 will not be forthcoming.
3. Received a report that the Pewaukee Police have charged an individual attendant to a November 2005 break-in in the tenant's quarters of the Rockwood Drive Building. At the appropriate time the Commission will seek restitution of the \$450 spent by the Commission to replace a broken window.
4. Received a report that negotiations have been completed on a new lease with Medical Associates, Inc., the Commission's tenant. The lease will be for a fixed three year term beginning April 1, 2006, with the tenant having two one-year renewal options. Should the tenant fail to renew one or both of those options, appropriate costs will be charged to reimburse the Commission for improvements sought by the tenant.
5. Approved a request by the Commission staff to replace the 2000 Ford Windstar minivan with a similar Ford or Chrysler vehicle to be acquired from the State of Wisconsin vehicle bid list.

On February 23, 2006, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Reviewed and approved the Commission disbursements for two financial reporting periods: Year 2006 Nos. 2 and 3, extending over the period January 9, 2006, to February 5, 2006.
2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending February 5, 2006. With about 10 percent of the year completed, the projections indicated a year end surplus of about \$474,000, a figure that is expected to decline as the year goes on.
3. Received a report that the Commission has placed an order for a Dodge Grand Caravan vehicle at a cost of about \$16,900. This vehicle is being purchased off the State bid list from Ewald Automotive Group in Oconomowoc.
4. Received a report that the lease between the Commission and Medical Associates, Inc. for space in the Rockwood Drive building has been executed. Work will begin shortly on remodeling to meet the tenant's requirements.
5. Received a report that the Commission staff is in the process of securing a business insurance proposal from the Community Insurance Corporation, a subsidiary of the Wisconsin County Mutual Insurance Corporation. Commission business insurance coverage expires in July each year.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Mr. Moyer, and carried unanimously, the Administrative Committee report was approved.

**Executive Committee**

Noting that the Executive Committee had met three times since the Commission Quarterly meeting on December 7, 2005, Chairman Buestrin reported the following items:

On December 22, 2005, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Received and approved a report from the Administrative Committee relative to its meeting that day.
2. Reviewed and approved one contract for planning and related work. The details pertaining to that contract are set forth in a table included with the agenda for this meeting.
3. Recommended approval of five applications for Federal grants or loans as being in conformance or not in conflict with the regional plans prepared by the Commission. The details pertaining to those applications are set forth in a table also included with the agenda for this meeting.
4. Appointed Rob Richardson, the Racine County Director of Information Systems, to the Advisory Committee on Regional Telecommunications Planning.
5. Approved a contract for calendar year 2006 for the services of the Commission's Executive Director Emeritus, Dr. Kurt W. Bauer. Dr. Bauer will serve as the County Surveyor for both Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties, will chair the Advisory Committees on both telecommunications planning and water supply planning, and will help direct those two important planning efforts.

On January 26, 2006, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Received and approved a report from the Administrative Committee relative to its meeting that day.
2. Reviewed and approved four contracts for planning and related work. The details pertaining to these contracts are set forth in a table included with the agenda for this meeting.
3. Recommended approval of two applications for Federal grants or loans as being in conformance or not in conflict with the regional plans prepared by the Commission. The details pertaining to those applications are also set forth in a table included with the agenda for this meeting.
4. Approved a series of amendments to the 2005-2007 Regional Transportation Improvement Program. The amendments dealt largely with minor changes to transportation projects already included in the program, with 16 projects selected to receive special Federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funding, and with county and local highway projects selected for Federal Surface Transportation Program funding in the Milwaukee urbanized area.
5. Received a staff report that the work program and related documentation sought by Commissioner Lee Holloway in his capacity as Chairman of the Milwaukee County Board had been submitted to Mr. Holloway.
6. Received a staff report that, owing in part to newly enacted Federal planning requirements, the new regional land use and transportation plans will not be ready for adoption by the Commission at the March Quarterly meeting as had been hoped. Those plans will be taken to public hearing as soon as possible during the second quarter of the year.

7. Received a staff report that work is underway to organize the new Regional Transit Authority (RTA) for Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Kenosha Counties. The State legislation that created this Authority designates the Commission to provide administrative staff services.
8. Received a report that an informational meeting was held with Steven J. Smith, Chairman of the Board and CEO of Journal Communications, and present Chairman of the Greater Milwaukee Committee. Mr. Smith was briefed on the Commission and its work program activities.

On February 23, 2006, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Received and approved a report from the Administrative Committee relative to its meeting that day.
2. Reviewed and approved five contracts for planning and related work. The details pertaining to those contracts are also set forth in a table included with the agenda for this meeting.
3. Recommended approval of four applications for Federal grants or loans as being in conformance or not in conflict with the regional plans prepared by the Commission. The details pertaining to those applications are also set forth in a table included with the agenda for this meeting.
4. Approved a series of amendments to the 2005-2007 Regional Transportation Improvement Program. The amendments dealt with minor changes to transportation projects already included in the program, and with new projects of a relatively minor nature involving safety improvements, intersection improvements, and pavement and bridge rehabilitation.
5. Received a staff report that the initial meeting of the new RTA Board had been held and that the Board had confirmed that it wants the Commission staff to serve as its staff while it addresses its statutory charge to prepare a report to the Governor and State Legislature in 2008. The RTA Board took action to place into effect a \$2.00 vehicle rental charge as authorized by the State enabling legislation. The new RTA is to address funding needs not only attendant to the proposed Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee commuter rail service, but also to bus transit services within the three-counties.
6. Received a report that an informational meeting was held with Dennis Kuester, CEO of the M&I Bank. Mr. Kuester, who also is prominently involved in the regional economic development effort, was briefed on the Commission and its work program activities.
7. Received a report that a group of municipalities in northwestern Waukesha County had asked for Commission staff assistance in conceiving and carrying out a work program to evaluate better ways to deliver fire and emergency medical services in that portion of the County.

On a motion by Mr. Stroik, seconded by Mr. Miklasevich, and carried unanimously, the Executive Committee report was approved.

#### **ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO REGIONAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

##### **Village of Sussex Sewer Service Area (Resolution No. 2006-05)**

Chairman Buestrin asked the Commission to consider Resolution No. 2006-05, noting that the Resolution would revise the Village of Sussex sewer service area. He asked Mr. Schmidt to present the resolution.

Mr. Schmidt noted that all Commissioners had received for review prior to the meeting a copy of Resolution No. 2006-05 documenting the proposed amendment. He recalled that the proposed amendment

had been reviewed by the Planning and Research Committee at its meeting held on February 15, 2006, and was recommended for adoption by the Committee.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Herro, and carried unanimously, Resolution No. 2006-05 was approved (copy of Resolution No. 2006-05) attached to Official Minutes).

**City of Mequon Sewer Service Area Plan** (Resolution No. 2006-06)

Chairman Buestrin asked the Commission to consider Resolution No. 2006-06, noting that the Resolution would revise the City of Mequon sewer service area plan. He asked Mr. Schmidt to present the resolution.

Mr. Schmidt noted that all Commissioners had received for review prior to the meeting a copy of Resolution No. 2006-06 documenting the proposed amendment. He recalled that the proposed amendment had been reviewed by the Planning and Research Committee at its meeting held on February 15, 2006, and was recommended for adoption by the Committee.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Moyer, and carried unanimously, Resolution No. 2006-06 was approved (copy of Resolution No. 2006-06 attached to Official Minutes).

**Village of Mukwonago Sewer Service Area** (Resolution No. 2006-07)

Chairman Buestrin asked the Commission to consider Resolution No. 2006-07, noting that the Resolution would revise the Village of Mukwonago sewer service area. He asked Mr. Schmidt to present the resolution.

Mr. Schmidt noted that all Commissioners had received for review prior to the meeting a copy of Resolution No. 2006-07 documenting the proposed amendment. He recalled that the proposed amendment had been reviewed by the Planning and Research Committee at its meeting held on February 15, 2006, and was recommended for adoption by the Committee.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Miklasevich, and carried unanimously, Resolution No. 2006-07 was approved (copy of Resolution No. 2006-07) attached to Official Minutes).

**CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Evenson reported that he had placed on the Commissioners' desks today several items of correspondence. These items speak well of the Commission's work.

In response to a question by Mr. Holden, Mr. Evenson said that the Wisconsin Department of Administration has not yet made an announcement as to the awards for "Smart Growth" planning grants in 2006. It is expected that those awards will be made by the end of March. In response to a question by Mr. Herro, Mr. Evenson indicated that the proposed revenue cap included in the legislation labeled "Taxpayer Protection Act" would have the same potential problems, insofar as the Commission is concerned, inherent in the TABOR legislation discussed last year. These problems, he said, related to the fact that the Commission is funded by actions of the seven constituent counties, such counties having differential rates of tax base growth. Thus, even if the Commission were to establish a "hard" freeze on its levy request, some counties could be expected to pay more and some less than in the prior year, and this differential effect has the potential to cause significant problems in the counties that are asked to contribute more. Mr. Evenson indicated that he and the Commission Chairman will do some follow up work on this matter.

**CONFIRMATION OF DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF JUNE ANNUAL MEETING**

Chairman Buestrin reminded everyone that the next meeting of the Commission has been scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 7, 2006, in Washington County.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, on a motion by Mr. Miklasevich, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, and carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip C. Evenson  
Deputy Secretary

PCE/lw  
Attachments  
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