

MINUTES
SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
QUARTERLY MEETING

Wednesday, December 1, 2010

3:02 p.m.

Milwaukee County War Memorial Center
North Memorial Hall, 3rd Floor
750 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Present:

Excused:

Commissioners:

David L. Stroik, Chairman
Gilbert B. Bakke
Kimberly L. Breunig
Thomas H. Buestrin
William R. Drew
James T. Dwyer
Adelene Greene
Susan S. Greenfield
Richard A. Hansen
William E. Johnson
Robert W. Pitts
John Rogers
Nancy Russell
Daniel S. Schmidt
Daniel Stoffel
Paul G. Vrakas
John F. Weishan, Jr.
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.

Mary A. Kacmarcik
Gregory L. Holden

Staff:

Kenneth R. Yunker	Executive Director
Michael G. Hahn	Chief Environmental Engineer
Robert P. Biebel	Special Projects Engineer
Elizabeth A. Larsen	Business Manager
Debra A. D'Amico	Executive Secretary

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ROLL CALL

Chairman Stroik called the 231st meeting of the Commission to order at 3:02 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum declared present. Chairman Stroik indicated for the record that Commissioners Holden and Kacmarcik had asked to be excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2010 MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Mr. Dwyer, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Quarterly Full Commission Meeting of September 15, 2010, were approved as published.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Chairman Stroik asked Ms. Russell to present the Treasurer's Report. She noted that a copy of the Treasurer's Report had been provided to all Commissioners for review prior to the meeting. In commenting on the report, she called attention to the following items:

1. Based upon disbursements through November 7, 2010, it is projected that total disbursements for the year will approximate nearly \$7.5 million. Revenues are projected at about \$7.6 million, exclusive of interest income and miscellaneous revenues.
2. The completion of the regional water supply study was behind schedule, and study costs have exceeded study revenues, and the project is resulting in a deficit.
3. The total amount of funds held by the Commission in the various operating, liability, and reserve accounts approximates \$3.36 million. The various accounts are identified on the second page of the report.
4. As of November 7, 2010, the Commission had in investments and cash on hand of approximately \$3.63 million. About \$2.8 million are invested in the State of Wisconsin Local Government Pooled Investment Fund. As of November 7, 2010, that fund was yielding 0.22 percent interest. Other funds are held in savings, checking, and money market accounts, and a certificate of deposit at several banks.

There being no questions or discussion, on a motion by Mr. Dwyer, seconded by Ms. Greene, and carried unanimously, the Treasurer's Report for the period ending November 7, 2010, was approved (copy of the Treasurer's Report attached to Official Minutes).

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning and Research Committee

Planning and Research Committee Chairman Schmidt noted that the Committee had met once since the Commission Quarterly Meeting, and at its meeting on November 9, 2010, had taken the following actions.

1. Reviewed and acted to recommend to the Commission for adoption SEWRPC Planning Report No. 52, *A Regional Water Supply Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin*. At the meeting, the Committee reviewed and approved for publication the remaining portions of SEWRPC Planning Report No. 52, *A Regional Water Supply Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin*, including: Chapter X, "Recommended Water Supply Plan;" Chapter XI, "Plan Implementation;" Chapter XII, "Summary;" and, several report appendices.

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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 New Berlin. That amendment involves the addition to the sewer service area of a 7.7-acre parcel located along Small Road in the southern portion of the City. It was noted that the proposed addition would expand the sewer service area by less than 1 percent.
3. Reviewed and acted to recommend to the Commission for approval the Commission's proposed 2011 Overall Work Program. It was also noted that this program is consistent with the Commission's adopted 2011 budget.

There being no questions or discussion, on a motion by Mr. Pitts, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and carried unanimously, the Planning and Research Committee report was approved.

Administrative Committee

Chair Greene stated that the Administrative Committee had met two times since the last Commission Quarterly meeting.

She noted that on October 21, 2010, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Reviewed and approved the Commission disbursements for financial reporting periods: Year 2010 Nos. 18, 19, 20, and 21, extending over the period August 16 to September 26, 2010.
2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending September 26, 2010. With nearly 80 percent of the year completed, the projections indicated a year end surplus of about \$148,000.
3. Received a report on group medical insurance rates for 2011 provided through the Group Insurance Board operated for local governments by the State of Wisconsin. The United Healthcare HMO plan, the lowest cost plan for the Southeastern Wisconsin Region, increased by 8.6 percent. Commission employees pay 20 percent of the health insurance premium, while the Commission pays 80 percent.
4. Discussed unsolicited banking proposals received by the staff and recommended to review banking services with the Commission's current bank.
5. Reviewed and approved a proposal to replace one Commission vehicle which met the current criteria for vehicle replacement and purchase.

On November 18, 2010, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Reviewed and approved the Commission disbursements for financial reporting periods: Year 2010 Nos. 22 and 23, extending over the period October 25 to November 7, 2010.
2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending November 7, 2010. With about 85 percent of the year completed, the projections indicated a year end surplus of about \$105,000.
3. Received a report on employee enrollment in the 2011 group medical insurance program. A total of 54 Commission employees elected to obtain medical insurance coverage, paying a minimum 20 percent of the premium cost. Eight Commission employees declined medical insurance coverage. The anticipated cost of the 2011 health insurance is expected to be \$787,400, less than the adopted 2011 budget for health insurance of \$856,000.

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There being no questions or discussion, on a motion by Ms. Russell, seconded by Mr. Drew, and carried unanimously, the Administrative Committee report was approved.

Executive Committee

Chairman Stroik noted that the Executive Committee had met two times since the Commission Quarterly Meeting.

He stated that on October 21, 2010, 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 three contracts for planning work. The details of these contracts are set forth in a table attached to this report.
3. Received a report outlining the schedule for projects to be completed throughout 2010 which include several key planning efforts being undertaken by the Commission.
4. Approved one amendment to the 2009-2012 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The amendment was necessary largely to advance projects to be funded with Federal Highway Administration Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds. The amendment involved modifying the 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program by adding 20 new projects to the TIP.
5. Took action to dissolve the Telecommunications Planning Committee as there are no continuing planning activities for this Advisory Committee to consider.

On November 18, 2010, 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 a contract for planning work. The details of this contract are set forth in a table attached to this report (copy attached to Official Minutes).
3. Received a report outlining the key planning efforts being undertaken by the Commission. This key planning efforts status report is attached to this report (copy attached to Official Minutes).
4. Approved an amendment to the 2009-2012 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The amendment was necessary largely to advance projects to be funded with Federal Transit Administration funds. The amendment involved adding three projects to the TIP.
5. Reviewed and approved a resolution supporting the Milwaukee Gateway Aerotropolis Planning and becoming a member of the Milwaukee Gateway Aerotropolis Corporation.

There being no questions or discussion, on a motion by Ms. Greene, seconded by Mr. Dwyer, and carried unanimously, the Executive Committee report was approved.

ADOPTION OF THE SEWRPC PLANNING REPORT NO. 52, A REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY PLAN FOR SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN AND RESOLUTION NO. 2010-18

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Chairman Stroik called upon Mr. Schmidt to provide a briefing on the regional water supply plan for Southeastern Wisconsin and noted that copies of the entire plan were provided for review prior to the meeting.

Mr. Schmidt stated that the Commission had initiated preparation of a regional water supply plan for the Southeastern Wisconsin Region in 2005. He noted that the preparation of this plan was carried out under the guidance of the Commission Water Supply Planning Advisory Committee, which met 23 times during the course of the study, and that membership on the Advisory Committee included knowledgeable and concerned representatives of constituent counties and municipalities; State and Federal agencies; academic, agricultural, and environmental communities; and businesses and industries. He then stated that this Advisory Committee has recommended adoption of the regional water supply plan by the Commission.

Mr. Schmidt then gave a brief description of the major work efforts that were conducted under the regional water supply planning effort:

- The conduct of an extensive series of inventories including the service areas and capacities of existing water supply facilities in the Region; surface and groundwater resources; demographic, economic, land use, water use, and natural resource conditions within the Region; and water law;
- The conduct of extensive technical analyses including forecasts of probable future water supply needs; identification of existing and probable future water supply problems; analyses of groundwater recharge in the Region; the development and calibration of an aquifer simulation model; and a socio-economic impact analysis.
- The conduct of over 10 public informational meetings/hearings and over 200 presentations/discussions with various groups.

Mr. Schmidt stated that six alternative plans were developed and comprehensively evaluated, including consideration of the following wide range of measures:

- Water conservation;
- Protection of groundwater recharge areas;
- Enhancement of groundwater recharge including state-of-the-art stormwater management; infiltration of highly treated sewage treatment plant effluent; and installation of enhanced rainfall infiltration systems;
- The recharge of the deep aquifer by injection of treated Lake Michigan water;
- Continued reliance on the deep aquifer with treatment;
- Greater reliance on the shallow aquifer; and,
- Extension of Lake Michigan water supply
 - to communities east of the subcontinental divide
 - to communities that straddle the subcontinental divide that currently have return flow to Lake Michigan, and

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- to communities located west of the subcontinental divide, but within a county straddling the subcontinental divide, with provision of return flow to Lake Michigan.

Mr. Schmidt then stated that based upon a comparative evaluation of the four initial alternative plans, and two final alternative plans, a final recommended plan was developed that included:

- Delineations of service areas for existing and potential future water utilities, including recommended sources of supply and major facilities;
- Recommended utility specific water conservation programs;
- Protection of important groundwater recharge areas;
- Stormwater management practices designed to preserve, to the extent practicable, natural hydrology; and,
- Enhanced rainfall infiltration through constructed rainfall infiltration systems and application of farming practices that reduce or eliminate tillage of fields;

Mr. Schmidt stated that the plan recommends increased reliance on the shallow aquifer and that eight water utility service areas which currently have return flow to Lake Michigan converted to Lake Michigan as a source of supply. He also indicated that six of these areas are located east of the subcontinental divide, and the other two straddle the subcontinental divide.

He then stated that the plan recommends one water utility service area located west of the subcontinental divide in a county straddling the divide—the service area of the City of Waukesha Water Utility—convert to Lake Michigan as a source of water supply and that return flow be provided to Lake Michigan. He also said that while the study concluded that groundwater could provide an adequate supply of water for this service area, conversion to a Lake Michigan water supply was recommended due to its environmental benefits, including less loss of baseflow to surface waterbodies, and a reduction in chloride discharge.

He also stated that the plan recommends that further extensive engineering and environmental studies need to be completed prior to consideration of implementation of plan recommendations, particularly with respect to the City of Waukesha. He indicated that with respect to return flow, the plan recommends that the City of Waukesha Water Utility and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources directly involve and work cooperatively with the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, the Counties, and the other local units of government directly impacted. The plan recommends that the concurrence of the Counties and other local units of government directly affected by the return flow be obtained.

Mr. Schmidt noted that the September Commission meeting was devoted to an in-depth briefing on the study and final recommended plan, and an extensive Commission discussion and question-and-answer session. He added that the Commission Planning and Research Committee meeting in November also was largely devoted to further discussion on the study and final plan. He then noted that two modifications were made: one recommending limited or no-tillage farming to enhance rainfall infiltration; and, the other recommending that the concurrence be obtained from the affected Counties and municipalities for any return flow system necessary to the use of Lake Michigan water by the City of Waukesha. Mr. Schmidt then stated that the Planning and Research Committee recommended Commission approval and adoption of the regional water supply plan.

Chairman Stroik asked if Commissioners had any questions or concerns regarding SEWRPC Planning Report No. 52, *A Regional Water Supply Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin*.

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Mr. Weishan stated that he would be voting against the adoption of the regional water supply plan. He stated a specific concern, the potential environmental impacts on Underwood Creek and the Menomonee and Root Rivers, should Waukesha's return flow be directed to those watercourses. Mr. Yunker noted that the plan identifies potential options for the return flow, including a pipeline to Lake Michigan. The plan recommends that engineering and environmental studies need to be conducted, under the guidance of a proposed oversight committee, which would comprehensively evaluate these options, including their environmental impacts.

Ms. Greenfield stated that she will be voting against plan adoption due to Underwood Creek and the Menomonee and Root Rivers being identified as potential options for the return flow from Waukesha. She stated that if there was assurance that the return flow from Waukesha would be implemented through a pipeline to Lake Michigan, she would then vote for the adoption of the Regional water supply plan. Mr. Yunker noted that the plan recommends an environmental impact study be completed on all return options, and further recommends that there be concurrence of the affected Counties and communities.

Mr. Rogers stated that he shared these concerns of his fellow Commissioners, but he would be voting for the adoption of the regional water supply plan. He noted the many other recommendations and findings of the plan, and the necessary vision that the plan provides with respect to the Region's water supply.

Mr. Vrakas stated that he also understands the concerns that have been expressed, and he noted that the plan is clear that with respect to return flow, extensive further engineering, and environmental studies are recommended, along with involvement and concurrence of all affected and concerned parties and units of government.

Ms. Russell stated that the regional water supply plan affects more than Waukesha and Milwaukee Counties, and noted the importance of completing the plan and implementing its recommended actions to providing a sustainable water supply for the Region.

There being no further questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Mr. Vrakas, and carried by a vote of 16 ayes and 2 nays, with Mr. Weishan and Ms. Greenfield voting nay, the adoption of the SEWRPC Planning Report No. 52, *A Regional Water Supply Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin* and Resolution No. 2010-18 was approved (copy of Resolution No. 2010-18 is attached to Official Minutes).

Mr. Yunker then noted Mr. Robert Biebel of the Commission staff was in attendance. He noted that Mr. Biebel was the project manager and lead staff professional on the regional water supply plan; and that the successful completion of this complex study was very much a result of his efforts. He noted that Mr. Biebel had served the commission as Chief Environmental Engineer from July 12, 1976 to January 21, 2005, retired, and then returned to the Commission staff to lead the regional water supply study. He stated that Mr. Biebel had indicated that he desired to retire again from the Commission staff. On behalf of the Commission and its staff, Mr. Yunker thanked Mr. Biebel for his excellent work and leadership, and he noted that Mr. Michael Hahn, the Commission's Chief Environmental Engineer since February 22, 2005, is prepared to guide the implementation and refinement of the regional water supply plan.

ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED SEWER SERVICE AMENDMENT TO THE REGIONAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

City of New Berlin Sewer Service Area (Resolution No. 2010-16)

Chairman Stroik called on Mr. Schmidt to introduce the proposed amendment to the regional water quality management plan. Mr. Schmidt stated that the proposed amendment would add 7.7 acres to the New Berlin sanitary sewer service area, an expansion of less than 1 percent. It would permit expansion of the BuySeasons office and warehouse facility, and has been requested and approved by City of New Berlin. It has also been approved by the Metropolitan Milwaukee Sewerage District, which would receive the wastewater flow from the sanitary sewer service area. He noted that the Commission Planning and

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Research Committee on November 9, 2010, acted to recommend to the Commission for adoption this amendment to the regional water quality management plan.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Mr. Dwyer, and carried by a vote of 16 ayes and 0 nays, Resolution No. 2010-16 was approved unanimously (copy of Resolution No. 2010-16 is attached to Official Minutes).

ADOPTION OF THE SEWRPC PLANNING REPORT NO. 42, A REGIONAL NATURAL AREAS AND CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN AND RESOLUTION NO. 2010-19

Chairman Stroik called upon Mr. Schmidt to provide a briefing on the regional natural areas and critical species habitat protection and management plan for Southeastern Wisconsin and noted that copies of the plan were provided for review prior to the meeting.

Mr. Schmidt noted that the Commission adopted the original Regional natural areas and critical species habitat protection and management plan as documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, *A Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management plan for Southeastern Wisconsin* on September 10, 1997.

The Commission initiated an update of this plan in 2005. The update was guided by a Technical Advisory Committee for the Protection and Management of Natural Areas in Southeastern Wisconsin. This Technical Advisory Committee and the Commission's Planning and Research Committee have recommended adoption by the Commission of the amended plan which contains updated recommendations for the protection, acquisition, and management of the Region's natural areas and critical species habitat areas.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Ms. Greenfield, and carried by a vote of 17 ayes and 0 nays, Resolution No. 2010-19 was approved unanimously (copy of Resolution No. 2010-19 is attached to Official Minutes).

APPROVAL OF THE 2011 OVERALL WORK PROGRAM (Resolution 2010-17)

Chairman Stroik asked the Commissioners to consider Resolution No. 2010-17 adopting the Commission Overall Work Program (OWP) for calendar year 2011. He asked Mr. Schmidt to provide a briefing on the program.

Mr. Schmidt noted that the OWP outlines the work to be conducted by the Commission in 2011, and is consistent with the 2011 budget adopted by the Commission in June. Among the major work activities are the Regional Housing Plan, county jurisdictional highway system plans, public transit operator short range plans, initiation of regional surveys of travel habits and patterns, and review and extension of regional population and employment forecasts. The Planning and Research Committee on November 9, 2010, acted to recommend to the Commission for adoption the 2011 Overall Work Program.

There being no further comments, on a motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Ms. Russell, and carried by a vote of 17 ayes and 0 nays, Resolution No. 2010-17 was approved unanimously (copy of Resolution No. 2010-17 is attached to Official Minutes).

REPORT OF NOMINATION COMMITTEE AND ELECTION OF COMMISSION OFFICERS FOR 2011-2012

Chairman Stroik then asked Mr. Schmidt, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, to assume the Chair. Mr. Schmidt noted that the Nominating Committee, as appointed by the Commission Chairman in accordance with Commission Bylaws, consisted of himself as Chairman and representative of

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Washington County; and Commissioners Robert W. Pitts, Kenosha County; John F. Weishan, Jr., Milwaukee County; Thomas H. Buestrin, Ozaukee County; Mary A. Kacmarcik, Racine County; Gregory L. Holden, Walworth County; and, Paul G. Vrakas, Waukesha County.

Mr. Schmidt reported that the Committee had met on November 9, 2010, in the Commission offices, and had acted unanimously to nominate the following individuals for election to the offices indicated for a two-year term:

Chairman..... David L. Stroik
Vice-Chairman..... William R. Drew
Secretary Adelene Greene
Treasurer Nancy Russell

Mr. Schmidt asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor for the Commission offices of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer.

There being none, it was moved by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Ms. Breunig, and carried unanimously, to elect Mr. Stroik to serve as Chairman, Mr. Drew to serve as Vice-Chairman, Ms. Greene to serve as Secretary, and Ms. Russell to serve as Treasurer, as nominated by the Nominating Committee, for calendar years 2011 and 2012.

Mr. Schmidt then recognized and thanked Mr. Hansen for his four years of service as Vice-Chairman of the Commission.

Mr. Stroik then resumed the Chair and congratulated the new officers on their election.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Yunker reported that there were no announcements or correspondence to be brought to the attention of the Commission.

CONFIRMATION OF DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF MARCH QUARTERLY MEETING

Chairman Stroik indicated that the next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16, 2011, in Racine County.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, on a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Mr. Dwyer, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth R. Yunker
Deputy Secretary

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Attachments