

MINUTES
SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
QUARTERLY MEETING

Wednesday, March 19, 2014

3:00 p.m.

Ozaukee County Fairgrounds
Milwaukee Curling Club
Columbia St. Mary's Center
W67 N866 Washington Avenue
Cedarburg, WI 53012

Present:

Excused:

Commissioners:

David L. Stroik, Chairman
Thomas H. Buestrin
Charles L. Colman
Michael A. Crowley
José M. Delgado
James T. Dwyer
Adelene Greene
David W. Opitz
Robert W. Pitts
Nancy Russell
Daniel S. Schmidt
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.

Gilbert B. Bakke
William R. Drew, Vice Chairman
Marina Dimitrijevic
David L. Eberle
John Rogers
Linda J. Seemeyer
Peggy L. Shumway
Michael J. Skalitzky
Daniel W. Stoffel

Staff:

Kenneth R. Yunker	Executive Director
Philip C. Evenson	Acting Director
Elizabeth A. Larsen	Business Manager
Debra A. D'Amico	Executive Secretary

Guest:

Lee Schlenvogt	Ozaukee County Board Chairman
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ROLL CALL

Chairman Stroik called the 244th meeting of the Commission to order at 3:00 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was declared present. Chairman Stroik indicated for the record that Commissioners Bakke, Dimitrijevic, Drew, Eberle, Rogers, Seemeyer, Skalitzky, and Stoffel had asked to be excused.

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WELCOMING REMARKS BY MR. LEE SCHLENOVGT, OZAUKEE COUNTY BOARD CHAIRMAN

Mr. Schlenvogt welcomed the Commissioners to Ozaukee County, and then thanked the Commissioners and the Commission staff for the work the Commission does and for working with Ozaukee County throughout the years. He also welcomed the Commissioners to stay after the meeting for a brief curling demonstration by a member of the Milwaukee Curling Club.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 4, 2013, MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Buestrin, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the December 4, 2013, Quarterly Commission Meeting 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 February 9, 2014, it is projected that total disbursements for the year will approximate \$7.1 million. Revenues are projected at about \$7.3 million, exclusive of interest income and miscellaneous revenues.
2. The total amount of funds held by the Commission in the various operating, liability, and reserve accounts approximates \$4.1 million. The various accounts are identified on the second page of the report.
3. As of February 9, 2014, the Commission had in investments and cash on hand approximately \$4.8 million. Nearly \$3.6 million are invested in the State of Wisconsin Local Government Pooled Investment Fund. As of February 9, 2014, that fund was yielding .08 percent interest. Other funds are held in savings, checking, and money market accounts at several banks.

There being no questions or discussion, on a motion by Ms. Greene, seconded by Mr. Dwyer, and carried unanimously, the Treasurer's Report for the period ending February 9, 2014, was approved (copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached to the Official Minutes).

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning and Research Committee

Chairman Stroik asked Mr. Schmidt to present the Planning and Research Committee report. Mr. Schmidt stated that the Planning and Research Committee has met once since the Quarterly Commission meeting on December 4, 2013.

On March 19, 2014, prior to the Quarterly Commission Meeting, the Committee took the following action:

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 City of Mequon. That amendment, scheduled for action later in this meeting, proposes the addition to the sewer service area of 360 acres. There are 6 acres of wetlands and no environmental corridors or

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isolated natural resource areas in the subject area. The subject area has several existing home-sites, some of which are proposed to be sewer in the near term, and is anticipated to be developed for low-density residential use. Assuming that all applicable Federal, State, and local permits are obtained and that proper site development and construction practices are employed, there should be no significant adverse water quality impacts attributable to the development of the planned sanitary sewer service area. There is adequate planned capacity available for the areas proposed to be added to the sewer service area as determined by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District staff.

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

Administrative Committee

Chairman Stroik asked Mr. Dwyer to present the Administrative Committee report. Mr. Dwyer noted that the report had been provided to all Commissioners prior to the meeting. He also noted that the Administrative Committee met one time since the Quarterly Commission meeting on December 4, 2013.

On February 20, 2014, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Reviewed and approved the Commission disbursements for financial reporting periods: Year 2013 Nos. 24, 25, and 26, plus Year 2014 Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, extending over the period November 4, 2013, to February 9, 2014.
2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending February 9, 2014.
3. Reviewed and authorized the continuance and annual review of the flexible work hours policy.

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

Executive Committee

Chairman Stroik then provided the Executive Committee report. He noted that all Commissioners had received a copy of the report, and the Committee had met once since the Quarterly Commission meeting on December 4, 2013.

On February 20, 2014, 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 twenty-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 key planning efforts being undertaken by the Commission in 2014. This current key planning efforts status report is attached to this report.

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4. Reviewed and approved an amendment to the 2013-2016 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This amendment to the 2013-2016 TIP was necessary to advance seven projects, all of which were approved by the Commission Advisory Committees for Transportation System Planning and Programming for the Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, and Round Lake Urbanized Areas.
5. Received a report that the Milwaukee Committee for Transportation Planning and Programming had met and approved a funding amendment to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation IH-94 West reconstruction project, thus satisfying the contingency attached to the approval of that project by the Executive Committee at its meeting on October 24, 2013.
6. Received a report that the Commission had been informed by the Federal Highway Administration that the Title VI discrimination complaint filed against the Commission in July 2013 would be dealt with by the Federal Transit Administration.
7. Received a report on the illness of the Executive Director and on arrangements made by the Chairman to retain the services of the Commission's former Executive Director, Philip Evenson, to temporarily direct Commission staff work activities.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Colman concerning the Title VI complaint, Mr. Evenson stated that a disposition report is not yet available as the Federal Highway Administration has handed the complaint over to the Federal Transit Administration. Mr. Yunker then briefly reviewed the nature of the Title VI complaint dealing with Federal funding transportation project selection criteria.

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

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO THE REGIONAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

City of Mequon Sanitary Sewer Service Area (Resolution No. 2014-03)

Chairman Stroik asked the Commission to consider Resolution No. 2014-03, noting that the Resolution would revise the City of Mequon sanitary sewer service area. He asked Mr. Schmidt to present the resolution.

Mr. Schmidt noted that due to the scheduling of meetings and approvals, this sanitary sewer service area amendment to the regional water quality management plan was approved by the Commission Planning and Research Committee at its meeting that took place today before this Quarterly Commission meeting.

He stated that the recommended amendment would expand the sewer service area, adding 360 acres, an expansion of less than 3 percent. The expansion includes about 6 acres of wetlands and there are no environmental corridors or isolated natural resource areas within the site. He then noted that the expansion is consistent with both the regional land use plan and the regional water quality management plan. He said the expansion was requested by the City of Mequon and was approved by the City of Mequon Common Council after a public hearing that resulted in no objections.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Schmidt, and seconded by Mr. Pitts, Resolution No. 2014-03 was approved by a vote of 12 ayes and 0 nays (copy of Resolution No. 2014-03 attached to Office Minutes).

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CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION THROUGH REGIONAL WATER RESOURCES PLANNING

Chairman Stroik asked Mr. Michael Hahn, SEWRPC Chief Environmental Engineer, to give a presentation on climate change adaptation through regional water resources planning. Prior to Mr. Hahn's presentation, Mr. Evenson explained that, while the Commission staff does not include a climate scientist, the staff does need to keep abreast of potential climate change issues particularly with regard to Commission water resources planning. Mr. Hahn then proceeded to give his presentation, and while doing so, the following questions and comments were made (copy of presentation materials attached to Official Minutes).

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Opitz questioning why the Commission obtained climate change information only from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Mr. Hahn stated the IPCC is considered to be the most authoritative agency for climate change information.

Mr. Opitz commented that the bar charts on the slide titled, "Possible Changes in CSO and ISS Related SSO Volumes" indicated to him that the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) is assuming there will be continued discharges and overflows during future years. Mr. Hahn stated that is not the case and the goal of MMSD is to eliminate combined sewer overflows by 2035. Mr. Evenson noted that MMSD's constructed deep tunnel baseline is predicated upon two to three overflows per year without additional storage.

In response to an additional inquiry by Mr. Opitz, Mr. Hahn indicated that it may not be necessary to build more storage to avoid overflows and MMSD is working toward achieving their goal of eliminating overflows through the implementation of "green infrastructure" measures to at least limit the need for additional large-scale constructed MMSD facilities. Mr. Hahn concluded that the purpose of the graphs shown was to give an indication of what the possible climate change effects on overflows from the MMSD system might be under existing operating and facility conditions.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Delgado concerning the rise and fall of Lake Michigan water levels, Mr. Hahn stated that Lake Michigan reached its all-time low last year, but it has now recovered somewhat, largely due to the extent of ice cover this past winter.

Mr. Pitts then commented that Mr. Hahn's report is very interesting and long overdue. He suggested that this information be made more widely known. Mr. Yunker suggested that this information could be summarized and sent out in newsletter format.

Ms. Russell then inquired if the Commission had ever completed a study of the impact of salt use in the Southeastern Wisconsin Region, and in particular, the large amount of salt used on roads during winter months. She noted that salinity levels in Geneva Lake are increasing and recommended the Commission conduct a study of and report on this problem. Ms. Russell indicated that the affinity for wintertime bare pavements is threatening the quality of water supplies because salt leaches into water supply wells. She suggested there must be other alternatives to salt that would also save money. A discussion ensued. Mr. Yunker stated staff could consider preparation of a prospectus on this topic under the guidance of an advisory committee. Representatives on this advisory committee could include staff from each county in the Region, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Department of Transportation, among others. Mr. Yunker stated the advisory committee would be charged with recommending to the Commission whether or not to proceed with such a study based upon interest and funding availability.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Colman, Mr. Hahn stated that salt measurements in water bodies are not generally taken in winter months. He then noted that the U.S. Geological Survey has been looking at this

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issue and the Commission has identified a need to pursue data collection. Mr. Yunker then recommended that Commission staff develop an outline of a project scope, put together a preliminary list of people to serve on an advisory committee, and present this information for discussion to the Planning and Research Committee who, in turn, would decide whether to proceed with preparation of a prospectus.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Stroik asked Mr. Evenson if there was any correspondence or if there were any announcements. Mr. Evenson said there were none.

CONFIRMATION OF DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF JUNE 2014 ANNUAL MEETING

Chairman Stroik indicated that the Annual Commission meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 18, 2014, in Washington County.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, on a motion by Mr. Dwyer, seconded by Mr. Wirth, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip C. Evenson
Acting Deputy Secretary

PCE/MGH/EAL/dad
#216985 QtrlyMar14Min

Attachments