

MINUTES

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 16, 2018

2:00 p.m.

SEWRPC Office Building
Commissioners' Conference Room
W239 N1812 Rockwood Drive
Waukesha, Wisconsin 53187

Present:

Excused:

Committee Members:

Michael A. Crowley, Vice-Chair
Mike Dawson
William R. Drew
James T. Dwyer
Robert Pitts
Daniel S. Schmidt
David L. Stroik
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.

Charles L. Colman, Chairman
Aloysius Nelson

Alternate:

Thomas H. Buestrin

Staff:

Michael G. Hahn
Kevin J. Muhs
Elizabeth A. Larsen

Executive Director
Deputy Director
Assistant Director-Administration

ROLL CALL

Vice-Chairman Crowley called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was declared present. Mr. Hahn indicated that for the record Commissioner's Colman and Nelson had asked to be excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 19, 2018, MEETING

Vice-Chairman Crowley asked if there were any changes or additions to the July 19, 2018, meeting minutes. There were none.

On a motion by Mr. Dwyer, seconded by Mr. Stroik, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on July 19, 2018, were approved as published.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Vice-Chairman Crowley reported that the Administrative Committee, at its meeting held just before this Executive Committee meeting, had taken the following actions.

1. Reviewed and approved disbursements for two financial periods: Year 2018, Nos. 15 and 16 extending over the period of July 9, 2018, to August 5, 2018.
2. Reviewed and approved the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the period ending August 5, 2018.

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

CONSIDERATION OF CONTRACTS

Vice-Chairman Crowley asked Ms. Larsen to review the proposed contracts, noting that prior to the meeting, Committee members had received a one page report with a table listing two contracts. Ms. Larsen then briefly reviewed the contracts with the Committee.

There being no questions, on a motion by Mr. Dwyer, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, and carried unanimously, the contract report was accepted and the report was placed on file (copy of report attached to Official Minutes).

WORK PROGRAM REPORTS

Mr. Hahn reviewed the Work Program Progress Report. He noted that the report identifies key regional and selected community and county assistance efforts (copy of report attached to Official Minutes).

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS (Resolution No. 2018-15)

Vice-Chairman Crowley asked the Commission to consider adoption of Resolution No. 2018-15, amending the 2017-2020 Regional Transportation Program (TIP). He noted these materials were provided prior to this meeting.

Mr. Hahn presented Resolution 2018-15, amending the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He indicated that there are two existing projects and one new project to be amended to the TIP. He stated that the addition of these projects to the TIP were approved by the Commission's Advisory Committee on Transportation System Planning and Improvement Programming in the Milwaukee Urbanized Area.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Drew, concerning the two City of Milwaukee projects, Mr. Hahn stated that the traffic signal faces will be increased in size.

Mr. Dwyer mentioned the traffic signals at the intersection of Pilgrim Road and STH 175 in Menomonee Falls, and provided additional background on the project, noting that it will result in the intersection being better-aligned to function more efficiently.

Ms. Russell asked if the Commission would be able to take the lead on State and local road construction coordination. Mr. Hahn agreed that there is a need to better coordinate construction projects; however, to develop a schedule or a plan would require considerable staff time already allocated to other tasks, and, coordination by the Commission staff may be futile, given the complexity of the necessary coordination and the fact that the Commission cannot compel the municipalities to follow a specific schedule.

Mr. Wirth stated that Ozaukee County pays for the road construction using local funds. He also noted that attempting to get the municipalities to coordinate the road construction schedules could be a sensitive issue.

Ms. Russell stated that perhaps such a coordination of road projects could be accomplished through the County Jurisdictional Highway Commissions.

Mr. Schleif stated that he had attended a County Highways Department conference where a swap of Federal and State funds was suggested as a way to keep Federal funds out of the construction process.

Mr. Hahn stated that staff is aware of the proposed swap of funds and noted that:

- Legislation to enable State funds to be swapped for Federal funds was promoted by counties throughout the State.
- In response to recent State legislation, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) initially developed a conceptual program to swap State funds for Federal funds to be used on local roads programs with relatively little input from local interests.
- There was considerable negative reaction from Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) around the State when the conceptual program was presented by WisDOT.
- SEWRPC withheld significant comment at that time, pending further staff consideration and coordination with county transportation and public works departments in the Region in an effort to obtain their input and then follow up with WisDOT regarding possible modifications to the program as proposed.
- In response to the initial reaction from the MPOs, and prior to significant input from SEWRPC, WisDOT decided that the State-proposed fund swap concept and the associated program administrative framework would not be applied to Surface Transportation Program funds in the urbanized areas in the State during the current funding cycle.
- There is still an interest among counties in the Region in a Federal-State funding swap, and this issue is likely to be brought up in the future.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Stroik to approve Resolution 2018-15, seconded by Mr. Dwyer, and carried by a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays, Resolution 2018-15 was approved (copy of Resolution 2018-15 attached to Official Minutes).

CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL MATTER

It was moved by Mr. Dwyer and seconded by Mr. Stroik to go into closed session for the purpose of considering the selection of an Executive Director, such closed session being permitted by the provisions of sec. 19.81(i)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes. Without objection the Committee moved into a closed session.

On a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, and carried unanimously, the committee returned to open session at 2:43 p.m.

APPOINTMENT OF A SUCCESSOR TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Muhs was then asked to join the Committee meeting. Vice-Chairman Crowley then announced that Mr. Muhs will succeed Mr. Hahn as Executive Director of the Commission. Mr. Muhs formally accepted the position of Executive Director of the Commission.

On a motion by Vice-Chairman Crowley, seconded by Mr. Dawson, the Commission Chairman, Treasurer, and Chairman of the Administrative Committee were authorized to negotiate an employment agreement with Mr. Kevin J. Muhs, the Commission's present Deputy Director, to become the next Executive Director of the Commission staff effective January 1, 2019, succeeding Mr. Hahn, with the terms of the agreement subject to ratification by the Executive Committee. This motion was approved by a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice-Chairman Crowley asked Mr. Hahn if there were any correspondence or announcements. Mr. Hahn stated there was none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Mr. Dwyer, and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael G. Hahn
Executive Director