

MINUTES

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 29, 2005

2:00 p.m.

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

Present:

Excused:

Committee Members:

Thomas H. Buestrin, Chairman
William R. Drew, Vice-Chairman
Allen L. Morrison
Daniel S. Schmidt
Paul G. Vrakas
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.

Adelene Greene
Richard A. Hansen
Linda J. Seemeyer

Absent:

Staff:

Philip C. Evenson
Loretta Watson

Executive Director
Executive Secretary

ROLL CALL

Chairman Buestrin called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum declared present. Mr. Evenson noted for the record that Commissioners Greene, Hansen, and Seemeyer had asked to be excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 25, 2005, MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Vrakas, seconded by Mr. Morrison, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on August 25, 2005, were approved as published.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT, MR. VRAKAS REPORTING

(Meeting of September 29, 2005)

Mr. Vrakas reported that the Administrative Committee, at its meeting held just before the Executive Committee meeting, had taken the following actions:

1. Reviewed and approved the Commission disbursements for three financial reporting periods: Year 2005 Nos. 17, 18, and 19, extending over the period August 8, 2005, to September 18, 2005.
2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending September 18, 2005. With nearly three-fourths of the year completed, the projections indicated a year end surplus of about \$109,000.
3. Approved a staff proposal to replace this year at least one of the two field trucks used in support of the Commission's county surveyor work program. Alternate bids are to be taken on new field vehicles, with both trucks to be replaced if the bid for two trucks proves to be fiscally advantageous on a unit basis.

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

REPORT ON CONTRACTS

Chairman Buestrin asked Mr. Evenson to review the proposed contracts and agreements, noting that the Committee members had received a table listing the contracts and agreements prior to the meeting. Mr. Evenson then briefly reviewed the four contracts reported on the table, noting that, as reported to the Administrative Committee, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has fulfilled its commitments for year 2005 funding of the regional water quality management program. He also called attention to the multi-year contract with Washington County and selected communities in that County relative to the preparation of a comprehensive plan for the County that will meet all of the new comprehensive planning requirements, including addressing the "Smart Growth" objectives set forth in the State law. Matching funds for this program will come in part from tax levy monies provided by Washington County to the Commission. Finally, he called attention to the pair of contracts whereby the Commission will pass through funds from a group of local communities in the Upper Fox River Watershed to the U.S. Geological Survey to conduct basic research attendant to pollutant reduction effectiveness measures.

After a brief discussion focusing on the fact that matching funds for Wisconsin "Smart Growth" planning grants can be either in the form of cash or in-kind services, on a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, and carried unanimously, the report relative to the contracts was accepted and placed on file (copy of report attached to Official Minutes).

GEO 29 REVIEW

Chairman Buestrin asked Mr. Evenson to report on the Federal grants and loans and direct Federal development projects submitted to the Commission for intergovernmental review pursuant to the requirements set forth in Gubernatorial Executive Order No. 29.

Mr. Evenson noted that summaries of the three project applications were provided to the Committee members with the agenda for the meeting. There were no conflicts, he said, between any of the projects and the adopted regional plans.

Following a brief discussion, on a motion by Mr. Drew, seconded by Mr. Vrakas, and carried unanimously, the following three applications were recommended to the grantor agencies for approval as being in conformance, or not in conflict, with adopted regional plans: one community action program

(CAP-2146); and two conservation programs (CONSER-964 through CONSER-965) (copy of table attached to Official Minutes).

STAFF REPORTS AND ATTENDANT ACTIONS

Mr. Evenson recalled that an interagency and interdisciplinary team is being put together to properly carry out the regional water supply planning program. He reported that negotiations are nearing completion with Federal, State, and University of Wisconsin geologists attendant to providing key support for the water supply study. That agreement, he said, should be ready for execution shortly.

He then indicated that it was the Commission staff's recommendation that the Commission enter into a sole-source agreement with the Madison-based Boardman Law Firm to obtain the services of Ms. Lawrie J. Kobza, a partner in that firm. Ms. Kobza would be commissioned to undertake the legal research called for in the study. He then distributed a summary of Ms. Kozba's education and work experience attendant to water supply matters, noting that she has practiced water supply law throughout the State for the last 18 years. She is a recognized legal specialist in water supply and groundwater law matters and was recently appointed as the municipal representative on the newly formed State Groundwater Advisory Committee. He indicated she was instrumental in working with Senator Neal Kedzie in developing Wisconsin's new groundwater legislation. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee that, after consulting with the Deans of the Law Schools at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and at Marquette University, the Commission staff should proceed to negotiate an agreement with the Boardman Law Firm consistent with the proposal for legal research set forth in the Commission's water supply planning program prospectus.

Mr. Evenson recalled that the Commission relies on a series of seven county-based jurisdictional county highway planning committees to provide guidance and advice both with respect to issues attendant to proposed functional improvements to the highway system and issues attendant to the assignment of construction and maintenance responsibilities attendant to that system. He noted that it was time to recreate the Milwaukee County Jurisdictional Highway Planning Committee for this purpose and distributed a proposed Committee roster (copy attached to Official Minutes). In reviewing the proposed roster, Mr. Evenson noted that the proposed County and community representatives were all technical in nature, such individuals believed to have the most knowledge and experience when it comes to specific highway development issues. With the Executive Committee's approval, he said, the Commission staff would begin to contact these individuals and take the steps necessary to initiate committee action.

After a brief discussion that focused on maintaining roster flexibility dependent upon individual community response to the requests for service on the Committee, on a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Mr. Morrison, and carried unanimously, the Committee approved the creation of the proposed Milwaukee County Jurisdictional Highway Planning Committee.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Evenson reported that he, the Commission's Deputy Director, and Commission Chairman Buestrin had met recently with the President of the Greater Milwaukee Committee, Julia Taylor, relative to the recent private-public sector initiative to establish a regional economic development council. Out of that meeting came an agreement that a Commission staff member would travel to Atlanta, Georgia with Ms. Taylor and other individuals to examine the operations of the Georgia Resource Center that has been established to assist in economic development efforts in that State.

Mr. Evenson also reported that a meeting was held recently with Mr. Fred Lubber, the Chair of the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce Infrastructure Committee, relative to Commission efforts attendant to bringing the proposed K-R-M commuter rail service to fruition. That meeting focused in part on ways to cut the costs of the proposed K-R-M service, including the use of self-propelled commuter rail coaches.

Mr. Evenson reported that he had received earlier that day engineering plans attendant to the proposed parking lot expansion project. In addition, he said that activities are underway to establish a project that will remodel and expand the first floor restroom facilities.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m., on a motion by Mr. Morrison, seconded by Mr. Wirth, and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip C. Evenson
Deputy Secretary

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Attachments