

MINUTES

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 26, 2006

2:00 p.m.

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

Present:

Excused:

Committee Members:

Thomas H. Buestrin, Chairman
Robert A. Brooks (Alternate)
Allen L. Morrison
Daniel S. Schmidt
David L. Stroik
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.

William R. Drew, Vice-Chairman
Adelene Greene
Richard A. Hansen
Linda J. Seemeyer
Paul G. Vrakas

Absent:

Staff:

Philip C. Evenson
Loretta Watson

Executive Director
Executive Secretary

ROLL CALL

Chairman Buestrin called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum declared present. Mr. Evenson noted for the record that Commissioners Drew, Greene, Hansen, Seemeyer, and Vrakas had asked to be excused. Mr. Buestrin noted that he had asked Mr. Brooks to attend the meeting as an alternate member of the Committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 22, 2005, MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Mr. Brooks, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on December 22, 2005, were approved as published.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT, MR. BROOKS REPORTING

(Meeting of January 26, 2006)

Mr. Brooks 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 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.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Morrison, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, 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. Three of the four contracts, he said, relate to County Surveyor services during 2006 in Milwaukee, Racine, and Walworth Counties, respectively. The fourth contract is with the University of Wisconsin-Extension and secures the services of hydrogeologic experts as consultants in completing the regional water supply study.

A brief discussion then ensued. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Wirth, Mr. Evenson indicated that the end products from the 2005 orthophotography program are now being produced and, following quality control work by the Commission staff, are being delivered in batches to the individual counties. He said that he believes that Ozaukee and Washington Counties have received all of their products. The entire project, he said, should wrap up this spring. In response to a follow up question by Mr. Wirth, Mr. Evenson indicated that the products are all digital in nature and include both color orthophotography and faux black and white orthophotography. It would be possible to produce infrared orthophotography from the data captured during the flights; however, that would cost more and no one stepped forward to pay for

the extra data processing. In response to a question by Mr. Brooks, Mr. Evenson indicated that the Commission will provide county surveyor services to four counties this year and could possibly provide services to Ozaukee County next year.

Following that discussion, 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 two 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. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Morrison, and carried unanimously, the following two applications were recommended to the grantor agencies for approval as being in conformance, or not in conflict, with adopted regional plans: one community facility program (COMFAC-245); and one conservation program (CONSER-971) (copy of table attached to Official Minutes).

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO 2005-2007 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Evenson noted that the Committee members had been provided in advance of the meeting copies of Resolution Nos. 2006-01, 2006-02, and 2006-03, each of which, if approved, would amend the 2005-2007 Regional Transportation Improvement Program. He asked that the Committee consider Resolution 2006-01, attached to which are exhibits attendant to a total of 38 transportation projects. Of these 38 projects, 15 are already in the improvement program document but are being amended with respect to such items as project scope and budget, with the remaining 23 projects representing additions to the improvement program document. The entire list of 38 projects has been reviewed and recommended for approval by the Advisory Committees on Transportation System Planning and Programming for the Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine urbanized areas which met recently for this purpose.

A brief discussion then ensued. Mr. Schmidt pointed out that Project No. 347, set forth on Exhibit D, calls for the resurfacing of STH 28 east of USH 45 to STH 144. Mr. Schmidt noted that in a recent meeting with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, he had been told that a project to resurface STH 28 would begin soon, but involves a portion of the roadway west of USH 45, not east. Mr. Evenson indicated that he would check on this potential discrepancy and report back to the Committee.

[Secretary's Note Upon checking with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, the Department acknowledged that it had submitted the wrong data to the Commission and that Mr. Schmidt's understanding was indeed correct. The Department indicated that it would submit a project revision to the Commission in the near future.]

Mr. Brooks inquired as to the role of La Casa de Esperanza, Inc., in Project No. 656 set forth in Exhibit H. Mr. Evenson indicated that La Casa was simply substituting for the previous applicant – Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Inc. – in this project and would take on the responsibility of administering these funds in Waukesha County. The project involves, he said, underwriting loans to low-income families to enable them to purchase automobiles that provide access to jobs.

After that discussion, it was moved by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Mr. Brooks, and carried unanimously, to adopt Resolution 2006-01 (copy attached to Official Minutes).

Mr. Evenson then asked that the Committee consider Resolution 2006-02, attached to which is a single exhibit listing a total of 16 transportation and related projects. All 16 of these projects would be new additions to the Transportation Improvement Program. The 16 projects, he said, were selected from a total of 39 projects submitted as candidates to receive special Federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funding. The 39 projects were independently reviewed and scored by the staffs of the Wisconsin Departments of Transportation and Natural Resources and the Commission, together with review of the outcome of the scoring process by the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the Chairmen of the Advisory Committees on Transportation System Planning and Programming for the Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine urbanized areas. Those three Committees subsequently reviewed and approved the selection process, and thereupon endorsed the 16 projects for funding and inclusion in the program document.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Stroik and carried unanimously, to adopt Resolution 2006-02 (copy attached to Official Minutes).

Mr. Evenson then asked that the Committee consider Resolution 2006-03, attached to which are exhibits attendant to a total of 19 transportation projects. All 19 projects have been selected for funding with Federal Surface Transportation Program monies allocated to the Milwaukee urbanized area. Of these 19 projects, seven are already in the improvement program document but are being amended to reflect the special source of funding and, in some cases, to modify the project scope. The remaining 12 projects represent additions to the improvement program document. The entire list of 19 projects has been reviewed and recommended for approval by the Advisory Committee on Transportation System Planning and Programming for the Milwaukee urbanized area.

After a brief discussion during which Mr. Evenson noted that highway safety considerations are not an explicit factor in the project selection process, it was moved by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, and carried unanimously, to adopt Resolution 2006-03 (copy attached to Official Minutes).

WORK PROGRESS REPORTS

Mr. Evenson recalled that Commissioner Lee Holloway, in his capacity as Chairman of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, had asked the Commission to submit a report to him that comprehensively addresses the work undertaken by the Commission that has particular benefit for Milwaukee County, and that further addresses certain issues attendant to Commission efforts to increase the number of minorities on its staff and to the Commission's office location. He indicated that such a report had recently been completed and submitted to Mr. Holloway and distributed copies of the report to each member of the Executive Committee. Mr. Holloway's staff indicated that the report will shortly be circulated to all members of the Board. Mr. Evenson indicated that he would await further direction from Commissioner Holloway in this matter. Mr. Morrison commented that similar reports submitted periodically to other

counties would be very helpful. Mr. Evenson indicated that the staff would attempt to prepare such reports for all counties at appropriate intervals.

Mr. Evenson indicated that while work was continuing on completing the new regional land use and transportation plans, those plans will not be ready for adoption by the Commission at the forthcoming March 1, 2006, Quarterly meeting. The Commission staff, he said, will vigorously pursue completion of these efforts as soon as possible, being sure to meet all of the Federal planning requirements, including some new requirements put into effect when the U.S. Congress enacted new transportation legislation last fall. Because of certain Federal requirements that connect Federally supported metropolitan transportation planning with State air quality implementation planning, it may be necessary for the Commission to give formal consideration to the two new regional plans at a special meeting early this spring.

Mr. Evenson then recalled that State legislation enacted last year created a new Regional Transit Authority (RTA) for Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine Counties. That legislation designates the Commission to provide staff support to the new authority as it deliberates on its charge over the next year or two. The RTA Board, he said, is made up of seven individuals. All seven appointments have been made, with one of the appointments pending confirmation by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors. The Commission staff has taken steps to begin the RTA work process and is trying to schedule the first RTA Board meeting next month.

Finally, Mr. Evenson reported that efforts continue to meet with leaders in the Milwaukee business community to better familiarize them with the Commission and its work program. Such a meeting was held earlier this month with Steven J. Smith, Chairman of the Board and CEO of Journal Communications and the present Chairman of the Greater Milwaukee Committee. The meeting was arranged by Commissioner Stroik and was considered to be time well spent. Mr. Stroik is working to schedule similar meetings with other business leaders.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Evenson distributed copies of a letter to the Commission from a Milwaukee citizen who desires that the Commission focus all of its efforts on establishing commuter rail transit services throughout the Region. Mr. Evenson said that he would put this letter in the file of the public involvement effort of the forthcoming new regional transportation plan, making it part of the record.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m., on a motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Morrison, and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip C. Evenson
Deputy Secretary

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Attachments