

**MINUTES**

**SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Thursday, February 23, 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  
Adelene Greene  
Allen L. Morrison  
Daniel S. Schmidt  
Linda J. Seemeyer  
David L. Stroik  
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.

William R. Drew, Vice-Chairman  
Richard A. Hansen  
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, Hansen, and Vrakas had asked to be excused.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2006, MEETING**

On a motion by Ms. Greene, seconded by Mr. Stroik, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on January 26, 2006, were approved as published.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT, MR. BUESTRIN REPORTING**

(Meeting of February 23, 2006)

Mr. Buestrin 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 2006 Nos. 2 and 3, extending over the period January 9, 2006, to February 5, 2006.
2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending February 5, 2006. With about 10 percent of the year completed, the projections indicate a year end surplus of about \$474,000, a figure that is expected to decline as the year goes on.
3. Received a report that the Commission has placed an order for a Dodge Grand Caravan vehicle at a cost of about \$16,900. This vehicle is being purchased off the State bid list from Ewald Automotive Group in Oconomowoc.
4. Received a report that the lease between the Commission and Medical Associates, Inc. for space in the Rockwood Drive building has been executed. Work will begin shortly on remodeling to meet the tenant's requirements. Medical Associates will occupy the leased space for three years beginning April 1, 2006, with two one-year renewal options.
5. Received a report that the Commission staff is in the process of securing a business insurance proposal from the Community Insurance Corporation, a subsidiary of the Wisconsin County Mutual Insurance Corporation. Commission business insurance coverage expires in July each year.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Ms. Seemeyer, 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 five contracts reported on the table, noting in particular the continuing work being done by the Commission for Kenosha County attendant to the removal of homes in the Fox River floodplain and a new project being funded by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District that involves evaluating alternative approaches to resolving structure flooding problems along the Milwaukee River in Milwaukee County.

A brief discussion then ensued. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Buestrin, Mr. Evenson indicated that under the contract between the Commission and the University of Wisconsin-Extension system, the Commission receives the services of Mr. Gary K. Korb, an experienced extension agent very familiar with planning processes. Mr. Korb has his office in the Commission's Rockwood Drive building and effectively works on a day-to-day basis as a member of the Commission staff. His work efforts at the present time focus primarily in two program areas, transportation planning and water quality planning. He assists the Commission's Deputy Director in outreach efforts attendant to the transportation planning program, those efforts having become more extensive in recent years given the controversy that remains over the Commission's determination to recommend widening along 19 miles of freeway in the City of Milwaukee. Mr. Korb also works with the Commission's Environmental Planning staff, being presently heavily engaged in activities preparing for the forthcoming water quality conference being jointly sponsored with the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District.

Following that discussion, on a motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Morrison, 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 four 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 Ms. Seemeyer, seconded by Mr. Wirth, and carried unanimously, the following four applications were recommended to the grantor agencies for approval as being in conformance, or not in conflict, with adopted regional plans: four conservation programs (CONSER-972 through CONSER-975) (copy of table attached to Official Minutes).

## **CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO 2005-2007 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Mr. Evenson distributed copies of Resolution No. 2006-04, which, if approved, would amend the 2005-2007 Regional Transportation Improvement Program. He asked that the Committee consider Resolution 2006-04, attached to which are exhibits attendant to a total of 29 transportation projects. The entire list is presently under review by the Advisory Committees on Transportation System Planning and Programming for the Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine urbanized areas. Given the routine nature of these amendments, it is expected that these Committees shortly will recommend approval of these projects by post card ballot. Of the 29 projects, Mr. Evenson noted, 12 represent projects that are already in the transportation improvement program but that are being amended in a minor way relative to timing, cost, and/or source of funds. The remaining 17 projects, he said, are new projects of a relatively minor nature, typically involving safety improvements, intersection improvements, and pavement and bridge rehabilitation.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Ms. Seemeyer, seconded by Mr. Stroik, and carried unanimously, to adopt Resolution 2006-04 (copy attached to Official Minutes).

## **WORK PROGRESS REPORTS**

Mr. Evenson indicated that efforts continue to work with Milwaukee County Board members on responding to their concerns that Commission work efforts do not sufficiently focus on Milwaukee County problems. Preliminary discussions are underway relative to addressing this issue. These discussions may lead to the initiation of a project by the Commission yet this year.

Mr. Evenson then indicated that the initial meeting of the new Regional Transit Authority (RTA) for Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine Counties was held earlier in the week. The RTA Board has selected the Commission staff to provide administrative support services as it pursues its statutory charge. He then reviewed that charge with the members of the Committee making reference to a summary document distributed to members of the Committee (copy of document attached to Official Minutes). The RTA Board has determined to meet on a regular monthly basis, rotating its meetings between locations in the three counties. The RTA Board, he said, took action to place into effect a \$2.00 vehicle rental charge as authorized by the enabling legislation.

In an ensuing discussion, it was agreed that, given the broad transit funding charge of the new RTA Board and given the critical nature of the transit funding problems facing in particular the Milwaukee County transit system, the Commission would not directly charge the RTA Board for the professional staff services necessary to address these transit funding issues. Any significant out-of-pocket costs incurred by the Commission in working with the RTA Board would, however, be subject to recovery payment by the Board. In response to a question by Mr. Wirth, Mr. Evenson indicated that there has been no attempt to expand the geographical scope of the RTA to include the other four counties in the southeastern Wisconsin region.

Mr. Evenson noted that earlier that day, Commission Chairman Buestrin, Commissioner Stroik, and he and Kenneth Yunker of the Commission staff had met with Dennis Kuester, CEO of the M&I Bank and a prominent leader in the Milwaukee business community. The meeting was one of a series being held to brief regional business leaders on the Commission and its work program.

Finally, Mr. Evenson noted that he had recently attended an intergovernmental meeting called by several local government chief elected officials from northwestern Waukesha County and the Waukesha County Executive for the purpose of discussing potential efforts to improve fire and emergency service response times in that part of the County. They have asked the Commission staff to provide leadership in the pursuit of proposals to address growing response problems. Mr. Evenson indicated that the Commission staff would continue to work with that group of locally elected officials to develop an appropriate work program.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Evenson reminded the members of the Committee that the Commission's joint "Clean Rivers-Clean Lakes" conference will be held on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee. All Commissioners are invited to attend. In addition, he noted that the Commission's Quarterly meeting will be held on March 1, 2006, at 3:00 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers of Mequon City Hall in Ozaukee County.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Philip C. Evenson  
Deputy Secretary

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Attachments