

MINUTES

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 26, 2008

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
James T. Dwyer
Adelene Greene
Allen L. Morrison (Alternate)
Daniel S. Schmidt
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.

Richard A. Hansen, Vice-Chairman
Michael J. Miklasevich
David L. Stroik

Staff:

Philip C. Evenson
Kenneth R. Yunker
Loretta Watson

Executive Director
Deputy 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 Hansen, Miklasevich, and Stroik had asked to be excused. Mr. Buestrin noted that he had asked Mr. Morrison to attend the meeting as an alternate member of the Committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 22, 2008, MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Ms. Greene, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on May 22, 2008, were approved as published.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT, MS. GREENE REPORTING

(Meeting of May 22, 2008)

Ms. Greene 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 2008 Nos. 11 and 12, extending over the period May 12, 2008, to June 8, 2008.
2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending June 8, 2008. With about 45 percent of the year completed, the projections indicated a year end surplus of about \$175,000.
3. Received and approved a report from an Ad Hoc Committee, consisting of Commissioners Buestrin, Drew, Schmidt, Wirth, and the Executive Director, relative to annual salary adjustments in the amount of about 3.5 per cent of base salaries. Such adjustments were made on the basis of merit.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Morrison, 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 three contracts reported on the table, noting that the first contract was with the city of Whitewater which desires that the Commission prepare a lake management plan for Cravath and Trippe Lakes. The second contract is with the Whitewater and Rice Lakes Management District which desires the Commission to update an existing aquatic plant management plan for the two lakes concerned. Finally, the third contract with the Delavan Lake Sanitary District desires the Commission to prepare an aquatic plant management plan for Delavan Lake.

There being no discussion, on a motion by Ms. Greene, seconded by Mr. Drew, and carried unanimously, the report relative to the contracts was accepted and placed on file (copy of report attached to Official Minutes).

CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO FILE A U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY GRANT APPLICATION RELATIVE TO THE PREPARATION OF A RIPARIAN BUFFER GUIDE (RESOLUTION NO. 2008-10)

Mr. Evenson then presented Resolution 2008-10, authorizing the Commission staff to file a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant application for the preparation of a riparian buffer guide. Such a guide would be a useful tool to help landowners and local officials implement riparian buffer recommendations made in the recently completed update to the regional quality management plan.

Following a brief discussion, on a motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Wirth, and carried unanimously, Resolution 2008-10 was approved. (copy of Resolution 2008-10 attached to Official Minutes).

CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN A NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PRECIPITATION FREQUENCY STUDY FOR THE MIDWEST

Mr. Evenson then noted that the Commission staff had been approached by the National Weather Service and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation relative to participation in a study, to be conducted by the National Weather Service, that would update rainfall frequency data for Wisconsin, such data being critical to the hydrologic portions of flood studies undertaken by the Commission for various watersheds. In the past, Mr. Evenson said, the Commission had carried out its own rainfall studies and had fully paid the cost. The National Weather Service is willing to undertake an updating study, which is particularly

timely in light of rainfall events over the past several years, and has asked the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the Commission to help fund that study. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation will be committing to fund about \$113,000 toward the cost of the study, and the Commission is being asked to provide \$15,000 for the study -- \$5,000 annually over a three year period. The Commission staff, Mr. Evenson concluded, recommends that the Commission take advantage of this proposal and agree to participate in the study at an out-of-pocket cost not to exceed \$5,000 a year for 2008, 2009, and 2010.

Following a brief discussion, on a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Mr. Morrison, and carried unanimously, the Commission staff was authorized to participate in a National Weather Service precipitation frequency study in the manner outlined by Mr. Evenson.

WORK PROGRAM REPORTS

Mr. Evenson indicated that he had recently been asked by Waukesha County Action Network leaders to participate in a panel discussion at that organization's annual meeting, such discussion to focus on transportation funding challenges lying ahead in Wisconsin. He then distributed a copy of his presentation notes and reviewed those notes with the Committee (copy attached to Official Minutes). The primary focus of his remarks, he said, was that the motor fuel tax is beginning to erode given changes now underway relative to motor fuel efficiency in vehicles. Consequently, he said, a transformation of the State's funding system toward a true user fee likely will be required in the near future. He said that he had suggested that discussion begin to establish true user fees for using the entire Wisconsin freeway system. Not only would such user fees, generated by employing advanced tolling technologies, help shore up the State's transportation funding base, but such a step could also provide a vehicle for funding the local share of transit in the Region.

Mr. Evenson also reported that the Commission staff had participated in the recent conference of the Urban Economic Development Association of Wisconsin held in Milwaukee. He noted that Mr. Yunker had appeared on a panel that was reacting to remarks made by a representative from the Portland area regional government. Mr. Yunker commented that Portland has effectively addressed the transit issues now facing Milwaukee many years ago by forming a three-county transit authority and providing that authority with local funds from a payroll tax.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Evenson reported that there were no announcements or correspondence to be brought to the attention of the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m., on a motion by Mr. Drew, seconded by Mr. Morrison, and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip C. Evenson
Deputy Secretary