

MINUTES

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

QUARTERLY MEETING

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

3:08 p.m.

Kenosha County Board Room (3rd Floor)
Kenosha County Administrative Building
1010 South 56th Street
Kenosha, WI 53140

Present:

Excused:

Commissioners:

David L. Stroik, Chairman
Gilbert B. Bakke
Kimberly L. Breunig
Thomas H. Buestrin
William R. Drew
James T. Dwyer
Adelene Greene
Susan S. Greenfield
Richard A. Hansen
William E. Johnson
Robert W. Pitts
John Rogers
Nancy Russell
Daniel S. Schmidt
Paul G. Vrakas
John F. Weishan, Jr.
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.

Gregory L. Holden
Mary A. Kacmarcik
Daniel Stoffel

Staff:

Kenneth R. Yunker	Executive Director
Elizabeth A. Larsen	Business Manager
Robert P. Biebel	Special Projects Engineer
Debra A. D'Amico	Executive Secretary

Guests:

Jennie Tunkieicz	Assistant to the Kenosha County Executive
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ROLL CALL

Chairman Stroik called the 230th meeting of the Commission to order at 3:08 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum declared present. Chairman Stroik indicated for the record that Commissioners Holden, Kacmarcik, and Stoffel had asked to be excused.

WELCOMING REMARKS

Chairman Stroik recognized Ms. Jennie Tunkieicz, the Assistant to the Kenosha County Executive who greeted and welcomed the Commissioners on behalf of Kenosha County Executive Jim Kreuser. She then thanked the Commission for the excellent work the Commission conducts on behalf of Kenosha County.

Chairman Stroik thanked Ms. Tunkieicz for her remarks.

INTRODUCTION AND SEATING OF NEW COMMISSIONERS (RACINE AND KENOSHA COUNTY)

Chairman Stroik noted that two new appointments had been made to the Commission, one for Racine County and one for Kenosha County, and that the seating of the new Commissioners was in order at this meeting.

Chairman Stroik then introduced Mr. Gilbert Bakke who had been appointed by the Racine County Board to represent Racine County. He then asked Ms. Greenfield, also a Racine County Commissioner, to introduce Commissioner Bakke to the Commission.

Ms. Greenfield noted that Mr. Bakke is a member of the Racine County Board of Supervisors and has been a member of the Board for the past 12 years. He is currently a Commissioner of the Western Racine County Sewage District and has been serving the District since 1996. He served seven years as a Trustee of the Village of Waterford and is a past President of the Village Board. He also has been a past Board member of the Waterford Graded School District.

Ms. Greenfield also noted that Mr. Bakke has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is the President of Aber Cutters, Inc., a manufacturer of cutting tools and tooling, located in Waterford.

It was then moved by Ms. Greenfield, seconded by Mr. Dwyer, and carried unanimously to formally seat Mr. Gilbert B. Bakke as a Commissioner representing Racine County.

Chairman Stroik then introduced Ms. Kimberly L. Breunig who had been appointed by the Kenosha County Board to represent Kenosha County. He then asked Ms. Greene, also a Kenosha County Commissioner, to introduce Commissioner Breunig to the Commission.

Ms. Greene began by stating that the Kenosha County Board has appointed Kimberly Breunig as a Commissioner representing Kenosha County for a term to expire September 15, 2016.

She noted that Ms. Breunig is a member of the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors, Chairwoman of the Land Use Committee, and has been a member of the Board since 2006. Ms. Breunig is a Planning and Zoning Commissioner for the Town of Salem and has been serving in this capacity for six years. Ms. Greene then noted that Ms. Breunig is also a member of the Western Kenosha County Regional Transit Authority, serves on the Housing Authority, and Land and Water Conservation Committee.

She also noted that Ms. Breunig has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Cardinal Stritch University, and has been an office manager for a packaging company, an assistant

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product manager for a national food company, and marketing specialist for a worldwide electrical component company.

Ms. Greene then made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Pitts, and carried unanimously to formally seat Ms. Kimberly L. Breunig as a Commissioner representing Kenosha County.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JUNE 16, 2010 MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Ms. Greene, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Quarterly Full Commission Meeting of June 16, 2010, were approved as published.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Chairman Stroik asked Ms. Russell to present the Treasurer's Report. She noted that a copy of the Treasurer's Report had been provided to all Commissioners for review prior to the meeting. In commenting on the report, she called attention to the following items:

1. Based upon disbursements through August 15, 2010, it is projected that total disbursements for the year will approximate nearly \$7.5 million. Revenues are projected at about \$7.7 million, exclusive of interest income and miscellaneous revenues.
2. The total amount of funds held by the Commission in the various operating, liability, and reserve accounts approximates \$3.36 million. The various accounts are identified on the second page of the report.
3. As of August 15, 2010, the Commission had in investments and cash on hand of nearly \$3.88 million. About \$3.2 million are invested in the State of Wisconsin Local Government Pooled Investment Fund. As of August 15, 2010, that fund was yielding 0.22 percent interest. Other funds are held in savings, checking, and money market accounts, and a certificate of deposit at several banks.

There being no questions or discussion, on a motion by Mr. Vrakas, seconded by Mr. Drew, and carried unanimously, the Treasurer's Report for the period ending August 15, 2010, was approved (copy of the Treasurer's Report attached to Official Minutes).

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning and Research Committee

The Planning and Research Committee met once since the Commission Quarterly Meeting on June 16, 2010.

On August 17, 2010, the Committee received a staff briefing and held discussions on the following:

1. The Year 2035 Regional Land Use Plan with emphasis on the plan recommendations for urban development.
2. The Regional Water Quality Management Plan with emphasis on the plan recommendations for urban stormwater management.

There being no questions or discussion, on a motion by Mr. Dwyer, seconded by Mr. Rogers, and carried unanimously, the Planning and Research Committee report was approved.

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Administrative Committee

The Administrative Committee met three times since the last commission Quarterly meeting on June 16, 2010.

On June 24, 2010, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Reviewed and approved the Commission disbursements for financial reporting periods: Year 2010 Nos. 11 and 12, extending over the period May 10 to June 6, 2010.
2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending June 6, 2010. With nearly 42 percent of the year completed, the projections indicated a year end surplus of about \$205,545.
3. Received a report on the business insurance coverage maintained by the Commission.
4. Authorized the Commission staff to retain the certified public accounting firm of David L. Scrima, S.C., to conduct the audit of the Commission's calendar year 2010 operations. That firm continues to deliver quality services in a timely way at a low cost.
5. Reviewed and accepted a report on salary adjustments recommended by an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Commissioners Buestrin, Schmidt, and Stroik. There will be salary adjustments totaling about \$90,800 or 2.88 percent. Such adjustments were made on the basis of merit.

On July, 22, 2010, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Reviewed and approved the Commission disbursements for financial reporting periods: Year 2010 Nos. 13 and 14, extending over the period June 7 to July 4, 2010.
2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending July 4, 2010. With about 54 percent of the year completed, the projections indicated a year end surplus of about \$191,815.
3. Received an update on the progress of an analysis regarding cost and potential revenue for Commission service agreements, and service and information requests.

On August 26, 2010, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Reviewed and approved the Commission disbursements for financial reporting periods: Year 2010 Nos. 15, 16, and 17, extending over the period July 5 to August 15, 2010.
2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending August 15, 2010. With about 65 percent of the year completed, the projections indicated a year end surplus of about \$229,000.
3. Discussed with the Commission auditor Federal and State auditing practices for governmental agencies.

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

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Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met two times since the Commission Quarterly Meeting on June 16, 2010.

On July 22, 2010, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Received and approved a report from the Administrative Committee relative to its meeting that day and a previous meeting of June 24, 2010.
2. Reviewed and approved 13 contracts for planning work. The details of these contracts are set forth in a table attached to this report.
3. Received a report outlining the schedule for projects to be completed throughout 2010 which include several key planning efforts being undertaken by the Commission.
4. Approved one amendment to the 2009-2012 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The amendment was necessary largely to advance projects to be funded with Federal Transit Administration funds. The amendment involved modifying the 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program by adding nine new projects and modifying ten existing projects of the TIP.
5. Created and approved a 12-member Technical Advisory Committee on 2010 Regional Orthophotography Product Evaluation, and a 15-member Advisory Committee and 7-member Technical Subcommittee on the Lake Parkway Extension Study.

On August 26, 2010, the Committee took the following action:

1. Received and approved a report from the Administrative Committee relative to its meeting that day.
2. Reviewed and approved four contracts for planning work. The details of these contracts are set forth in a table attached to this report.
3. Received a report outlining the schedule for projects to be completed throughout 2010 which include several key planning efforts being undertaken by the Commission.
4. Approved one amendment to the 2009-2012 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The amendment was necessary largely to advance projects to be funded with U.S. Department of Transportation American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds. The amendment involved the modification of one existing project and adding three new projects to the TIP.
5. Approved one amendment to the 2009-2012 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The amendment was necessary largely to advance several railway-highway crossing improvements in Kenosha, Racine, and Milwaukee Counties. The amendment involved the addition of five new projects and the modification of one existing project to the TIP.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Drew relative to the amount spent on corridor planning studies for the Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee Commuter Rail project (KRM), Mr. Yunker stated that the intergovernmental partnership of the Cities and Counties of Milwaukee, Kenosha, and Racine, and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority (SERTA) have incurred expenditures in the range of \$4 million to date, which includes the completion of a draft environmental impact statement. Mr. Drew further inquired about the amount of funds received by the Commission. Mr. Yunker explained that the KRM technical studies have been conducted by a consultant team, and the manager for the project has been the Commission staff. He stated that the technical studies have been funded by 80 percent Federal funding, 10 percent Wisconsin Department of Transportation funding, and a 10 percent local funding,

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largely provided through in-kind funding. He stated since the inception of SERTA, the Commission has been reimbursed for staff time spent on this project. There being no further questions or comments, on a motion by Ms. Greene, seconded by Mr. Wirth, and carried unanimously, the Executive Committee report was approved.

BREIFING ON REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM PLAN FOR SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN

Chairman Stroik called upon Mr. Yunker to provide a briefing on the regional water system plan for Southeastern Wisconsin and noted that copies of a presentation for the purposes of this briefing were provided for review prior to the meeting. (Presentation copy attached to Official Minutes)

Mr. Yunker noted that during the conduct of the regional water supply study the Commission has received briefings with the last briefing in September 2008, and the Planning and Research Committee has been reviewing and approving the report chapter-by-chapter. He stated that the staff will provide at this meeting a comprehensive overview of the regional water supply study and recommended plan, and provide an opportunity for discussion and for asking questions. He continued by stating that on November 9, 2010, the Planning and Research Committee will be considering the final chapters of the report, including the final recommended plan. The Committee will thus consider at that meeting recommending approval of the plan by the full Commission. The full Commission will then consider adoption of the plan at the December meeting. Mr. Yunker stated all Commissioners will be invited to attend the November Planning and Research Committee meeting to review the final recommendations of the Regional Water Supply Plan.

Mr. Yunker, with the assistance of Mr. Robert P. Biebel of the Commission staff, then reviewed the Commission's water supply planning effort and final plan recommendations.

During and after the presentation, the following questions and comments were made and addressed.

1. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Rogers relative to whether water utilities which rely on groundwater are using shallow aquifer groundwater, Mr. Yunker stated that many utilities are now using the shallow aquifer and increased use may be expected in the future.
2. In response to an inquiry by Ms. Russell relative to Page 13 that has a map showing the 1880-1900 water levels in the sandstone aquifer, Mr. Biebel stated the thick gray line running through Waukesha and Walworth Counties is the location of the western boundary of the Maquoketa shale which separates the shallow and deep aquifers.
3. Ms. Russell inquired as to how the proposed water reservoirs would be provided. Mr. Biebel stated the reservoirs could be provided in elevated tanks, sometimes referred to as water towers, or, as in-ground tanks with pump-out systems.
4. During Mr. Yunker's description of the alternative plans, and the elements of alternative plans which were rejected, Mr. Rogers inquired as to who made these recommendations. Mr. Yunker responded that the Regional Water Supply Planning Advisory Committee made the recommendations. Mr. Yunker added that the Commission appoints the members of the advisory committees, and the Regional Water Supply Advisory Committee includes representatives from each County, municipal water utilities, business and industry, universities, the environmental community, and State and Federal agencies.
5. In response to Mr. Rogers' inquiry relative to the plan time horizon, Mr. Yunker stated that the regional water supply system plan design year is 2035, and considers water supply and demand to the year 2035.

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6. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Rogers, Mr. Biebel responded that all water pumped from Lake Michigan largely is returned—as treated effluent—and, in fact, the amount returned generally exceeds the amount removed by about 10 to 15 percent. Mr. Biebel further noted that the amount of Lake Michigan water used in the Region today is about 200 million gallons per day, and is all returned to Lake Michigan.

Mr. Yunker noted that the Chicago area does not provide a return of water to Lake Michigan. Mr. Biebel added that Chicago's Lake Michigan water usage is two billion gallons per day.
7. Mr. Rogers then inquired if Alternative Plan Four (which would provide the City of Waukesha with a Lake Michigan water supply) would require approval from all the Great Lakes Governors. He also asked if there was a plan which would only extend Lake Michigan water east of the sub-continental divide. Mr. Yunker stated that the extension of Lake Michigan water to communities beyond the sub-continental divide but in Counties which straddle the sub-continental divide—as in Alternative Plan 4—would require the approval of the Great Lakes Governors. He noted that one of two final alternatives only extends Lake Michigan water to communities which lie within the Lake Michigan basin, or which straddle the Lake Michigan basin boundary. The extension of Lake Michigan water to these communities would not require the approval of the Great Lakes Governors.
8. In response to an inquiry by Ms. Greenfield, Mr. Yunker stated that the plan recommends that the water conservation measures implemented by water utilities should be based upon their source of water, and their need for water supply infrastructure investment. For example, water utilities utilizing a Lake Michigan water supply with minimal needs for infrastructure investment, would have less water conservation recommended as compared to water utilities with a groundwater supply and significant infrastructure needs. He noted that the City of Milwaukee water utility has significant excess capacity, and reductions in water use through conservation could result in a corresponding increase in water rates.
9. In response to a question by Mr. Vrakas, Mr. Yunker responded that the final two alternatives essentially compare the use by Waukesha of Lake Michigan water and groundwater.
10. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Rogers regarding the effect of groundwater levels on recent flooding, Mr. Biebel stated that the impact is negligible, as baseflow from groundwater only represents about 20 to 40 percent of annual streamflow and only about 1 percent during flooding.
11. Ms. Greenfield inquired about whether the Council of Great Lakes Governors may be expected to approve the use of Lake Michigan water by the City of Waukesha. Mr. Yunker stated that it is not known whether the City of Waukesha will ultimately pursue Lake Michigan water, or whether a Lake Michigan water utility such as the City of Milwaukee would agree to provide it, or whether approval would be achieved from the Great Lakes Governors. He stated that should any of these not occur, the regional water supply plan would need to be amended, and the regional water supply planning has identified an alternative plan which would be workable, but perhaps not as desirable.
12. In response to a question from Mr. Vrakas, Mr. Yunker responded that the regional water supply planning is based on existing and forecast conditions through the year 2035.

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13. Mr. Rogers noted the modest differences in the impacts, and costs and benefits of the final two alternative plans, Sub-alternative 1 and Sub-alternative 2. He asked for an explanation of the fiscal benefits to the City of Milwaukee if they agreed to provide water to other communities. Mr. Biebel responded that the City of Milwaukee water utility has significant excess capacity for providing water. As most of the costs of providing water are fixed costs, the increased water use and production should help to stabilize or reduce water rates to City of Milwaukee residents.
14. Ms. Russell noted that under the two final sub-alternatives, continued drawdown in the deep aquifer is projected in Walworth County with the first sub-alternative with Waukesha using groundwater having a more severe impact. Mr. Biebel responded that continued drawdown is projected under the first sub-alternative, but at a much somewhat slower rate, that is, about an average of about 4 feet and a maximum of 22 feet in total over the next 25 years. He noted that under the second sub-alternative with Waukesha using a Lake Michigan supply, the average and maximum drawdown in Walworth County would be about 2 and 14 feet, respectively. He noted that the projected drawdown is partially a result of projected continued use of the deep aquifer by residents in northern Illinois of the deep aquifer.
15. In response to questions from Mr. Weishan, Mr. Biebel responded that the approximate capacity of the City of Milwaukee water utility is 380 million gallons of water per day, and the current water use is 120 to 140 million gallons per day. The addition of the City of Waukesha's water use represents an additional 10 million gallons per day and of the other communities proposed to convert to Lake Michigan water would represent an additional 13 million gallons per day. Thus, even with the conversion to Lake Michigan water recommended in the regional water supply plan, significant water production capacity would remain in the Milwaukee water utility. He noted that the effect on Milwaukee water rates would be modest, perhaps only helping to stabilize rates, or modestly reduce, water use rates in the City of Milwaukee.
16. During the presentation of the stormwater management practices plan component, Mr. Rogers inquired about the recommendation that the pre-development recharge of areas being developed largely be maintained. Mr. Biebel indicated that the current regulations required in residential developments 90 percent of pre-development recharge be achieved in residential development and 60 percent be achieved for non-residential development. Mr. Rogers asked whether this would be achieved under extreme rainfalls. Mr. Biebel responded it would not in that this requirement is part of current Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WisDNR) regulations and applies to mean annual rainfall.
17. Mr. Weishan noted bullet three on Page 57 of the presentation, which states that groundwater, if properly managed, could support existing and planned development in Southeastern Wisconsin through the year 2035. He asked then why would Waukesha County communities seek Lake Michigan water. Mr. Yunker stated that these communities would need to largely shift to the shallow aquifer and the cost of this shift and other attendant actions would be similar to that of obtaining Lake Michigan water. Moreover, the shift to the shallow aquifer would entail impacts on groundwater baseflow to streams and inland lakes, potential impacts on nearby private wells, and continued chloride discharges from continued use of water softeners. It is for these reasons Lake Michigan water is more desirable.
18. In response to an inquiry from Mr. Drew relative to the requirements and regulations regarding the return of treated wastewater to Lake Michigan, Mr. Biebel stated that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WisDNR) regulates the return of water. The City of Waukesha will be required to obtain a permit to change its discharge of treated

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wastewater from the Fox River to Lake Michigan, whether via a pipeline, or to the Root River, or Underwood Creek and the Menomonee River. He also stated that the WisDNR will be preparing an environmental impact statement addressing all alternatives for the returning treated wastewater and evaluating the impacts of those alternatives.

Mr. Yunker concluded his presentation by noting the remaining steps necessary to finalize the water supply plan. He stated that Chapters X, XI, and XII will be mailed to each Commissioner for review prior to the November 9, 2010, Planning and Research Committee meeting. He then reiterated that all Commissioners are invited to attend this meeting to review the final chapters of the Plan.

There being no further questions or comments, Chairman Stroik thanked Mr. Yunker for his presentation.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Chairman Stroik then notified the Commissioners that at the December Quarterly meeting, the Commission will elect its officers for the two-year period 2011-2013. In accordance with the Commission bylaws, he then announced his appointments to the 2010 Nominating Committee. They are:

Daniel S. Schmidt, Washington County, Chairman
Thomas H. Buestrin, Ozaukee County
Gregory L. Holden, Walworth County
Mary A. Kacmarcik, Racine County
Robert W. Pitts, Kenosha County
Paul G. Vrakas, Waukesha County
John F. Weishan, Jr., Milwaukee County

The Nominating Committee is responsible for submitting its recommendations to the full Commission at the December meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF MARCH QUARTERLY MEETING

Chairman Stroik indicated that the next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 1, 2010, in Milwaukee County.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, on a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Ms. Breunig, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth R. Yunker
Deputy Secretary

KRY/dad
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Attachments