MINUTES
SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, March 8, 2017 3:00 p.m.

Kemper Center
Founder’s Hall
6501 Third Avenue
Kenosha, Wisconsin 63143

Present:

Commissioners:
Charles L. Colman, Chairman
Michael A. Crowley, Vice-Chairman
Steve Bostrom
Thomas H. Buestrin
Mike Dawson
José M. Delgado
Brian R. Dranzik
James T. Dwyer
James A. Ladwig
Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.
Aloysius Nelson
Robert W. Pitts
Jennifer K. Rothstein
Nancy Russell
Daniel S. Schmidt
David L. Stroik
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.

Excused:
William R. Drew
Jeffrey D. Schleif
Peggy L. Shumway

Staff:
Michael G. Hahn Executive Director
Kevin J. Muhs Deputy Director
Elizabeth A. Larsen Assistant Director - Administration
Debra A. D’Amico Executive Secretary

ROLL CALL

Chairman Colman called the 258th meeting of the Commission to order at 3:00 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was declared present. Chairman Colman indicated for the record that Commissioners Drew, Schleif, and Shumway had asked to be excused.
WELCOMING REMARKS BY THE KENOSHA COUNTY EXECUTIVE, JIM KREUSER

Mr. Nelson introduced Kenosha County Executive Jim Kreuser who then welcomed the Commissioners to Kenosha County. He noted that he has worked with the Commission for many years, and was appreciative of the support and direction he has received from the Commission staff.

INTRODUCTION AND SEATING OF NEW COMMISSIONER (KENOSHA COUNTY)

Chairman Colman called on Mr. Nelson to introduce the Commission’s newest Commissioner, Mr. Steve Bostrom. Mr. Nelson stated that Mr. Bostrom was appointed to the Commission by the Kenosha County Executive and was confirmed by the County Board of Supervisors. He also noted that Mr. Bostrom serves as a Kenosha County Board Supervisor, is Chairman of the Kenosha Regional Airport Commission, and was a former Alderman for the City of Kenosha. Mr. Bostrom has also spent the past 17 years as a Real Estate Broker Associate with Berkshire Hathaway Epic Real Estate.

Mr. Nelson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, and carried unanimously, to formally seat Mr. Steve Bostrom as a Commissioner representing Kenosha County on the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Mr. Bostrom then stated that he was grateful and honored to participate as a Commissioner representing Kenosha County.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 7, 2016, QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Dwyer, seconded by Mr. Delgado, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the December 7, 2016, Quarterly Commission Meeting were approved as published.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Chairman Colman 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 February 5, 2017, it is projected that total disbursements for the year will approximate $7.5 million. Revenues are projected at about $8.4 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 $2.9 million. The various accounts are identified on the second page of the report.

3. As of February 5, 2017, the Commission had in investments and cash on hand approximately $4.56 million. $4.55 million are invested in the State of Wisconsin Local Government Pooled Investment Fund. As of February 5, 2017, that fund was yielding 0.53 percent interest. Other funds are held in savings, checking, and certificate of deposits held at several banks.

There being no questions or discussion, on a motion by Ms. Russell, seconded by Mr. Wirth, and carried unanimously, the Treasurer’s Report for the period ending February 5, 2017, was approved (copy of the Treasurer’s Report is attached to the Official Minutes).
STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning and Research Committee
Chairman Colman asked Mr. Schmidt to present the Planning and Research Committee report. Mr. Schmidt stated that the Planning and Research Committee met once since the Commission’s Quarterly meeting on December 7, 2016.

On February 14, 2017, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Received a briefing, through the use of a PowerPoint presentation, on the upcoming potential Amendment of the SEWRPC Regional Water Quality Management Plan to Incorporate Total Maximum Daily Loads Developed for the Rock and Milwaukee River Basins.

2. Received a briefing, through the use of a PowerPoint presentation, on the preliminary draft of SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 320, Jackson Creek Watershed Protection Plan.

3. Received an update on county public transit-human services transportation plans.

There being no questions or discussion, on a motion by Mr. Buestrin, seconded by Mr. Crowley, and carried unanimously, the Planning and Research Committee Report was approved (copy of the Planning and Research Committee Report is attached to the Official Minutes).

Administrative Committee Report
Chairman Colman asked Mr. Dwyer to present the Administrative Committee report. Mr. Dwyer noted that the report had been provided to all Commissioners prior to the meeting. He also noted that the Administrative Committee had met two times since the Quarterly Commission Meeting on December 7, 2016.

On Thursday, January 26, 2017, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Reviewed and approved disbursements for five financial periods: Year 2016 Nos. 24, 25, 26, 27, and Year 2017 No. 1; extending over the period October 31, 2016, to January 8, 2017.


3. Authorized the Commission staff to retain the certified public accounting firm of CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP to conduct the audit of the Commission’s calendar year 2016 operations.

On Thursday, February 16, 2017, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Reviewed and approved disbursements for one financial period: Year 2017 Nos. 2 and 3 for the period of January 9 to February 5, 2017.

There being no discussion, on a motion by Mr. Crowley, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, and carried unanimously, the Administrative Committee Report was approved (copy of the Administrative Committee Report is attached to the Official Minutes).

Executive Committee Report
Chairman Colman, as Chairman of the Executive Committee, provided the Executive Committee report. He stated that the Executive Committee had met two times since the Quarterly Commission Meeting on December 7, 2016.

On January 26, 2017, the Committee took the following actions:

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 key planning efforts being undertaken by the Commission in 2017.
4. Reviewed and approved ratification of an employment agreement with the incoming Executive Director.
5. Reviewed and approved the updated “Public Participation Plan for Regional Planning in Southeastern Wisconsin, including Appendix A, “Public Participation Plan for Transportation Planning;” Appendix B, “Regional Transportation Consultation Process; Plan Summary brochure; and, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission staff memorandum, “Record of Public Involvement on Updated Public Participation Plan: 2016.”
6. Received an update on the proposed “Chloride Impact Study for the Southeastern Wisconsin Region.”

On February 16, 2017, the Committee took the following actions:

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 key planning efforts being undertaken by the Commission in 2017. The most recent report is attached to this report.
4. Reviewed and approved amendments to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This amendment to the 2017-2020 TIP was necessary to advance 11 projects which were approved by the Commission Advisory Committee for Transportation System Planning and Programming for the Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, Round Lake Beach, and West Bend Urbanized Areas.

There being no questions or discussion, on a motion by Mr. Dwyer, seconded by Ms. Rothstein, and carried unanimously, the Executive Committee Report was approved (copy of the Executive Committee Report is attached to the Official Minutes).
“THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES ON REGIONAL PLANNING” PRESENTATION

Chairman Colman asked Mr. Muhs to give his presentation on “The Potential Impacts of Autonomous Vehicles on Regional Planning.” (A copy of Mr. Muhs’ PowerPoint presentation is attached to the Official Minutes.)

During the presentation the following questions and comments were addressed.

In response to a comment by Mr. Colman regarding orange lane markings as an alternative to white lane markings in areas that receive snowfall, Mr. Muhs stated that using a lane marking other than the color white could address issues of guiding autonomous vehicles during snowy road conditions.

Mr. Lipscomb asked if the hardware of any existing vehicles was sufficient to support autonomous driving and is the software able to be upgraded. Mr. Muhs stated that Tesla claims that the latest generation of its vehicles has hardware technology included to support autonomous driving, and that future software upgrades will utilize the hardware already installed.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Ladwig concerning the driving age, Mr. Muhs stated that there may no longer be a need for a driver’s license.

Ms. Russell then inquired as to how these vehicles go through a roundabout and how would they know when another vehicle enters or exits the roundabout. Mr. Muhs stated that roundabouts will be a challenge during the period when autonomous vehicles share the road with driver-operated vehicles.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Nelson concerning airport drop-offs, Mr. Muhs stated the vehicle likely would either go to a parking structure or back to the individual’s home. Going back to a house could result in a loss of revenue for airports as there would no longer be a need for parking facilities.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Muhs stated that in three to ten years an autonomous vehicle is expected to cost approximately $10,000 more than a vehicle that is not equipped to operate autonomously. He also noted that currently, luxury vehicles provide some driverless features.

In response to an inquiry by Ms. Russell concerning the speed limit, Mr. Muhs stated that initial programming for vehicles currently on the road using limited autonomous features, such as Tesla’s Autopilot, limits speed to five to 10 miles per hour over the speed limit. Ultimately, the Federal government determines safety regulations, and may have to in this case as well.

Mr. Wirth stated that the Tesla’s upgrades their vehicle software when plugged in overnight.

Chairman Colman commented that a TED (Technology, Entertainment and Design) Talk is available online on this topic.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Colman announced that the upcoming Administrative and Executive Committee Meetings for the month of March have been cancelled. He then asked Mr. Hahn if there was any correspondence or any other announcements. Mr. Hahn said there were none.
CONFIRMATION OF DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF THE JUNE ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING

Chairman Colman indicated that the next full Commission meeting will be the Annual Commission Meeting on Wednesday, June 21, 2017, at 3:00 p.m. in Washington County. The location for this meeting will be confirmed on a later date.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, on a motion by Mr. Stroik, seconded by Mr. Wirth, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael H. Hahn
Deputy Secretary

MGH/EAL/dd
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