

MINUTES

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 26, 2018

2:00 p.m.

SEWRPC Office Building
Commissioners' Conference Room
W239 N1812 Rockwood Drive
Waukesha, Wisconsin 53187

Present:

Excused:

Committee Members:

Charles L. Colman, Chairman
Michael A. Crowley, Vice-Chair
Thomas H. Buestrin
William R. Drew
James T. Dwyer
Aloysius Nelson
Robert Pitts
Daniel S. Schmidt
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.

Mike Dawson
David L. Stroik

Staff:

Michael G. Hahn	Executive Director
Kevin J. Muhs	Deputy Director
Elizabeth A. Larsen	Assistant Director-Administration

ROLL CALL

Chairman Colman called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was declared present. Mr. Hahn noted for the record that Messrs. Dawson and Stroik had asked to be excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 15, 2018, MEETING

Chairman Colman asked if there were any changes or additions to the February 15, 2018, meeting minutes. There were none.

On a motion by Mr. Drew, seconded by Mr. Nelson, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on February 15, 2018, were approved as published.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman Colman reported that the Administrative Committee, at its meeting held just before this Executive Committee meeting, had taken the following actions.

1. Reviewed and approved disbursements for five financial periods: Year 2018, Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 extending over the period of February 5, 2018, to April 15, 2018.
2. Reviewed and approved the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the period ending April 15, 2018.

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

CONSIDERATION OF CONTRACTS

Chairman Colman asked Ms. Larsen to review the proposed contracts, noting that prior to the meeting, Committee members had received a one page report with a table listing eight contracts. Ms. Larsen then briefly reviewed the contracts with the Committee.

In response to a question by Mr. Colman concerning the Twin Lakes Water Level Study, Mr. Hahn stated that the Commission staff had prepared a lake level analysis as part of a previous management plan for the Twin Lakes (Lakes Elizabeth and Mary). He noted that the Lake levels are regulated by a dam that is on Village of Twin Lakes property, but that is located downstream of Lake Elizabeth in Illinois. He said that control of lake levels can be a contentious issue given competing lake use interests such as fishing, water skiing, personal watercraft operation, and kayaking and canoeing. He also noted that the current study would consider the issue of winter ice damage, which is related to lake levels.

There being no additional questions, on a motion by Mr. Dwyer, seconded by Mr. Drew, and carried unanimously, the contract report was accepted and the report was placed on file (copy of report attached to Official Minutes).

WORK PROGRAM REPORTS

Mr. Hahn reviewed the Work Program Progress Report. He noted that the report identifies key regional and selected community and county assistance efforts (copy of report attached to Official Minutes).

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Crowley, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, and carried unanimously, the Work Program report was approved.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS, (Resolution No. 2018-10)

Chairman Colman asked the Commission to consider adoption of Resolution No. 2018-10, amending the 2017-2020 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He noted that these materials were provided prior to this meeting.

Mr. Muhs presented Resolution 2018-10, amending the 2017-2020 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He indicated there are 2 existing projects and 7 new projects to be amended to the TIP. He stated that the addition of these projects to the TIP were approved by the Commission's Advisory

Committee on Transportation System Planning and Improvement Programming in the Milwaukee Urbanized Area.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Crowley to approve Resolution 2018-10, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, and carried by a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays, Resolution 2018-10 was approved (copy of Resolution 2018-10 attached to Official Minutes).

UPDATE ON PLANNING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE FOXCONN MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT

Chairman Colman asked Mr. Hahn to provide an update on activities related to the proposed Foxconn development in Racine County.

Mr. Hahn noted that the Commission staff has been involved in several efforts related to the proposed development including working on sewer service area amendments for the City of Racine and environs, the City of Kenosha, and the Village of Union Grove, evaluating the effectiveness of proposed controls on runoff from the Foxconn site and associated development in the Village of Mt. Pleasant, and preparing an amendment to the VISION 2050 regional land use and transportation plan that will address future land use development and multi-modal transportation facilities associated with not only the Foxconn development, but also related ancillary development.

Mr. Hahn described the SEWRPC effort, in working with Kenosha and Racine Counties, the Villages of Mt. Pleasant and Somers, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) to evaluate the effectiveness of proposed controls on stormwater runoff from the Foxconn site and associated development in the Village of Mount Pleasant. The Kilbourn Road Ditch in the Des Plaines River watershed flows through the Foxconn site and downstream through the Village of Somers. The SEWRPC Study will evaluate the stormwater management system proposed for the Foxconn site and may suggest adjustment of the system design to avoid increasing flood flows. The objective of the study is to provide the information necessary for the stormwater management features on the Foxconn site to be designed to not create flooding problems in the Town of Yorkville and the Village of Mount Pleasant in Racine County and in the Village of Somers in Kenosha County.

Mr. Muhs then noted that the SEWRPC staff has initiated the preparation of an amendment to the VISION 2050 regional land use and transportation plan that would consider both possible future land use changes associated with the Foxconn development and related development around the Foxconn site, and multi-modal transportation options to accommodate the necessary workforce. Commission staff is coordinating with WisDOT on a schedule for the amendment. The Commission will potentially act on the VISION 2050 amendment on December 5, 2018.

Mr. Pitts commented that the Village of Somers is concerned with stormwater runoff and would like monthly update reports. Mr. Hahn stated that staff has not been requested to provide monthly reports, but the Village of Somers is aware of the SEWRPC study.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Buestrin, Mr. Hahn stated that the subcontinental divide between the Great Lakes Basin and the Mississippi River Basin divides the property on which the first phase of the Foxconn facility will be constructed; thus, runoff from the western part of the property drains to the Des Plaines River watershed in the Mississippi Basin and the eastern part of the property drains to the Pike River watershed in the Great Lakes Basin.

Mr. Buestrin then asked if the Des Plaines River could be diverted to drain toward Lake Michigan. Mr. Hahn stated that to re-route the flow of the River would almost certainly require preparation of an environmental impact statement, and possible interbasin transfer of invasive species would be a significant consideration. In addition, such a diversion into Lake Michigan would not be consistent with the Great Lakes Compact.

Mr. Wirth noted that Chicago diverts up to 2.1 billion gallons of water per day from Lake Michigan, while Foxconn will only divert seven million gallons of water per day.

Mr. Colman stated he is concerned that the public is hearing news reports that state Foxconn will use seven million gallons of water per day, but they are not aware that diverted water will also be returned to Lake Michigan. Mr. Hahn said that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources issued an approval of the City of Racine Lake Michigan diversion request on April 25, and he noted that the proposed consumptive use of 2.7 million gallons per day (with 4.3 million gallons per day being returned to the Lake) is allowed under the Great Lakes Compact. He mentioned that classification of the diversion as being for a public water supply purpose, as required under the Compact, had been a topic of considerable discussion.

Mr. Pitts noted that the public is concerned that the water that is returned to Lake Michigan will be polluted.

Mr. Nelson commented that Foxconn-related transportation issues would be addressed at a Racine County Transportation Task Force meeting to be held on Thursday, May 17, 2018, at the Ives Grove Auditorium.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Hahn stated there was no correspondence but announced that Ms. Deb D'Amico, Executive Secretary retired from the Commission on April 3, 2018.

Mr. Hahn also announced that Mr. Robert Merry, Chief Surveyor, received a "Friend of Land Records" award from the Wisconsin Land Information Association for the Commission's development of an affordable conversion technique and the Commission's ongoing county support in datum conversion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Wirth, seconded by Mr. Dwyer, and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael G. Hahn
Executive Director