

MINUTES
SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

3:00 p.m.

Cabela's
Conference Center
1 Cabela Way
Richfield, WI 53076

Present:

Excused:

Commissioners:

Charles L. Colman , Chairman
Michael A. Crowley, Vice-Chairman
Steve Bostrom
Mike Dawson
José M. Delgado
James T. Dwyer
Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.
Aloysius Nelson
Robert W. Pitts
Jennifer K. Rothstein
Jeffrey D. Schleif
Daniel S. Schmidt
David L. Stroik

Thomas H. Buestrin
Brian R. Dranzik
William R. Drew
James A. Ladwig
Nancy Russell
Peggy L. Shumway
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.

Staff:

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

Guest:

Donna Brown-Martin Director, Milwaukee County Department of Transportation

ROLL CALL

Chairman Colman called the 263rd 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 Buestrin, Dranzik, Drew, Ladwig, Russell, Shumway, and Wirth had asked to be excused.

WELCOMING REMARKS BY MR. DAVID STROIK, WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Mr. Stroik noted that Mr. Joshua Schoemann, Washington County Administrator was not able to attend the meeting and in his place welcomed the Commissioner's to Washington County.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 7, 2018, QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Dwyer, seconded by Mr. Stroik, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the March 7, 2018, Quarterly Commission Meeting were approved as published.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Chairman Colman presented the Treasurer's Report. He 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, he called attention to the following items:

1. Based upon disbursements through May 13, 2018, it is projected that total disbursements for the year will approximate \$7.6 million. Revenues are projected at about \$7.8 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 \$4.5 million. The various accounts are identified on the second page of the report.
3. As of May 13, 2018, the Commission had in investments and cash on hand approximately \$7.5 million. \$6.0 million are invested in the State of Wisconsin Local Government Pooled Investment Fund. As of May 13, 2018, that fund was yielding 1.80 percent interest. Other funds are held in savings, checking, and money market accounts at several banks.

There being no questions or discussion, on a motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Schleif, and carried unanimously, the Treasurer's Report for the period ending May 13, 2018, 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 has met once since the Commission's Quarterly meeting on March 7, 2018.

On May 8, 2018, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Reviewed and acted to recommend to the Commission for adoption the following amendment to the adopted regional land use and transportation plan:
 - a. First Amendment to VISION 2050: A Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin – Establishing Targets for Federal Performance Measures: Highway Safety

There being no discussion, on a motion by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Stroik, 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 March 7, 2018.

On Thursday, April 26, 2018, the Committee took 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 February 5, to April 15, 2018.
2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending April 15, 2018.

On Thursday, May 24, 2018, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Reviewed and approved disbursements for two financial periods: Year 2018 Nos. 9 and 10 for the period of April 16, to May 13, 2018.
2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending May 13, 2018.
3. Reviewed and approved a series of budget assumptions for calendar year 2019, which provide for no increase in the regional local to levy for the thirteenth straight year. A budget based upon those assumptions will be considered later in the meeting today.
4. Reviewed and accepted a report on staff compensation. Staff merit and promotion increases totaled \$135,300.00 or 3.58 percent.
5. Received and approved a report on business insurance.

There being no further discussion, on a motion by Mr. Dwyer, seconded by Mr. Pitts, 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 March 7, 2018.

On Thursday, April 26, 2018, the Committee took the following actions:

1. Received and approved a report from the Administrative Committee relative to its meeting that day.

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2. Reviewed and approved eight proposed 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 2018. The most recent report is attached to this report.
4. Reviewed and approved amendments to the 2017-2020 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). These amendments to the 2017-2020 TIP were necessary to advance two existing projects and seven new projects which were approved by the Commission's Advisory Committee on Transportation System Planning and Improvement Programming in the Milwaukee Urbanized Area.
5. Received an update on planning activities related to the Foxconn manufacturing development which included working with affected municipalities on preparation of a sewer service area amendment, leading the effort to evaluate the effectiveness of proposed controls on runoff from the Foxconn site and associated development in the Village of Mount Pleasant, and working with the SEWRPC Advisory Committees on Regional Transportation Planning and Regional Land Use Planning on an amendment to VISION 2050.

On Thursday, May 24, 2018, 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 three 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 2018. That report is attached to this report.

A discussion concerning Foxconn ensued. In response to an inquiry by Ms. Rothstein concerning the temperature of the stormwater being returned as it comes off of parking lots and roofs, Mr. Hahn stated that regulating the return water temperature may be part of the stormwater discharge permit obtained from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

There being no further questions or discussion, on a motion by Mr. Stroik, seconded by Mr. Nelson, and carried unanimously, the Executive Committee Report was approved (copy of the Executive Committee Report is attached to the Official Minutes).

CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF BUDGET FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2019

Chairman Colman noted that copies of the proposed Commission budget for calendar year 2019 had been provided to all Commissioners for review prior to the meeting, and asked the Commission to consider adoption of that budget. He then asked Mr. Hahn to briefly present the proposed budget.

Mr. Hahn led the Commissioners through the proposed budget document noting that the assumptions underlying the budget had been reviewed and approved by the Commission Administrative Committee at its May monthly meeting.

He then called attention to the following major items:

Revenue Assumptions:

1. Federal grants for transportation planning will remain the same as the 2018 projected funding.
2. State revenues for transportation planning will remain the same as the 2018 budgeted funding.
3. State funding for water quality management planning assumes the same level of funding as the 2018 budget. The coastal zone management funding is assumed to remain at the same level for the 2019 budget.
4. A decrease in service agreement revenues of about \$227,676, or 13.1 percent, has been assumed.
5. The rental amount from the tenant in the Rockwood Drive building is estimated to remain the same. In May 2016, ProHealth Care signed a new "Agreement Extending Lease Term" for two years, to March 31, 2018, with two one-year options to extend. On November 29, 2017, ProHealth Care requested to extend the lease to March 31, 2019.
6. It is proposed that the budget amount for regional tax levy support remain at its present level of \$2.37 million, resulting in a tax rate of 0.00128 percent (substantially below the statutory cap of 0.003 percent and also less than the 2018 rate of 0.00132 percent). The Region increased its tax base by 3.51 percent from 2016 to 2017. Owing to the relative differences in the change in equalized value between 2016 and 2017 among the seven counties, some counties will see an increase in regional planning tax levy support, while other counties will see a decrease. Kenosha, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha Counties will see increases of between 0.107 and 1.982 percent, and Milwaukee County will see a decrease of 1.597 percent. The proposed 2019 budget will be the thirteenth consecutive year of no increase in the regional tax levy.
7. On an overall basis, the potential year 2019 operating budget would call for a total revenue and expenditure level of about \$7.56 million, an increase of \$5,897, or 0.08 percent, from the adopted 2018 budget.

Expenditure Assumptions

1. The full-time staffing level in 2019 would remain the same as the 2018 staffing level with a total of 66 positions.
2. The proposed 2019 budget would accommodate an increase of 3.00 percent in overall staff salary increments based on merit, and staff promotions in the second half of 2019.
3. The budget assumes a 10 percent increase in health insurance costs, and no significant change in costs associated with disability and life insurance. It is assumed that the Commission retirement contribution will increase to 6.8 percent, a slight increase over the 6.7 percent contribution set for 2018; with the staff contributing the same 6.8 percent to their retirement accounts.

Mr. Delgado commented on the flat tax levy and would that affect any potential need to change personnel or skills. Mr. Hahn stated that the current staff capabilities meet the needs of the Commission workload.

There being no further questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Crowley, and seconded by Mr. Schleif,

the Commission's proposed budget for calendar year 2019 was unanimously approved (copy of the 2019 operating budget is attached to the Official Minutes).

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE FIRST AMENDMENTS TO VISION 2050:
ESTABLISHING TARGETS FOR FEDERAL PERFORMANCE HIGHWAY MEASURES:
HIGHWAY SAFETY**

Chairman Colman asked the Commission to consider adoption of an amendment to the 2017-2020 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Resolution No. 2018-11, noting that these materials were provided prior to this meeting. He then called upon Mr. Muhs to present the projects and the resolution.

Ms. Rothstein asked if it is the assumption that by 2040 a greater use of autonomous vehicles will decrease fatalities. Mr. Muhs stated that there has been a decrease in fatalities in the past 40 years due to safety improvements in vehicles and infrastructure design improvements, and that technologies that are being developed as part of the transition to automotive vehicles are expected to continue that decrease.

Mr. Stroik questioned if a comparison of money spent on infrastructure improvement to fatalities was available. Mr. Muhs stated that such a calculation may be able to be derived from the Marquette Interchange.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Schleif, Mr. Muhs stated that the height of barriers on interchange ramps are designed to ensure that the risk of driving off the ramp does not increase as the vertical elevation and curvature increase.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Nelson, Mr. Muhs stated that recommendations with regard to improvements in de-icing have not been shown to lead to decrease in safety.

There being no questions or discussion on a motion by, Mr. Schmidt, seconded by, Mr. Bostrom, and carried by a vote of 13 ayes and 0 nays. Resolution 2018-11 was approved (Copy of Resolution 2018-11 attached to official minutes).

UPDATE ON MONITORING PROGRAM FOR THE REGIONAL CHLORIDE IMPACT STUDY

Chairman Colman called on Mr. Michael Hahn to update the Commissioners on the Regional Chloride Impact Study.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Colman, Mr. Hahn stated that water Quality monitors being deployed in streams throughout the Region are measuring specific conductance, and water samples will be periodically collected and tested for the ions that make up specific conductance, including chloride, enabling development of mathematical relationships between conductance and chloride.

In response to a second inquiry by Mr. Colman, Mr. Hahn stated that there have been improvements in winter road maintenance technologies and procedures, and that such improvements will be reviewed as part of the study. Mr. Hahn also stated that he is not aware of an effective environmentally neutral de-icer.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Delgado, Mr. Hahn stated that, in general, the chloride concentrations in groundwater in the Region are not a human health issue at the current levels, but the chloride concentrations in some surface waters are harmful to aquatic life. He noted that the drinking water supply for 40 percent of the population of the Region is groundwater, so avoiding high chloride concentrations in groundwater is an important public health issue.

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Ms. Rothstein commented that if the chloride levels become too high, there is not an easy solution. Mr. Hahn agreed, saying that chloride is a conservative pollutant, the volume of which is not reduced by standard treatments methods or natural processes. He noted that reverse osmosis is an expensive treatment method that can remove chloride, and that could be applied for treatment of wastewater and drinking water. Mr. Hahn stated that chloride accumulates in lakes because of the lakes' generally long residence times. However, he noted that water in streams and rivers is continually moving, transporting materials in the water. Thus, if the amount of a pollutant, such as chloride, delivered to stream and rivers can be significantly reduced, the water quality would be expected to improve more quickly than would be the case for a lake.

Mr. Stroik acknowledged that the chloride impact study was Commissioner Nancy Russell's initiative. He also thanked the Commission for working to find funding partners and implementing the study.

CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL MATTER

It was moved by Mr. Crowley and seconded by Mr. Bostrom to go into closed session concerning employment matters; such closed session being permitted by the provisions of Sec. 19.85(1)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes. This motion was approved by a vote of 13 ayes and 0 nays.

Without objection, the Committee returned to open session at 4:14 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Colman announced that the Administrative and Executive Committee Meetings for the month of June have been cancelled. He then asked Mr. Hahn if there was any correspondence or any other announcements. Mr. Hahn said there was no correspondence but stated that the Environmental Justice Task Force is holding a retreat on July 12, 2018, and invited the Commissioners to attend.

CONFIRMATION OF DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF THE SEPTEMBER COMMISSION MEETING

Chairman Colman indicated that the next full Quarterly Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 12, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. in Ozaukee County. The location for this meeting will be confirmed at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, on a motion by Mr. Pitts, seconded by Mr. Crowley, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael H. Hahn
Deputy Secretary

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