

MINUTES
SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
PLANNING AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, March 6, 2019

2:45 p.m.

Gateway Technical College
South Building, Room 114
400 County Road H
Elkhorn, Wisconsin 53121

Present:

Excused:

Commissioners:

Daniel S. Schmidt, Chairman
Jose Delgado, Vice-Chairman
Steve Bostrom
Thomas H. Buestrin
Charles L. Colman
Michael A. Crowley
Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.
Aloysius Nelson
Robert W. Pitts
Jennifer K. Rothstein
Nancy Russell
Peggy L. Shumway
David L. Stroik

Donna Brown-Martin
William R. Drew
James A. Ladwig
Jeffrey D. Schleif

Staff:

Kevin J. Muhs	Executive Director
Benjamin R. McKay	Deputy Director
Elizabeth A. Larsen	Assistant Director – Administration

ROLL CALL

Chairman Schmidt called the Planning and Research Committee meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was declared present. Chairman Schmidt indicated for the record that Commissioners Brown-Martin, Drew, Ladwig, and Schleif had asked to be excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 5, 2018, MEETING

Chairman Schmidt asked if there were any changes or additions to the December 5, 2018, meeting minutes. There were none.

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On a motion by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Ms. Russell, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the December 5, 2018, Planning and Research Committee Meeting were approved.

CONSIDERATION OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE REGIONAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

City of New Berlin Sewer Service Area (Copy attached to Official Minutes)

Chairman Schmidt asked Mr. Muhs to review with the Committee the proposed amendment to the adopted regional water quality management plan pertaining to the City of New Berlin sanitary sewer service area. A copy of the preliminary draft of a SEWRPC Staff Memorandum dated March 2019, concerning this matter had been provided to the Committee members for review prior to this meeting.

Mr. Muhs indicated that by letter dated October 25, 2018, the City of New Berlin requested that the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) amend the City of New Berlin tributary to the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District system. The area is currently documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 157, *Sanitary Sewer Service Area for the City of New Berlin, Waukesha County, Wisconsin*, dated November 1987, as amended. He stated that the basic purpose of the amendment would be to include within the planned sewer service area certain lands located immediately adjacent to, but outside, the currently adopted sewer service area.

He directed attention of the Committee members to Map 1, which identifies the proposed 58 acres to be added to the sanitary sewer service area. He noted the area includes about five acres of environmentally sensitive lands, about one acre of road right-of-way, and 52 acres of agricultural and open land.

Mr. Muhs stated that the proposed addition to the City of New Berlin sanitary sewer service area represents an increase in the planned sewer service area of less than 1 percent. He also stated that there should be no significant adverse water quality impacts attributable to the development of the planned sewer service area, assuming that all applicable Federal, State, and local permits are obtained and that proper site development and construction practices are employed.

Mr. Muhs noted that the expansion is consistent with the land use component of the VISION 2050 regional land use and transportation plan, with the regional water quality management plan, and with Chapter NR 121 of the *Wisconsin Administrative Code* governing the preparation of areawide water quality management plans.

He then said a public hearing was held on January 7, 2019, and one resident spoke in opposition to the proposed sewer service area amendment. This resident indicated that there is no need to accommodate additional industrial development in the City and expressed concern relating to the lack of buffer areas that would minimize impacts on adjacent properties.

Following the public hearing, the City of New Berlin Plan Commission passed a resolution recommending that the New Berlin Common Council approve the sewer service area amendment. The New Berlin Common Council approved the sewer service area amendment on January 8, 2019.

Mr. Muhs stated that it is recommended that the Commission formally amend the City of New Berlin sanitary sewer service area. Upon approval the amendment will go to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) for approval and the WDNR will then provide the amendment to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for certification.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Colman concerning the public comment regarding buffers, Mr. Muhs explained that the area to be included in the planned sewer service area is identified as Business

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Park/Industrial in the City's comprehensive plan and it appears to be an extension of the Westridge Business Park. Mr. Crowley commented that the Westridge Businesses Park includes light industrial facilities that should not have a negative impact on properties located nearby.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Lipscomb concerning the job/housing balance analysis, Mr. McKay explained that the community is not required to respond to the job/housing balance analysis findings included in the report. Mr. McKay further explained that the regional job/housing balance analysis was conducted as part of the regional housing plan and the Regional Housing Plan Advisory Committee recommended including the analysis in sewer service area amendments for informational purposes.

There being no additional questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Crowley, seconded by Mr. Nelson, and carried unanimously, the Amendment to the City of New Berlin sanitary sewer service area, was approved.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Planning and Research Committee will be held on May 21, 2019, at 1:30 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Muhs stated there was no correspondence or announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on a motion by Mr. Pitts, seconded by Mr. Stroik, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Muhs
Deputy Secretary