

## MINUTES

### SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 19, 2026

1:30 p.m.

Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission  
Commissioners' Conference Room  
W239 N1812 Rockwood Drive  
Waukesha, WI 53188

Meeting Occurred in Person and Virtually via Video and Telephone Conference

Present:

Excused:

Committee Members:

Michael Crowley, Chair  
Charles Colman  
Brian Holt  
Dewayne Johnson  
Trevor Jung  
Natalia Minkel-Dumit  
Robert Pitts  
Isaac Rowlett

Staff:

Stephanie Hacker	Executive Director
Benjamin McKay	Deputy Director
Christopher Hiebert	MPO Director
Elizabeth Larsen	Director of Administration
Eric Lynde	Special Projects Director
Miranda Walser	Planner

Guests:

Jonathan Smies      Attorney, Godfrey & Kahn

#### ROLL CALL

Chair Crowley called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared present.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 15, 2026

Chair Crowley asked if there were any changes or additions to the January 15, 2026, Executive Committee meeting minutes. There were none.

On a motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Pitts, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on January 15, 2026, were approved as published.

**CONSIDERATION OF COMMISSION TREASURER PURSUANT TO COMMISSION BYLAWS, ARTICLE III, SECTION 4 - VACANCIES**

Chair Crowley stated the position of the Commission Treasurer is vacant due to the resignation of Mr. Stroik from the Commission.

Chair Crowley stated that Mr. Brian Holt had expressed his interest in the position and no other Committee members had expressed interest.

Mr. Jung nominated Mr. Holt for the position of Commission Treasurer. Mr. Johnson seconded the nomination.

Chair Crowley asked and received no other nominations for this position.

Mr. Pitts moved that the nominations for the position of Commission Treasurer be closed.

Mr. Holt was approved as Commission Treasurer by a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays.

**REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS (COPY OF EXHIBIT AND RESOLUTION NO. 2026-02)**

Chair Crowley asked the Commission to consider adoption of Resolution No. 2026-02, which is an amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2025-2028. Mr. Hiebert presented Resolution 2026-02, amending the 2025-2028 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He noted the projects included in the amendment are summarized in Table 1 attached to the resolution, and they are in conformance with the regional transportation plan. He also stated the projects have been endorsed by the Advisory Committees on Transportation System Planning and Programming for the Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine urbanized areas. He further noted there are 6 new projects, and changes to 1 existing project to be amended into the TIP.

Subsequent to the meeting, in response an inquiry by Mr. Johnson, Mr. Hiebert reached out to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation staff to determine if the new funding being added to the TIP would assist the Department as it conducts necessary interchange and bridge rehabilitations and maintenance before the IH 94 East/West project concludes and any reconstruction can begin on the segment of IH 94 west of the Zoo Interchange. WisDOT staff confirmed that the study recommendations would be used to inform rehabilitation decisions.

There being no additional questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Crowley to approve Resolution No. 2026-02, seconded by Mr. Jung, and carried by a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays, Resolution No. 2026-02 was approved (copy of Resolution 2026-02 attached to Official Minutes).

**REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO THE 2026 OVERALL WORK PROGRAM (COPY OF EXHIBIT AND RESOLUTION NO. 2026-03)**

Chair Crowley asked the Commission to consider adoption of Resolution No. 2026-03, which is an amendment to the 2026 Commission Overall Work Program (OWP).

Mr. Hiebert stated that this amendment reflects an increase to the FHWA PL funds of \$68,236, which was released by the Green Bay MPO. The FHWA PL funds have been added to the VISION 2060 project. Thus, the overall budget for the CLUTS program will change by this amount.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Ms. Minkel-Dumit to approve Resolution No.2026-03, seconded by Mr. Holt, and carried by a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays, Resolution No. 2026-03 was approved (copy of Resolution 2026-03 attached to Official Minutes).

#### **UPDATE REGARDING THE PERSONNEL REGULATIONS/EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK**

Chair Crowley asked Ms. Hacker to provide an update on the review of the Commission's Personnel Regulations/Employee Handbook with the Committee. Ms. Hacker stated that the firm Management Resource Associates (MRA) has been asked for a proposal for human resource services support. As MRA has offered a reduced billing rate for the Handbook update if providing human resources support, the update of the Commission's Personnel Regulations/Employee Handbook has been put on pause.

Ms. Hacker also noted that Mr. Johnson had requested a comparison of the State of Wisconsin and the Commission's vacation accrual rates during the prior Executive Committee meeting. Ms. Hacker distributed a table comparing these accrual rates. There were no additional questions or comments.

#### **REVIEW OF SCENARIOS FOR THE 2027 REGIONAL CHARGE TO THE COUNTIES**

Chair Crowley asked Ms. Hacker to provide scenarios for the 2027 charge to the Counties. Ms. Hacker distributed a document noting the historical tax levy requests since the Year 2000 and a document listing possible 2027 scenarios.

A discussion ensued with Chair Crowley noting that this discussion is to review scenarios for the 2027 charge.

Mr. Holt stated that it should be determined if a two percent increase is palatable to the Counties and by what amount is it necessary for the Commission to increase the levy.

Mr. Pitts commented that the budget should address a cost-of-living increase for the staff. Chair Crowley stated there will be fair increases across the board for the staff. Ms. Hacker stated she will need time to assess the budget.

Mr. Holt inquired if Washington County withdrawing from the Commission will leave a budget gap, and will the staffing level need to be reduced to accommodate that loss of revenue. Mr. Johnson stated that staff should look at efficiencies to realize savings.

Chair Crowley stated that meetings have been scheduled with the Counties to occur over the next several weeks to discuss services and scenarios.

#### **REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR REPORTING PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 8, 2026**

Copies of the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for reporting period No. 2, as of February 8, 2026, were distributed for Committee review.

In reviewing the Statement with the Committee, Ms. Larsen commented that the period covered represented about 10 percent of the calendar year. She then called attention to the following items:

1. The Federal and State revenue entries remain unchanged from the report presented at the January meeting.
2. The service agreement revenues remain unchanged from the report presented at the January meeting.
3. The liability, operating, and reserve accounts reported on the Statement reflect the findings of the 2024 financial audit.
4. The Commission had on hand as of February 8, 2026, approximately \$8.50 million. This includes about \$131,000 of unearned revenue provided to the Commission in advance of expenditures. The funds on hand are invested in the State of Wisconsin Local Government Investment Pool, which is presently paying 3.7 percent interest, and certificate of deposit accounts. The Spring Bank CD renewed on February 13, 2026, for a period of 6 months, with a 3.8 percent annual percentage yield.
5. This Statement reflects the January 2022 approved Commission Reserves Policy. The minimum and maximum reserve fund amounts have been noted. These numbers reflect the findings of the 2024 audit.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Holt, and carried unanimously, the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the period ending February 8, 2026, was accepted to be placed on file (copy attached to Official Minutes).

## **CONSIDERATION OF DISBURSEMENTS**

### **2026 Check Register dated January 16, 2026**

Copies of the Check Register dated January 16, 2026, for financial reporting period of December 29, 2025, to January 11, 2026, were distributed to the Committee.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Pitts, seconded by Ms. Minkel-Dumit, and carried unanimously, the Commission disbursements for the January 16, 2026, Check Register were approved for signature by Chair Crowley, Mr. Holt, and Ms. Hacker (copy attached to Official Minutes).

### **2026 Check Register dated January 30, 2026**

Copies of the Check Register dated January 30, 2026, for financial reporting period of January 12, 2026, to January 25, 2026, were distributed to the Committee.

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Jung, seconded by Mr. Rowlett, and carried unanimously, the Commission disbursements for the January 30, 2026, Check Register were approved for signature by Chair Crowley, Mr. Holt, and Ms. Hacker (copy attached to Official Minutes).

### **2026 Check Register dated February 13, 2026**

Copies of the Check Register dated February 13, 2026, for financial reporting period of January 26, 2026, to February 8, 2026, were distributed to the Committee.

There being no additional questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Colman, and carried unanimously, the Commission disbursements for the February 13, 2026, Check Register were approved for signature by Chair Crowley, Mr. Holt, and Ms. Hacker (copy attached to Official Minutes).

### **CONSIDERATION OF COMMISSION CONTRACTS**

Chair Crowley asked Ms. Larsen to review the proposed contracts. Ms. Larsen noted that the report the Committee members received prior to the meeting lists six contracts.

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

### **WORK PROGRAM REPORT**

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

In a response to an inquiry by Mr. Jung, Mr. McKay explained that the Kenosha Transit Route Study has been extended to solicit input from the bus operators.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Chair Crowley indicated that Mr. Hiebert, Ms. Larsen, Mr. Lynde, and Mr. McKay should leave the room.

Mr. Crowley then stated that in pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(1)(g), he was requesting a motion for the Committee to go into a closed session for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted with respect to litigation in which the Commission is or is likely to become involved; namely, potential litigation concerning the failure of a member county to include the Commission's service charge in its annual budget. It was moved by Mr. Holt and seconded by Mr. Pitts to go into closed session. Following a roll-call vote of ayes by Ms. Minkel-Dumit, Mr. Holt, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Pitts, Mr. Jung, Mr. Colman, and Mr. Rowlett, and Mr. Crowley, the Committee moved into a closed session.

On a motion by Mr. Holt, seconded by Mr. Colman, the Committee returned to open session.

### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**

The Committee had no discussion or possible action on items discussed in Closed Session.

### **CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Hacker announced that the Quarterly Commission Meeting on March 4, 2026, is to be held at the Reefpoint Marina and Brew House on the lakefront in Racine.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:19 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Minkel-Dumit, and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Hacker  
Deputy Secretary

#280134  
SH/BRM/EAL