

MINUTES

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 25, 2007

2:00 p.m.

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

Present:

Excused:

Committee Members:

Thomas H. Buestrin, Chairman
William R. Drew, Vice-Chairman
James T. Dwyer
Michael J. Miklasevich
Allen L. Morrison (Alternate)
Daniel S. Schmidt
David L. Stroik
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.

Adelene Greene
Richard A. Hansen

Absent:

Staff:

Philip C. Evenson
Loretta Watson

Executive Director
Executive Secretary

ROLL CALL

Chairman Buestrin called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum declared present. Mr. Evenson noted for the record that Commissioners Greene and Hansen had asked to be excused. Mr. Buestrin noted that he had asked Mr. Morrison to attend the meeting as an alternate member of the Committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2007, MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Drew, seconded by Mr. Miklasevich, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on September 27, 2007, were approved as published.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT, MR. STROIK REPORTING

(Meeting of October 25, 2007)

Mr. Stroik reported that the Administrative Committee, at its meeting held just before the Executive Committee meeting, had taken the following actions:

1. Reviewed and approved the Commission disbursements for two financial reporting periods: Year 2007 Nos. 20 and 21, extending over the period September 17 to October 14, 2007.

2. Reviewed the Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for the financial reporting period ending October 14, 2007. With about 80 percent of the year completed, the projection continues to indicate a year end surplus of about \$195,000.
3. Continued to review the Commission Personnel Regulations, focusing on those sections of the Regulations dealing with travel procedures, attendance at professional meetings, work related training, appeals to the Regulations, discrimination, and delegation of authority. A few minor changes attendant to those sections of the Regulations were approved. In addition, the Committee revisited that portion of the Personnel Regulations dealing with the conversion of sick leave to health care purchase credits upon retirement. Changes were made to eliminate the option allowing retirees to cash-out such sick leave. The Committee also approved the creation of a trust fund for such retirement credits, placing such funds with the ICMA Retirement Corporation. That Corporation would administer a retirement health savings plan under rules approved by the Internal Revenue Service. Under such a plan, retirees are able to use the accumulated credit amount to pay for health insurance premiums and for other qualified medical expenses.
4. Authorized the Commission staff to replace two five-year old vehicles in the Commission's fleet. These vehicles are to be purchased off of the State contract for automobile purchases awarded to the Ewald Automotive Group in Oconomowoc unless the Commission staff, working with the Commission Chairman, is able to find more advantageous bids.

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.

REPORT ON CONTRACTS

Mr. Evenson reported there were no contracts and agreements to be reviewed.

WORK PROGRAM REPORTS

Mr. Evenson reported that the Commission's transportation planning staff is now engaged in working with each of the counties to update the series of county jurisdictional highway system plans. That work, building off the new year 2035 regional transportation plan, is underway in Washington County and will get underway in other counties in the months ahead. The county jurisdictional highway plans, he said, are intended to refine and detail the regional transportation plan and assign jurisdiction – State, county, or local – to each arterial street and highway segment.

Mr. Evenson then recalled that the Commission had set aside a request by the City of Cedarburg to amend that City's sanitary sewer service area plan which is an integral component of the regional water quality management plan. He noted that this action was taken because the Town of Cedarburg objected to the City's proposal, citing a requirement that studies be done to establish the cost-effectiveness of providing centralized sanitary sewer service to a given area as opposed to providing onsite waste disposal systems. Mr. Evenson reported that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, as the regulatory agency concerned, has now responded to the Town's position, basically agreeing with the Town that such studies would be appropriate. Joint meetings with the City, Town, and DNR should get underway soon in order to address this issue.

Mr. Evenson indicated that with the budget action earlier this week by the Legislature, the requests of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority, relative to providing local funds for the proposed KRM commuter rail service, were denied. Accordingly, the RTA will now have to determine a course of action. Moreover, he said, talks among county executives and large city mayors in the Region relative to

identifying a dedicated source of local funding for all forms of transit ended without any agreement. The RTA Board will now have to deal with these issues and submit some kind of final report to the Legislature and Governor next year. In answer to a question by Mr. Buestrin, Mr. Evenson indicated that the RTA legislation provides that the RTA will cease to exist as of September 30, 2009, unless the Legislature and the Governor act to extend its life.

Finally, Mr. Evenson noted that both the regional telecommunications plan and the Milwaukee watersheds update of the regional water quality management plan will be ready for Commission consideration at the forthcoming December 5, 2007, Quarterly meeting. By that time, he said, the Planning and Research Committee will have completed its work on those two documents and made recommendations to the Commission for adoption actions. It would be the staff's intent, he said, to provide each Commissioner with short summary materials attendant to these plans and further to provide very brief oral presentations on the plans at the forthcoming Quarterly meeting. Mr. Schmidt commented that he had personally attended the three public hearings recently held on the update to the regional water quality management plan. He complimented the Commission staff members who worked on this major effort under the direction of Mr. Michael G. Hahn, the Commission's Chief Environmental Engineer.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Evenson reported that arrangements have been completed to have the Commission Quarterly meeting on December 5th held at the newly remodeled Amtrak Station in downtown Milwaukee. That facility is owned and operated by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and is now being called by that Department an intermodal facility. Mr. Evenson indicated that the Secretary of the Department, Frank J. Busalacchi, will attend the Commission meeting and address the Commission on the status of the major freeway reconstruction projects now underway. WisDOT staff will also be available to lead a tour of the remodeled facility.

Mr. Dwyer distributed a brochure that briefly summarizes an initiative, being carried out in part by the Wisconsin Counties Association, called "The Wisconsin Way". He noted that there will be a Waukesha County Forum on this initiative on the evening of November 8, 2007, at the Waukesha Expo Center and invited Commissioners to participate. Mr. Evenson noted that this same topic was on the agenda of the Association of Wisconsin Regional Planning Commissions meeting scheduled earlier in the day on November 8th in Madison. Mr. Buestrin indicated that any members of the Committee who desire to attend the Madison meeting with Mr. Evenson should contact him.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m., on a motion by Mr. Stroik, seconded by Mr. Miklasevich, and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip C. Evenson
Deputy Secretary