

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Economic Development Committee
East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
ECWRPC Offices
April 13, 2011

Committee Members Present:

M. Eugene Zeuske, Chair Shawano County
Bill Barribeau, Vice Chair Calumet County
John Fink (for Mark Harris) Winnebago County
Duane Brown Waupaca County
Mark Rohloff Winnebago County
Ruth Winter Menominee County

Committee Members Unexcused

Tim Hanna Outagamie County

Staff Present:

Kara Homan Principal Planner

1. Welcome and Introductions, M. Eugene Zeuske, Chair

Mr. Zeuske called the meeting to order at 1:31 PM.

2. Statement of Compliance with Wis. Stats. Ch. 19, Subchapter V, Sec. 19.84 Regarding Open Meetings Requirements

It was determined that the meeting was in compliance with Wisconsin § Chapter 19, Subchapter V, Section 19.84 regarding Open Meeting Requirements.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Barribeau, passing unanimously.

4. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

5. Approval of January 12, 2011 Summary of Proceedings

A motion to approve the January 12, 2011 Summary of Proceedings as presented was made by Mr. Barribeau, and seconded by Mr. Fink, passing unanimously.

6. Regional Economic Development Planning Efforts

A. Update on EDA Federal Status

Ms. Homan explained that EDA is currently operating on a continuing resolution, but it was her understanding that thus far they have bipartisan support. Mr. Zeuske asked whether EDA was federal money; Ms. Homan indicated that yes, it was. She anticipates

that, like most federal agencies, EDA will be under additional scrutiny moving forward as the federal government grapples with their budget issues.

B. Progress on Joint CEDS Committee with Bay Lake RPC

Ms. Homan indicated that they had received approval from the Northeast Wisconsin Regional Economic Partnership (NEWREP) to have them set the joint strategy for the joint Bay Lake and East Central CEDS Process. The Economic Development Administration has concurred that this approach will work for them, as long as the NEWREP composition meets their minimum standards.

C. Northeast Wisconsin Business Plan Competition Results

Ms. Homan provided the committee with an article outlining the winners of the 2011 Northeast Wisconsin Business Plan Competition. This year's winner was a co-working station in Green Bay, which is designed for use by small entrepreneur's to establish flexible working space whose home offices are no longer adequate for their business needs. Other finalists included a crafting boutique, a customizable web platform for service based organizations, a post-secondary athletic recruiting company, and a hair care and tanning salon.

7. State Level Economic Development Update

- A. East Central's Role in Coordinating between WEDC, New North and other Partners
- B. Other Issues & Opportunities for RPCs

Ms. Homan referred to materials included with the meeting packet pertaining to correspondence sent to Secretary Jadin on behalf of NEWREP and East Central RPC. The intent was to inform the Department of Commerce of what these organizations have to offer, and what potential partnerships could be leveraged/strengthened as they move forward with the creation of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC). Although no formal feedback was given from Secretary Jadin, Ms. Homan was able to meet with the Deputy Secretary and some staff from Commerce to discuss opportunities and challenges for cooperative regional economic development in Northeast Wisconsin. In addition, Ms. Homan referred to notes from a meeting between the RPCs, NEWREP and New North which was designed to better define roles and responsibilities for economic development within Northeast Wisconsin. The meeting was facilitated and hosted by East Central staff.

8. Update on Global Trade Strategy for Northeast Wisconsin

- A. Resolution Number 04-11. AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION AS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BAY LAKE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION AS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, TO AMEND THE BUDGET CATEGORIES AND COMMIT THE REQUIRED LOCAL SHARE FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION GRANT TO DEVELOP A GLOBAL TRADE STRATEGY FOR NORTHEAST WISCONSIN; AND TO AMEND THE COMMISSION'S 2011 WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET.

Ms. Homan explained that this resolution was approved by the Steering Committee, acting on behalf of the full Commission. All commissioners should have received correspondence prior to this action.

Ms. Homan pointed out that attachment #5 contained to scope of work that Newmark Knight Frank, our selected contractor, had agreed to in contract negotiations. They are the consultant that prepared the Be Bold Wisconsin Plan. Portions of the project not contracted out will be done jointly by Bay Lake Regional Planning and East Central Regional Planning Commission.

Ms. Homan indicated that the scope of the project has been expanded to all 18 counties within the joint East Central and Bay Lake Regions. This was approved by EDA. The contract negotiations should be finalized with a tentative start date of May 1, 2011.

9. Economic Flood Recovery Update

- A. Calumet County Economic Resiliency "Pilot" Meeting was being held in collaboration with the Wisconsin Department of Commerce. Invited attendees included chambers of commerce, emergency management, planning, community development, and local elected officials. Mr. Barribeau indicated that he would be interested in attending.

Mr. Brown indicated that there has been some discussion in New London regarding flooding issues and what to do about it. Ms. Homan indicated that she had heard about some issues they were having with a flood wall behind some buildings in their downtown.

10. Schedule Next Economic Development Committee Meeting (1:30 PM, Wednesday, July 13, 2011)

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, July 13, 2011 at 1:30 PM (ECWRPC Offices).

11. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Barribeau, with a second by Mr. Brown. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:05 PM.