

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Economic Development Committee

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
ECWRPC Offices
April 4, 2018

Committee Members Present:

Allen Buechel, Chair..... Fond du Lac County
Chuck Dallas Shawano County
Mark Harris..... Winnebago County
Thomas Nelson..... Outagamie County

Staff Present:

Eric Fowle..... Executive Director
Tom Baron..... Principle Planner
Sarah Van Buren..... Associate Planner
Adam Pfefferle..... GIS Specialist II

1. Welcome and Introductions, Mr. Buechel, Vice Chair

Mr. Buechel called the meeting to order at 1:42 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 and that a quorum of members was present.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approval of Agenda / Motion to Deviate

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

5. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

6. News & Announcements

Ms. Van Buren attended the 2018 Governor’s Conference on Economic Development January 31 – February 2, 2018 in Madison and gave a brief update and her takeaways from the event. Next year’s conference will be February 6-8, 2019 at the Milwaukee Hilton.

Mr. Fowle provided the group with an update from staff's recent attendance at a DoD-OEA gathering for all grantees of the Defense Industry Adjustment grant program in Arlington, VA. Ms. Van Buren presented on the outreach efforts to businesses as part of the I-41 Corridor Economic Development Strategy.

Ms. Van Buren provided the group with an update on the triennial EDA-EDD peer review ECWRPC went through on March 1st. The final report, when received, will be brought forth to the group.

Ms. Van Buren discussed the new Opportunity Zone designations that were proposed by Governor Walker and submitted to the U.S. Department of Treasury. Once the Zones are approved, ECWRPC GIS staff will make sure to update our maps.

Ms. Van Buren reminded the group of the upcoming Wisconsin Rural Summit being held in Baraboo April 18-19, 2018.

ACTION ITEMS:

7. Approval of January 3, 2018 Economic Development Committee Summary of Proceedings – Attachment #1

A motion to approve the Summary of Proceedings was made by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Harris, passing unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

8. Regional Economic Development Planning Efforts

a. Initiative 41 Update

Mr. Fowle and Ms. Van Buren provided updates on each of the initiatives funded as part of the Phase II DoD-OEA grant, as well a summary of the I-41 Strategy roll-out event held on February 21st.

b. CEDS Implementation

Ms. Van Buren stated that staff will meet internally to discuss the new CEDS requirements, timeline for CEDS Committee meetings, and process improvements.

Mr. Fowle and Ms. Van Buren also provided updates to those projects identified in the 2017 CEDS Annual Report.

c. Global New North/FDI Update

The export landscape is going through a challenging time. With the new administration there has been a lot of discussion as to how the US trades with other countries. For example, the recent shift in Canadian policies is having an impact on American Dairy producers, the elimination of the Trans Pacific Partnership, and the possible renegotiation of NAFTA.

Mr. Baron gave an update on the upcoming trade mission to South Africa and Kenya in September. An event will be held in April to educate companies on those markets better in advance of the trade mission.

As part of the 5 goals of the International Trade Strategy, ECWRPC continues to monitor any infrastructure or policy changes that could have an impact on exporting within the region. The NAFTA renegotiations of the agreement continue. Also, China has introduced new tariffs that may have an impact on businesses within the region.

Mr. Baron gave a summary of the Port of Green Bay Symposium that he attended.

d. EMSI Services and Potential New Reports

Mr. Pfefferle handed out an economic overview of the entire region, as well as county specific reports, based on the newest data in EMSI. During the first quarter of the year, 16 reports were run, mostly for in-house purposes but reports were run in response to Kimberly Clark potential closure, the Saputo closure, and GOEDC for the Sawdust District.

e. Gold Shovel Update

Mr. Pfefferle informed the Committee that since the January meeting, one site has been uploaded to the Locate In Wisconsin Site, for the Aviation Business Park in Oshkosh. The Town of Greenville site is close to being approved and uploaded to the website.

9. County/Roundtable Discussion/Updates

Committee members shared updates of projects that are planned or currently being done within their communities.

10. Schedule Next Economic Development Committee Meeting for 1:30 PM on Wednesday, July 18, 2018 location TBD.

11. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Dallas, with a second by Mr. Harris. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:30PM.