1. Welcome and Introductions

   Mr. Dallas called the meeting to order at 1:33 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

   The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. Approval of Agenda / Motion to Deviate

   A motion to deviate was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Harris to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Public Comment

   No public comment was received.

6. News & Announcements
a. ECWRPC Quarterly Commission Meeting - January 25, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at the Courtyard by Marriott Appleton Riverfront, 101 South Riverheath Way, Appleton, WI 54915

b. ECWRPC Autonomous and Connected Vehicles Mini Conference - April 25, 2019 at Hotel Retlaw, 1 N Main Street, Fond du Lac, WI 54935. Registration starts at 8:00 a.m.

c. New North Summit recap

Mr. Baron and Mr. Fowle provided a summary of the New North Summit and discussed the summit’s focus on Artificial Intelligence and Talent Attraction/Retention. There was additional discussion regarding Smart Communities.

d. Other

There were no other announcements.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

7. Approval of October 26, 2018 Economic Development Committee Summary of Proceedings

   A motion to approve the Summary of Proceedings was made by Ms. Winter and seconded by Mr. Nygaard, passing unanimously.

8. Review and Approval of 2019 Work Program & Budget - 1500 Economic Development Element

   Mr. Fowle presented a brief overview of the 2019 Economic Development Work Program & Budget. The committee discussed the lack of workers in the region and what involvement East Central has in the issue.

   A motion was made by Mr. Harris and seconded by Ms. Winter to approve the 2019 Work Program and Budget, passing unanimously.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

9. WEDC Disaster Recovery Microloan Program update

   Mr. Fowle provided an update. ECWRPC are waiting for WEDC approval for a microloan for Marquette County. The committee also reviewed a draft repayment schedule. The committee viewed that a two to four year maximum loan amount. Look at cash flow analysis to see why they would want to go longer.

10. Revolving Loan Fund update

   Mr. Baron provided an overview of the CDBG-CLOSE fund. The CDBG-CLOSE fund has been initiated as a result of HUD’s review and concerns about how the program is utilized. There was discussion about how Revolving Loan Funds (RLF) throughout the region will be impacted by the change. It was noted that Waupaca County will maintain their RLF.

11. Opportunity Zones

   Mr. Baron and Mr. Fowle provided a background and overview of Opportunity Zones. This included reviewing maps of Opportunity Zones within the East Central region. Further
discussion focused on resources for additional information including the IRS, WHEDA and local Chambers of Commerce.

12. Regional Economic Development Planning Efforts

   a. Initiative 41 Update

   Mr. Fowle provided an update about closeout tasks for the Initiative 41 project along with the potential for attending a Department of Defense conference this spring.

   b. Global New North/FDI Update

   Mr. Baron provided an update of Global New North activities. These activities include a technical assistance provider, an exporting road show and upcoming trade missions. There was discussion regarding infrastructure needs to support exporting and increased efficiencies in getting materials to Chicago to be transferred to rail.

   c. EMSI Services

   Mr. Pfefeerle provided an update of EMSI request for services for the October 1, 2018-December 31st, 2018 reporting period and a summary for 2018.

   d. EDA potential grant projects

   Mr. Baron and Mr. Fowle provided updates about recent discussions with Brillion, Waupaca, Menominee Tribal Enterprises and Waupun. These communities and organizations have had ongoing discussions regarding potential EDA projects. The City of Oshkosh is in the process of applying for EDA funds. Complicating the process is the Federal Government shutdown

13. ECWRPC Steering Committee Report

   In an effort to improve communication with commissioners, Mr. Fowle provided a summary of activities in progress with the Steering Committee.

14. County/Roundtable Discussion/Updates

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

15. Schedule Next Economic Development Committee Meeting for 1:30 pm on Wednesday, April 9, 2018

16. Adjourn

   The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Smith, with a second by Mr. Harris. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:42 PM.

Any person wishing to attend this meeting or hearing, who, because of a disability, requires special accommodations should contact the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission at (920) 751-4770 at least three business days prior to the meeting or hearing so that arrangements, within reason, can be made.