

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Transportation Committee
East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
Virtual Meeting/Conference Call
Tuesday, April 7, 2020

Committee Members Present

Brian Smith..... Waupaca County
Dick Koeppen..... Waupaca County
Donna Kalata Waushara County
Jeff Nooyen..... Outagamie County
Jerry Erdmann..... Shawano County
Marty Farrell Fond du Lac County
Robert Keller Winnebago County
Robert Sivick..... Waushara County
Ron McDonald Valley Transit
Thomas Kautza Shawano County

Others Present

Alex Gramovot..... WisDOT – Central Office
Matt Halada WisDOT – NE Region

Staff Members Present

Dave Moesch..... ECWRPC
Kolin Erickson ECWRPC
Melissa Kraemer Badtke..... ECWRPC
Nick Musson..... ECWRPC
Walt Raith..... ECWRPC

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Nooyen at 1:30 pm.

- 1. *Welcome and Introductions*
- 2. *Statement of compliance with Wis. Stats. Ch. 19, Subchapter V, Sec. 19.84 regarding Open Meetings*
- 3. *Roll Call*
- 4. *Approval of Agenda/Motion to Deviate*

Mr. Erdmann motioned to approve the agenda; Mr. McDonald seconded; motion carried.

- 5. *Public Comment (None)*

- 6. *Discussion and action on January 7, 2020 Transportation Committee Summary of Proceedings*

Mr. Farrell motioned to approve summary of proceedings, Mr. McDonald seconded; motion carried.

- 7. *Discussion and action on Proposed Resolution 11-20: Amending the Transportation Improvement Program for the Fox Cities Transportation Management Area (TMA) 2020*

Mr. Moesch noted WisDOT has requested the TMA advance recently funded specialized transportation projects into the TIP document. These regionally significant projects are funded primarily with Wisconsin Employment Transportation Assistance Program (WETAP) and Federal Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310). Projects fund capital and operating expenses for area government and non-profit agencies providing specialized transportation solutions.

Mr. Koeppen motioned to approve Proposed Resolution 11-20; Mr. Kautza seconded; motion carried.

8. *Discussion and action on Proposed Resolution 12-20: Amending the Transportation Improvement Program for the Oshkosh Urbanized Area- 2020*

Mr. Moesch noted WisDOT has requested the MPO advance recently funded specialized transportation projects into the TIP document. These regionally significant projects are funded primarily with Wisconsin Employment Transportation Assistance Program (WETAP) and Federal Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310). Projects fund capital and operating expenses for area government and non-profit agencies providing specialized transportation solutions.

Mr. Farrell motioned to approve Proposed Resolution 12-20; Ms. Kalata seconded; motion carried.

9. *Update on 2020 US Census*

Ms. Kraemer Badtke noted the 2020 US Census is under way, encouraging all to fill out their information. Accurate information helps better allocate future federal funds for a variety of programs including transportation and for school districts. US Census provided an interactive on-line map to see the response rate: <https://bit.ly/2RiXDdh>

10. *Update on Long Range Transportation Plans*

Mr. Raith noted staff is working on updating the regional Travel Demand Model to account for a variety of transportation projects in the three urbanized areas (Appleton/Fox Cities, Fond du Lac and Oshkosh). ECWRPC was also recently awarded a WisDOT Freight Railroad Infrastructure Improvement Program (FRIIP) grant to study rail and trucking freight infrastructure improvements in northeast Wisconsin. A consultant will eventually be hired to lead this effort. More information about FRIIP can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2y4odQj>. Ms. Kraemer Badtke also noted public involvement/outreach for these plans is being reevaluated in light of the pandemic.

11. *WisDOT Regional Projects Update*

Mr. Halada updated the committee on the following regional transportation projects:

- For most current information: <https://projects.511wi.gov/weeklyupdates-ne/>
- **Outagamie County:**
 - I-41 Bridge Rehabilitation (bridges over Gillett Street and CN Railroad, Town of Grand Chute)
 - Project website: <https://projects.511wi.gov/41bridges/>
 - WIS 96 Reconstruction (Green Bay Street from Lawe Street to Claribel Street, City of Kaukauna)
 - Project website: <https://projects.511wi.gov/wis96recon/>
 - CTH CA Rural to Urban Reconstruction (CTH CB to Casaloma Dr)
 - CTH CC & Hickory Road Bridges Reconstruction (Town of Vandebroek)
- **Winnebago County:**
 - WIS 76 Reconstruction (Towns of Vinland and Clayton, from Greenhill Court just north of I-41 to County JJ/ Breezewood Lane)
 - Project website: <https://projects.511wi.gov/wis76recon/>
 - WIS 21/Oshkosh Ave Bridge Rehabilitation (Oshkosh/Congress Avenue Bridge (WIS 21) over the Fox River, City of Oshkosh)
 - Project website: <https://projects.511wi.gov/oshbridge/>
 - WIS 21/Oshkosh Ave Bridge Rehabilitation (Oshkosh/Congress Avenue Bridge (WIS 21) over the Fox River, City of Oshkosh)
 - Racine St Bridge Replacement (Fox River Bridge & Approaches, City of Menasha)
 - Project website: <https://projects.511wi.gov/racinebridge/>
 - CTH A Rural Reconstruction (Indian Point to CTH GG)
- **Fond du Lac County:**
 - WIS 23 Expansion (Seven Hills Road in Town of Empire to the east county line at Division Road in Town of Forest)
 - Project website: <https://projects.511wi.gov/wis23resurface/>
 - WIS 67 Resurfacing, Campbellsport to east county line (Triple S Road, Village of Campbellsport to Division Road, Sheboygan/Fond du Lac County line)
 - Project website: <https://projects.511wi.gov/weeklyupdates-ne/>
 - WIS 67 Resurfacing, Campbellsport to west county line, finishing 2019 work (Golden Corners Road (Dodge/Fond du Lac County line) to Baumann Street, Village of Campbellsport)
 - Project website: <https://projects.511wi.gov/weeklyupdates-ne/>

12. *Transit & Specialized Transportation Update*

Mr. Musson noted a final draft plan is available for the I-41 Regional Commuter Service Study. Staff is considering options for the next committee meeting (virtual or delaying for in-person) and ensuing steps for future project implementation. Staff is working with Oshkosh GO Transit on a transit site selection study and recently awarded the contract to SRF Consulting. Staff is also drafting a contract for ECWRPC and the consultant. This project is expected to start in May/June. Additionally, staff continues to work with project partners with the Winnebago Catch-A-Ride employment transportation program. The group recently hired a workforce transportation facilitator to network with area businesses. Also, Valley Transit's Transit Development Plan was recently adopted in February. Mr. McDonald also noted Valley Transit remains open during the pandemic and continues to provide all of its services. He noted they will apply for additional Federal Transit Administration funds/grants to offset revenue losses from reduced ridership and increases in sanitation expenses.

13. *Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Program Update*

Ms. Kraemer Badtke noted staff collaborated with regional entities to facilitate a Fox Valley Bike/Pedestrian Trails Summit in February. The Summit brought together area municipalities and non-profits to study the existing trails network and plan recommendations for filling in the gaps. Information gathered will be included in the Regional Bike/Pedestrian Plan Update. A future meeting/event or report sharing will likely take place. Staff is also reevaluating public outreach effort for the plan with the pandemic. On a positive note, more people are using the regional trails network with the Safer At Home Order in place statewide.

14. *Regional Safe Routes to School Program Updates*

Ms. Kraemer Badtke noted February was Winter Walk to School Month with 30 schools participating this year. Staff worked with an area middle school to add a snow shoes program. Also, staff is working on submitting an RFP to develop a bike/walk/snow shoe curriculum for area teachers to implement. May is Bike to School Month and staff is looking at altering activities due to the pandemic. Staff is looking at creating bike/walk prizes for students to participate at home and coordinating delivery of prize incentives with participating schools.

15. *ECWRPC Steering Committee Report*

Mr. Farrell noted the Steering Committee and Executive Director Mr. Fowle agreed to mutually separate in February and named Ms. Kraemer Badtke Interim Executive Director. The Executive Director Search Committee has drafted a job description/announcement and will seek guidance from the Steering Committee on next steps. Ms. Kraemer Badtke outlined the temporary agency work from home policies due to the pandemic. A few staff members are routinely at the office to coordinate activities not able to complete remotely. Core working hours/staff availability is 9 am to 2 pm. Staff is also developing an agency Emergency Preparedness Plan.

16. *County Roundtable Discussion / Updates (None)*

Commissioners discussed how their counties are handling their future county committee meetings during the pandemic and strategies with teleconferencing and/or meeting in person with social distancing.

17. *2020 Meeting Times & Schedule*

Ms. Kraemer Badtke noted the April mini-conference is cancelled. The April 24th Commission Meeting and Annual Meeting will be by teleconference. The next Transportation Committee is on July 7th. There was a discussion on next steps for nominating committee assignments; more discussion for next steering committee to decide.

18. *Adjourn*

Mr. Smith motioned to adjourn, Ms. Kalata seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:58 pm