

**DRAFT MINUTES
OPEN SPACE AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: *DuWayne Federwitz, Chair (Waupaca Co.), Lee Hammen (Outagamie Co.), Jeremy Johnson (Menominee County) and Bob Schmeichel, Vice Chair (Winnebago County)*

Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 - Virtual

1. Welcome and Introductions - The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Federwitz at 1:31 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present:

DuWayne Federwitz, Chair	Waupaca County
Lee Hammen.....	Outagamie County
Jeremy Johnson (perm alt. for Elizabeth Moses)	Menominee County
Bob Schmeichel, Vice Chair	Winnebago County

Committee Members Excused:

ECWRPC Staff and Guests Present:

Kevin Englebert.....	Deputy Director
Scott Konkle	Senior Planner
Leann Buboltz.....	Administrative Coordinator

3. Approval of Agenda / Motion to Deviate Mr. Hammen motioned to approve the agenda, Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Comment - There was no public comment.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the April 13, 2022 Open Space and Environmental Management Committee Meeting. Mr. Hammen motioned to approve the minute, Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Announcements and Updates – None

7. New Business/Action Items

A. Approval of the 2023 Work Program & Budget

- i. 1400 Open Space & Environmental Management, and;
- ii. 1600 NR 135 Reclamation Mining Program – Mr. Konkle presented an overview of the 2023 Work Program Budget. The program is funded by annual fees collected from the mine operators based on their number of active acres.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson and a second by Mr. Schmeichel to approve of the 2023 Work Program & Budget for 1400 Open Space & Environmental Management and 1600 NR 135 Reclamation Mining Program. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Informational/Discussion item

A. NR-135 Non-metallic Mining Reclamation Program Report and Updates. Mr. Konkle noted that in 2023, staff will continue to track quarterly budget items, review new mine site applications/plan modifications, conduct site inspections, certify reclaimed acreage, and update financial assurance documents. Also noted, the GIS data creation and

mapping will continue as part of program administration along with the newly launched drone program. Discussion took place inquiring whether the drone documentation is available to the participating Counties. Staff indicated that recordings are available upon request. It was also noted that staff would like to expand upon these services in the future.

- B. Committee Consolidation – Consideration. Mr. Englebert shared with the members that staff is examining the benefits of possibly consolidating the smaller ECWRPC committees into one (i.e. Open Space & Env Management, Regional Comp Planning, and Economic Development). It is felt that the anticipated combined committee will get a broader and a more diversified prospective if consolidated. Upon future discussion and action, it is estimated that the change will be effective in July 2023 if all goes forward.
- C. County Roundtable Discussion (*as time permits*) Mr. Schmeichel posed the question to members of how communities were utilizing their ARPA funding.
 - Mr. Federwitz – indicated that Waupaca County used a bulk of the ARPA funds for employee wage increases, purchasing two electric cars and a portion used for Economic Development.
 - Mr. Johnson – Shared that Menominee County used the ARPA funds primarily for employee wage increases and infrastructure.

9. Establish Time and Place for Next Commission Meeting

- A. Open Space and Environmental Management Meeting:** *The next Open Space and Environmental Management meeting will be Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.*
- B. Commission Meeting:** *The next Commission meeting will be held on Friday, January 27, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. virtually. An agenda and meeting materials will be forthcoming.*

10. Adjourn - Mr. Hammen made the motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at: 1:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Leann Buboltz – ECWRPC Administrative Coordinator