

WUPPDR FULL COMMISSION MEETING
Western U.P. Planning and Development Region

Monday, June 19, 2023
5:00 PM (EDT)
Parkview Lodge and Grill, Twin Lakes, MI

NAME	Present, voting	Present, non-voting	Absent
Joe Bonovetz, Chair, Gogebic County	X		
Patti Peretto, 1 st V.C., Iron County	X		
James Vivian, Jr., 2 nd Vice Chair, Keweenaw County			X
William Menge, Secretary, Baraga County	X		
Tom Tikkanen, Treasurer, Houghton County	X		
Robert Nousiainen, Member, Ontonagon County	X		
Glenn Anderson, Houghton County			X
Mary Babcock, City of Hancock (Alt.)			X
Ron Blau, City of Hancock			X
Roy Britz, Houghton County (E.C. Alt.)	X		
Don Chastan, Village of Ontonagon (Alt.)			X
Pam Coey, Village of Ontonagon			X
Jan Cole, City of Houghton	X		
Robert DeMarois, Keweenaw County (E.C. Alt.)			X
Gale Eilola, Baraga County (E.C. Alt.)	X		
Tim Gasperich, Calumet Township (Alt.)			X
Zach Hautala, Iron County	X		
Gretchen Janssen, Houghton County			X
Joel Keranen, Houghton County			X
Robert LaFave, Village of L'Anse			X
Paul Lehto, Calumet Charter Township	X		
Jim Lorensen, Gogebic County (E.C. Alt.)			X
Bruce Petersen, Portage Charter Township			X
Paul Putnam, MSU Extension (<i>ex officio</i>)		X	
Jeff Ratcliffe, KEDA (<i>ex officio</i>)		X	
Mike Stafford, Iron County (E.C. Alt.)			X
Ron Store, Ontonagon County (E.C. Alt.)	X		
Mike Rebholz, Village of Ontonagon			
MaryEllen Hyttinen, Office Mgr., WUPPDR			
Jerald Wuorenmaa, Exec. Director, WUPPDR			
Lisa McKenzie, Asst. Regional Planner, WUPPDR			

Call to Order: Joe Bonovetz, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM (EDT)

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was spoken.

Member Roll Call: The following commissioners responded to roll call done by Hyttinen. Roy Britz, Jan Cole, Gale Eilola, Zach Hautala, Paul Lehto, Bill Menge, Robert Nousiainen, Patti Peretto, Jeff Ratcliffe, Ron Store, Tom Tikkanen, Joe Bonovetz.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Peretto, supported by Menge to approve the agenda with agenda item #8; Audit Report, moving to agenda item 6. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes - (March 20, 2023, Full Commission): Moved by Eilola, supported by Nousiainen to approve the minutes as presented and place on file. Motion carried.

Audit Report: Lauren Chatterton of Gabridge thanked the board for selecting them as the auditing firm. Chatterton presented the audit via telephone. Chatterton stated Gabridge issued an unmodified opinion which means financial statements were presented fairly and WUPPDR received the highest opinion that can be received. There were no findings. The commission is sitting in a very healthy position. Moved by Tikkanen, supported by Lehto to approve the audit report as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills Paid: Moved by Peretto, supported by Eilola to approve the bills paid as presented from March 1, 2023 – May 31, 2023, totaling \$160,665.48. **Roll Call Vote:** **Ayes:** Roy Britz, Jan Cole, Gale Eilola, Zach Hautala, Paul Lehto, Bill Menge, Robert Nousiainen, Patti Peretto, Mike Ron Store, Tom Tikkanen, Joe Bonovetz. **Nays:** None. Motion carried.

Public Appearances: None

Computer equipment purchasing: Wuorenmaa informed the commission about purchasing new computers for the office. Wuorenmaa was originally considering purchasing new computers for the whole office but instead will purchase them as needed.

Budget Amendment: Moved by Tikkanen, supported by Lehto to approve the budget amendment as presented. Motion carried. **Roll Call Vote:** **Ayes:** Roy Britz, Jan Cole, Gale Eilola, Zach Hautala, Paul Lehto, Bill Menge, Robert Nousiainen, Patti Peretto, Ron Store, Tom Tikkanen, Joe Bonovetz. **Nays:** None. Motion carried.

Regional Housing Partnership (RHP) overview and grant authorization: Wuorenmaa explained the MSHDA program. WUPPDR has been selected to be the lead agency with a grant allowance of \$175,000 for two years. Moved by Britz supported by Eilola to approve the grant agreement and authorize proper signatures of Joe Bonovetz and Jerald Wuorenmaa. Motion carried.

Other Director's updates: Wuorenmaa provided project updates.

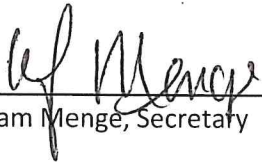
MDOT 2024 Master Agreement approval and authorization: Wuorenmaa explained the purpose of the Master Agreement and that MDOT requires approval of the Commission and authorization of the Executive Director to sign. Moved by Eilola, supported by Britz to approve and authorize proper signatures for the MDOT 2024 Master Agreement. Motion carried.

Annual Meeting: September 18, 2023, will be held at the Konteka Black Bear Resort in White Pine. More information will follow. The CEO of Highland Copper Company has been invited to be the guest speaker. Information will be sent to the commission regarding the Chiantello award and nominations are requested by August 21 Executive Committee meeting.

Other Business: McKenzie informed the commission about the Regional Housing Partnership meeting the morning of June 28 and updated the commission about the MSHDA visit regarding MI-HOPE. WUPPDR will be presented with the second amendment to the grant and receive another \$500,000 for a total of \$1,000,000. We received 176 applications and will be able to assist approximately 40 households. WUPPDR also assisted Copper County Habitat for Humanity in completing an application for funding and they received a grant award from MSHDA.

Adjourn: Moved by Lehto, supported by Peretto that the meeting adjourn at 5:48 PM (EDT). Motion carried.

[NOTE: Mike Rebholz' votes are not counted due to unclear status as a representative of Village of Ontonagon.]



William Menge, Secretary