

WUPPDR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Western U.P. Planning and Development Region

Tuesday, September 27, 2022
4:00 PM (CT)
Alice's Italian Supper Club, Iron River

NAME	Present, voting	Present, non-voting	Absent
Robert Nousiainen, Chair, Ontonagon County	X		
Joe Bonovetz, 1 st Vice Chair, Gogebic County			X
Patti Peretto, 2 nd Vice Chair, Iron County	X		
Bill Rolof, Treasurer, Baraga County	X		
James Vivian, Jr., Secretary, Keweenaw County			X
Del Rajala, Alternate, Keweenaw County			X
Tom Tikkanen, Member, Houghton County	X		
Marlene Broemer, Alternate, Ontonagon County		X	
MaryEllen Hyttinen, Office Mgr., WUPPDR			
Jerald Wuorenmaa, Exec. Director, WUPPDR			
Lisa McKenzie, Asst. Regional Planner, WUPPDR			
Rachael Pressley, Regional Planner, WUPPDR			

Call to Order: Robert Nousiainen, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM (CT)

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.
Patti Peretto, Bill Rolof, Tom Tikkanen, Robert Nousiainen.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Tikkanen, supported by Peretto to adopt the agenda as amended with removal of item #9, and #10 should say 'budget' not 'audit'. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes - (June 28, 2022, Executive Committee): Moved by Rolof, supported by Peretto to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills Paid: Moved by Rolof, supported by Peretto to approve the bills paid as presented from August 1, 2022 – August 31, 2022, totaling \$54,388.91. Roll Call Vote: **Ayes:** Peretto, Rolof, Tikkanen, Nousiainen. **Nays:** None. Motion carried.

Public Appearances: None

Auditor Selection: Wuorenmaa informed the committee that WUPPDR had sent out a request for bids for the three-year audit to about a dozen firms and only received one response from Gabridge & Co., the same auditing firm as the past three years. Gabridge had provided their proposal for a total of \$8,950 for the first year, \$9,100 for the second year and \$9,300 for the third year. Moved by Tikkanen, supported by Rolof to accept the proposal from Gabridge & Co. Roll Call Vote: **Ayes:** Peretto, Rolof, Tikkanen, Nousiainen. **Nays:** None. Motion carried.

Final Amendment of FY2022 budget – Wuorenmaa explained the proposed budget amendment.

Moved by Tikkanen, supported by Rolof to accept the final amendment of FY2022 budget. **Roll Call Vote:** **Ayes:** Peretto, Rolof, Tikkanen, Nousiainen. **Nays:** None. **Motion carried.**

FY2023 General Appropriations Act – budget adoption: Wuorenmaa reviewed the budget with the committee starting with page one. He mentioned this budget is a shorter one because some of the funds are ending but he expects more to be added as the year goes on.

Wuorenmaa informed the committee of the MSHDA MI-HOPE program that WUPPDR applied for and WUPPDR was awarded for half of what was applied for, which is \$500,000 to include five percent administration. 81 agencies applied for this award but only 27 were funded.

Wuorenmaa also informed the committee he had finalized the U.S. Forest Service Master Challenge Cost Share Agreement, which will be for community and tribal engagement activities.

EDA CARES Act grant is completed, a new regional tourism economic impact analysis has been added, and some state funds have ended since the previous budget, but several CDBG grant administration funds are still included; next season we will be administering a City of Iron River infrastructure project.

Wuorenmaa then explained the remainder of the proposed budget adoption including the possibility of hiring another intern and another planner who has expertise/education in planning.

Moved by Tikkanen, supported by Rolof to adopt the proposed budget for FY2023 in the amount of \$650,388.

Roll Call Vote: **Ayes:** Peretto, Rolof, Tikkanen, Nousiainen. **Nays:** None. **Motion carried.**

Other Business: Wuorenmaa stated there is some significant traveling next month which includes the state regional association annual meeting in Traverse City, as well as the planning conference on Mackinac Island, which Wuorenmaa, Pressley and McKenzie will be attending. Wuorenmaa also mentioned that the concept of asset management had really been gaining ground since WUPPDR began working on it years ago, and [...something about the event I planned to attend on this later in Oct?]

Adjourn: Moved by Rolof, supported by Peretto that the meeting adjourn at 4:26 PM (CT). **Motion carried.**


