

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

400 Quincy St., 8th Floor, Hancock, MI

Monday, February 3, 2020

4:15 PM (ET)

Members Present:

Robert Nousiainen, 1st Vice Chairperson (Ontonagon County)
Joe Bonovetz, 2nd Vice Chairperson (Gogebic County)
Patti Peretto, Treasurer (Iron County) – via video
Bill Rolof, Secretary (Baraga County)
Jim Vivian (Keweenaw County)

Members Absent:

Albert Koskela, Chairperson (Ho. Co.)
Sandra Gayk (Keweenaw County)

WUPPDR Staff Present:

Jerald Wuorenmaa, Executive Director
MaryEllen Hyttinen, Office Manager

Call to Order: Robert Nousiainen, 1st Vice Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 4:14 PM (ET)

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

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Bonovetz, supported by Rolof to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes - (December 16, 2019): Moved by Rolof, supported by Bonovetz to approve the proposed Executive Committee minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Public Appearances: None

Approval of Bills Paid: Moved by Bonovetz, supported by Rolof to approve the bills from December 3, 2019 – January 29, 2020, totaling \$111,966.18. Roll Call Vote: **Ayes:** Bonovetz, Rolof, Vivian, Nousiainen, Peretto. **Nays:** None. Motion carried.

MERS Resolution and Forms:

- a. Authorization of Executive Director to Sign – Moved by Bonovetz, supported by Rolof to authorize Wuorenmaa to sign MERS documentation. Motion carried.
- b. Defined Contribution Resolution - Moved by Rolof, supported by Bonovetz to adopt and sign the MERS DC Resolution. Motion carried.
Moved by Bonovetz, supported by Rolof to ‘table’ the MERS adoption agreement to the full board March meeting, for any additional information. Motion carried.
- c. Other Forms (*for review and information only*) – Moved by Bonovetz, supported by Rolof to send MERS materials to the entire membership. Motion carried.

Personnel Guidelines Amendments:

- a. Travel Provision (*for amendment today*) - Moved by Bonovetz, supported by Rolof to adopt the proposed changes to the personnel policy amendment for travel with better clarification of state approved travel reimbursements. Motion carried.
- b. Other Proposed Changes (*for information and review only*) – Bonovetz requested the other proposed changes to the manual be sent again to the Executive committee to review for any further discussion.

CEDS Committee Composition Recommendation: Moved by Rolof, supported by Bonovetz to approve the recommended CEDS strategy committee. Motion carried. (see attachment)

Iron County Membership Status: Peretto updated the commission regarding the continuation of Iron county maintaining its membership with WUPPDR. Peretto stated Iron County will not be continuing their membership after April due to a 3-2 vote by the Iron County board. Peretto and Mike Stafford voted in favor of the county maintaining their membership.

Proposed General Fund Expenditures: Wuorenmaa informed the committee the personnel policy manual is getting an upgrade, which may include contacting an attorney for legal advice, the WUPPDR website needs an update and he may request at a later date, which may cost approximately \$15-20,000.

Project Updates: Wuorenmaa stated the hazard mitigation plans exceeded the estimated time and cost and he has already requested an amendment increase. Houghton and Gogebic plans have been completed.
EDA Construction project application for a business park in the City of Hancock
Operation Action UP next week
Early March is MAR leadership training

Other Business: Hyttinen reminded the committee to start considerations for the Chiantello award. She will forward the criteria again to the committee.

Adjourn: Moved by Nousiainen, supported by Rolof that the meeting adjourn at 5:15 PM (ET) Motion carried.

Bill Rolof, Secretary