

MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION
Minutes
January 12, 2021

Commissioners: John Robinson – Chair, George Peterson – Vice Chair, Jared Wehner (for Opall), Katie Rosenberg, Randy Fifrick (for Voll), Tim Buttke, Jeff Gates (for Jacobson), Dave Meurett (for Wickham), Mark Thuot

TAC Members: Dave Mack, Andrew Lynch, Brad Lenz, Michael Wodalski, Dave Eckmann, James Kuehn, Mitch Batuzich, Greg Seubert, Brian Grefe

Others Present: Brenda Iczkowski - CPZ, John Thompson - Wausau

1. Call to Order

In the presence of a quorum, with the agenda being properly signed and posted, the meeting was called to order by Chair Robinson at 2:00 p.m. via WEBEX.

2. Welcome and Introductions

All were welcomed and introductions were made.

3. Public Comment – None.

4. Approve Minutes November 10, 2020 meeting

Action: MOTION / SECOND BY WEHNER / ROSENBERG TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 10, 2020 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

5. The Future of Transit in the Metro Area: Citizens Transit Advisory Committee

Discussion: Robinson asked the commission for recommendations on moving forward with discussing transit in the area. The need for transit in the area seems to be rising but with funding being limited, discussions and implementing something may be limited. Lynch shared with the commission, in the 2018 Transit Development Plan (TDP) the Citizens Transit Advisory Committee (CTAC) was formed and authorized for 2 years. The committee has now been disbanded because of difficulties in keeping membership. The In 2020, the second business survey went out and the results were conclusive.

Action: NONE AT THIS TIME.

Follow Through: Staff will contact Waukesha County for a presentation on their transit system and how it serves multimodal users.

6. Long Range Transportation Plan Development Timeline

Discussion: Mack summarized that last year, he and Lynch met with the municipalities to gather insight on the projects the municipalities are contemplating adding to the next Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). In the packet is a list of events and brief description of the timeline along with the proposed completion of the LRTP. It indicates the final plan adoption should be at the October 12, 2021 meeting.

Action: NONE AT THIS TIME.

Follow Through: Staff will continue to inform the committee on the LRTP.

7. New MPO Website Demonstration

Discussion: Lynch shared a demo of the MPO website that was started the beginning of 2020. With Marathon County reconstructing its website, the Wausau Area MPO website will launch soon and will be separate from the Marathon County main website. MPO Staff will be administrating the website and will share the web address as soon as it is available. All Wausau Area MPO agendas, packets, usefully information, etc. will be sent to members and the public from this website.

Action: NONE AT THIS TIME.

Follow Through: Staff will continue to finalize the website and share when available.

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8. County Broadband Status Update

Discussion: Robinson shared that Marathon County created a Broadband Task Force that has been meeting for approximately 9 months and have been working with internet service providers and others to get services to the more rural areas in the county that are underserved. With the COVID Pandemic, the need for broadband is at a higher demand. The County along with some internet service providers made application for some State funds to assist in providing better access in areas of the county.

Action: NONE AT THIS TIME.

Follow Through: FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.

9. Opportunities for Cooperation: Wellhead Protection

Discussion: Mack talked about opportunity that aren't specific to transportation. In the past, discussions took place about Wellhead Protection opportunities across municipal boundaries and identifying where plans/ideas are in place for the protection of wellheads. The UniverCity Program is planning Groundwater protection projects to work with the with Marathon County to engage in a County Wide plan creating database locations, wellhead plumes, and different kind of land use that is in the county.

Action: NONE AT THIS TIME

Follow Through: When more information is available, staff will bring it to the Commission

10. Next Meeting – February 9, 2021

Action: THIS MEETING WILL BE SCHEDULED.

Follow Through: STAFF WILL SCHEDULE THIS MEETING

11. Adjourn

Action: There being no further business to come before the members, **ROBINSON ADJOURNED THE MEETING OF THE MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION AT 3:02 PM.**

Submitted by:

Dave Mack, MPO Director

Marathon County Conservation, Planning and Zoning

DM: BI