



**MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Minutes**  
**June 8, 2021**

**Commissioners:** John Robinson – Chair, George Peterson – Vice-Chair, Milton Olson, Jared Wehner (for Opall), Katie Rosenberg, Randy Fifrick (for Voll), Jeff Gates (for Jacobson), Tim Buttke, Mark Maloney

**TAC Members:** Dave Mack, Andrew Lynch, David Meurett, Brad Sippel, Darryl Landeau, Greg Seubert, Michael Wodalski

**Others Present:** Brenda Iczkowski, Laurie Miskimins, William Harris

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. at 210 River Drive, Wausau and virtually via WebEx.

2. Welcome and Introductions

All were welcomed and introductions were made. Mack introduced Laurie Miskimins, Conservation, Planning, and Zoning new Director. Miskimins briefly introduced herself and provided some of her background.

3. Public Comment – None.

4. Approve Minutes May 11, 2021 meeting

**Action:** MOTION / SECOND BY BUTTKE / FIFRICK TO APPROVE THE MAY 11, 2021 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

5. Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment to include the Transit Development Program (TDP)

**Discussion:** Included in the packet is a summary of the UPWP Amendment. Mack explained the purpose of the UPWP amendment having staff working primarily with the Transit Development Program (TDP) for the remainder of the year along with finishing the Long Range Transportation Plan. This update will not affect the budget and will be reallocating the funds as summarized.

The Federal Highway will be contributing \$100,000 towards the project with the City of Wausau contributing \$16,000 and the Wausau MPO will be contributing \$4,000 with a total of \$120,000 available for the project.

**Action:** MOTION / SECOND BY ROSENBERG / BUTTKE TO APPROVE THE REALLOCATION OF STAFF TIME AS STATED IN THE AMENDMENT THE UPWP. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

**Follow Through:** Staff will send the resolution to WisDOT and FHWA.

6. Transit Development Program – Request for Proposals Process Update

**Discussion:** Mack sent out the proposal on May 17, 2021. With having one month to review the RFP, some consultants have reached out to staff with questions regarding the proposals. The Metro Ride website has the questions and answers posted on their website. The next step would be selection of the firms. Discussion between staff and Chairman Robinson on gathering a selection/oversight committee for this project has been performed with the desire to have the committee formed the end of the month. The proposal deadline is June 18, 2021; the week of June 21<sup>st</sup> will be reviewing the proposals with the selection committee and interviews July 5 through July 12, 2021.

**Action:** None at this time.

**Follow Through:** For informational purposes only.

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## 7. Public Transportation and Safety Plan (PTASP) - Performance Targets

Discussion: Mack shared the Federal Highway Bill, MAP-21, which is the moving ahead for progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> century requires that recipients of the federal transit administration money creates a public transportation safety plan. Since Metro Ride is the recipient of the funds, Metro Ride has created a plan for a safety management system. Included in the packet is resolution #6-21 to adopt the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Performance Measures.

Action: **MOTION / SECOND BY WEHNER / PETERSON TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION #6-21 ADOPTING THE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AGENCY SAFETY PLAN PERFORMANCE MEASURES. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.**

Follow Through: Staff will send the resolution to WisDOT and FHWA.

## 8. Local Road Programs (STP-Urban and Transportation Assistance Program (TAP))

Discussion: Lynch refreshed the commission that every two years the STP-Urban funds are distributed with having \$3.5 million dollars to allocate for the Wausau MPO. The application for the projects can be found on the WisDOT website and October 15<sup>th</sup> is the final application deadline. Included in the packet is the links and program deadlines for the applications. Meurett shared the numbers for allocation for the MPO have not been released yet but the information should be available mid-July.

Lynch shared a map of the TAP federal funding that is available every 3 years, for non-motorized transportation infrastructure, or planning projects. The map shows projects that are either currently being funded or were funded. Applications should come out late-August and due in January 2022.

Meurett updated the commission that the proposed MLS funding has been removed by the joint finance committee from the budget. At this time, it is unclear if the MLS funding will be put back in the budget.

Action: **NONE AT THIS TIME.**

Follow Through: Staff will provide any update the Commission on the Local Road Programs when they become available.

## 9. County Broadband Update

Discussion: Robinson shared the Broadband Task force are continuing to meet and make efforts to work with others. The Wittenberg Telephone Company was awarded a grant to extend service to approximately 83 homes and 3 businesses. The other applications put in from Marathon County were not funded. The Federal Communication Commission has selected Charter Communication (CCO) and LTD to serve the underserved areas as part of their grant. LTD received \$1.3 billion nation-wide and CCO received \$1.2 billion nationally.

Action: **NONE AT THIS TIME.**

Follow Through: Updates will be given at future meetings as available.

## 10. Next Meeting – July 13, 2021 at 2 PM, in the Large Conference Room at 210 River Drive, Wausau, WI and Webex.

## 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 2:54 PM.**

Submitted by:

Dave Mack, MPO Director

Marathon County Conservation, Planning and Zoning

DM: BI

June 30, 2021