

MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION
Minutes
March 8, 2016

Commissioners: George Peterson, Brad Lenz (for Tipple), Gaylene Rhoden (for Opall), Randy Fifrick (for Voll), Keith Donner (for Ermeling), Mark Thuot (for Hoehn), Jeff Gates (for Jacobson), Jim Riehle, Raynard Zunker, Jim Griesbach (for Kluck), Dave Meurett (for Habeck)

Absent: Betty Hoenisch, Steve Hagman, Jeff Weisenberger, Milt Olson

TAC Members: Dave Mack, Darryl Landeau, Dwight McComb

Others Present: Andrew Lynch; Ryan Arnold, Felix Ogles, Kevin Kujawa – WisDOT; Joe Gehin – Becher-Hoppe

1. Call to Order

The presence of a quorum, the agenda being properly signed and posted, the meeting was called to order by vice-chair Peterson at 2:00 p.m. in Room 2, 212 River Drive, Wausau, Wisconsin.

2. Welcome and Introductions

All were welcomed and introductions were made.

3. Approve Minutes of the January 12, 2016 meeting

Action: MOTION / SECOND BY GATES / RHODEN APPROVE THE JANUARY 12, 2016 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

4. Amendment to the 2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Funds

Discussion: The amendment was included in the meeting packet and briefly reviewed. The amendment: added 2 rear loading vans, a medical bus, the pavement epoxy markings project, and crossing signals and gates to Table 1; changed the completion date to 2017 for the STH 29 pavement replacement/bridge rehab project on Table 3.

Action: MOTION / SECOND BY GRIESBACH / RHODEN TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #2-16 AMENDING THE 2016-2019 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FOR THE WAUSAU METROPOLITAN AREA AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

Follow Through: WisDOT will be informed of the amendment to the 2016-2019 TIP as approved.

5. National Highway System Changes

Discussion: The National Highway System (NHS) map was included in the meeting packet. Review by WisDOT identified 2 segments that could be removed from the NHS: STH 52 coming into the city of Wausau from the east and STH 153 coming into the city of Mosinee from the west. These segments dead-end and do not intersect with the rest of the NHS. Roads that are included in the NHS must meet federal design requirements and performance management standards when fully reconstructed which may have a financial impact to the communities. Removing these segments will not impact the area's ability to access STP-Urban funds; current status of STP-Urban funded projects can be verified. Federal Highway Administration removes segments when states demonstrate that it no longer makes sense to include the segments on the system.

Action: MOTION / SECOND BY GATES / LENZ TO REMOVE THE DISCUSSED SEGMENTS OF STH 52 (CITY OF WAUSAU) AND STH 153 (CITY OF MOSINEE) FROM THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

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Follow Through: These segments are to be removed from the NHS and the status of current STP-Urban funded projects will be verified.

6. Mountain-Bay State Park Trail Support Resolution

Discussion: This resolution was endorsed by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Sub-committee and included in the packet. A brief background on this trail was provided:

- ◇ This is a state trail maintained by Marathon, Shawano and Green Bay Counties
- ◇ Some adjacent property owners have encroached on the trail's right-of-way
 - Marathon County's Parks, Recreation and Forestry (PR&F) department will not expend resources until the DNR deals these property owners
- ◇ It is no longer possible to acquire parkland or state land by adverse possession
- ◇ The resolution's third *Be It Further Resolved* – the village of Weston “cooperate with” but not “assist” the WisDNR.

Action: **MOTION / SECOND BY GRIESBACH / DONNER TO CHANGE THE 3RD BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED TO STATE THAT “...THE VILLAGE OF WESTON COOPERATE WITH THE WISDNR...” AND APPROVE RESOLUTION #1-16 SUPPORTING THE EXTENSION OF THE MOUNTAIN-BAY STATE PARK TRAIL FROM THE TRAILHEAD TO CAMP PHILLIPS ROAD IN WESTON, WISCONSIN. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.**

Follow Through: Action on this resolution will be reported to the Marathon County Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department and WisDNR.

7. 2016 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

a. Traffic Model

Discussion: Level of Service (LOS) maps were included in the meeting packet and discussed. The 2010 LOS map was incorrectly labeled; it is the 2015 LOS and only shows Grand Avenue as congested. The previous plan had different LOS and deficiencies along with definitions that have been changed. Clarification of term definitions is needed. The plan will have an end year of 2050 to maintain a 20 year planning horizon. Clarification needed of modeling criteria to explain differences between roads currently being considered deficient and now modeled as not congested. Concern stated that the traffic counts in areas do not add up (Mosinee's round-about and bridge). Model should reflect a local perspective.

b. Future Road Projects

Discussion: A list of potential future projects was distributed and briefly discussed. Input on the list was requested with the intent that projects should consider what might happen in the area during the next 35 years such as an additional river crossing. These projects should have a regional impact.

c. Demographics and Land Use Chapter

Discussion: The projections based on the American Community Survey (ACS) were distributed and reviewed – the 2010 Census provided information to the census block level and the ACS projections were to the census block group level. Differences between the ACS projections for the Village of Weston and the projections from the Wisconsin Department of Administration (WisDOA) were noted. The ACS projections were anticipated to be used throughout the plan development process. The land use map was the same as used for the recently completed County Comprehensive Plan and was not significantly different from the land use map used in the last LRTP.

Action: NO ACTION NEEDED AT THIS TIME, FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.

Follow Through: Clarification will be provided on the population projections to be used; need to clearly identify the population projection's source; definitions of “deficiencies” and “congested” and how these impacted the model's results. Additional information will be presented as the planning process continues.

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8. Next Meeting – May 10, 2016 due to the April elections

Discussion: Meurett noted that an April meeting will be necessary as the Commission will have to consider the rankings for the area's applications for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds.

Action: **CONSENSUS REACHED THAT THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE SCHEDULED IN APRIL AT A DATE AND TIME TO BE DETERMINED.**

Follow Through: The date and time of the April meeting will be determined and scheduled.

9. Adjourn

Action: There being no further business to come before the members, **MOTION / SECOND BY RHODEN / LENZ ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION AT 3:15 PM. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.**

Submitted by:

Dave Mack, MPO Director

Marathon County

Conservation, Planning and Zoning

DM:ljs

March 15, 2016