

**MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Minutes**  
**September 18, 2018**

**Commissioners:** John Robinson – Chair, George Peterson – Vice-Chair, Raynard Zunker, Thomas Mullaley (for Hoenisch), Barbara Emerling, Gaylene Rhoden (for Opall), Keith Rusch (for Weisenberger), Randy Fifrick (for Voll), Milton Olson, Jeff Gates (for Jacobson), Brad Lenz (for Mielke),

**TAC Members:** Rebecca Frisch, Dave Meurett

**Others Present:** Steve Kunst, Tonia Speener – Clark Dietz, Gary Olsen

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. in Room 5, 212 River Drive, Wausau, Wisconsin.

2. Welcome and Introductions

All were welcomed and introductions were made.

3. Public Comment – NONE

4. Approve Minutes of the August 14, 2018 meeting

**Action: MOTION / SECOND BY GATES / FIFRICK TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 14, 2018 MINUTES AS DISTRIBUTED. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.**

5. Creation of the Citizen's Transit Advisory Committee (CTAC)

**Discussion:** The committee questioned the size of the committee, whether to have one representative from each municipality, whether it would be permanent, and the committee's duration. It was agreed to have representatives from business, industry, health care, elderly, and chamber of commerce. It was recognized the committee needed to be visionary and look at the needs of the community. Concerns about lack of funding were expressed. It was suggested staff review the structure of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee and draft a CTAC charter.

**Action: FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.**

**Follow Through:** Staff to provide MPO a charter for the Citizen Transit Advisory Committee and place on next month's agenda for consideration.

6. Pavement, Bridge and Freight Performance Measures

**Discussion:** Muerett reviewed the performance measures and how they were created under the Federal Highway Bills, MAP 21 and the FAST Act. The Bills require all states and MPO's to adopt performance measures for Pavement, Bridges and Freight. Three of the 4 performance measures are in the packet, which include the explanation of the Pavement, Bridge and Freight measures. The Safety measures were adopted by the Commission in February of this year. Once the state adopts the other measures, the MPO is allotted 180 days to either adopt the state's performance measures or create their own MPO performance measures. The Pavement and Bridge measures were adopted in August by the state giving the MPO until February 2019 to make its determination and the Freight performance measure haven't been adopted yet by the state.

**Action: FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.**

**Follow Through:** Staff will contact WisDOT to present more information to the committee at the October meeting either in person or via teleconference.

7. Roadway Investment Policy Question – County Infrastructure Committee

**Discussion:** Robinson discussed the proposed Marathon County Roadway Investment Policy which would set criteria to help prioritize improvements to county roads. Marathon County and the Wausau MPO, with Highway Department assistance, would be conducting a survey of other

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MPO's and counties to see how they administer jurisdictional transfers or road upgrades to help formulate a policy.

Action: **FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.**

Follow Through: **NONE AT THIS TIME.**

## 8. Surface Transportation Program Block Grant Funding

Discussion: Robinson talked about the article that was included in the packet from Wisconsin Public Radio pertaining to funding for the urban programs. At the Infrastructure Committee meeting last week, the article was brought up. The Highway Commissioner's have a similar concern and will be having a meeting with WisDOT and continuing an ongoing discussion of trying to figure out the process, timeframe, and funding levels for the block grant funding. Muerett added that last week at the MPO/RPC/WisDOT conference, the FHWA staff stated they are meeting with heads of the Division of Transportation Investment Management on how the money is being spent for the 2018 fiscal year.

Action: **FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.**

Follow Through: **NONE AT THIS TIME.**

## 9. WI Department of Transportation Analysis of Wisconsin Act 59

Discussion: Included in the packet was a draft copy of the WisDOT Analysis of 2017 Act 59 that was conducted this last spring. Muerett summarized the purpose of Act 59 and the definition changes.

Action: **FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.**

Follow Through: Members asked the County to take a position on this and provide examples by bring back a resolution relevant to this eminent domain issue.

## 10. Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant Awards

Discussion: Muerett shared the TAP grants that were awarded to the local projects. The City of Wausau was awarded \$640,497 for the Business Campus Bicycle and Pedestrian Trail - 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, the second award was for the Wausau Safe Routes to School Plan at \$70,400, and the third was the Village of Rothschild at \$710,052 for the Rothschild- Schofield Business 51 Bypass trail.

Action: **FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.**

Follow Through: **NONE AT THIS TIME.**

## 11. Next Meeting – October 9, 2018

Action: **CONSENSUS REACHED THAT THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE SCHEDULED OCTOBER 9, 2018 AT 2:00 PM.**

Follow Through: Agenda items include CTAC draft charter, someone from DOT to talk about Pavement, Bridge, and Freight Performance Measures, Draft 2019 Work Plan and the Draft 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

## 12. Adjourn

Action: There being no further business to come before the members, **MOTION / SECOND BY MULLALEY / FIFRICK TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION AT 2:53 PM. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.**

Submitted by:

Rebecca J. Frisch, Director

Marathon County

Conservation, Planning and Zoning

RF: BI

October 10, 2018