



REGIONAL BOARD MEETING
March 19, 2018 - Muskegon County

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 AM by Vice-Chairperson Wally Taranko

II. ROLL CALL QUORUM: Yes

Commissioners Present:

Lake County: Howard Lodholtz

Mason County: Michael Krauch, Charles Lange, Wally Taranko

Muskegon County: Jennifer Hernandez, Bonnie McGlothlin,
Byron Turnquist, Rillastine Wilkins

Newaygo County: James Maike

Oceana County: Dean Gustafson

WMSRDC Appointees – Joe Lenius, Chris McGuigan, Ron Steiner

Muskegon Community College - Dale Nesbary

West Shore Community College - Crystal Young

Commissioners Absent:

Muskegon County: Kay Beecham, Ben Cross, Susie Hughes

Newaygo County - Chris Ortwein, James Rynberg

Oceana County – James Brown

Staff/Guests Present:

Erin Kuhn, Christia Seals, Syndi Copeland, Dave Bee, and Eric VanDop

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Commissioner Maike and supported by Commissioner McGuigan to approve the agenda for the March 19, 2018 Commission meeting. Motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Turnquist and supported by Commissioner Gustafson to approve the January 22, 2018 Commission meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The February 26, 2018 Officer's minutes are attached for information only.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were no comments.

VI. HOST (Mason County)

Commissioner Taranko welcomed all to Mason County and the City of Ludington. The building we met in is owned by Pennies from Heaven, which houses many organizations. Mason County received the last Promise Zone designation from the State of Michigan. The City of Ludington has many projects coming, including new water and sewer upgrades, a new Fire Department building, and the West End Project which is a trail project.

Executive Director Kuhn welcomed Jennifer Hernandez as the new Commissioner representing Muskegon Charter Township.

VII. AUDIT PRESENTATION

The audit was presented by Eric VanDop, and WMSRDC was given a clear audit.

VIII. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Rynberg was out sick, so there was no report. Erin wished him a speedy recovery.

IX. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Erin mentioned that WMSRDC has contracted with a few communities to prepare local plans.

Erin highlighted the Infrastructure Asset Management Pilot Project, which is coming to a close. It was highly successful, and the final document is being compiled for the Governor.

Erin passed out information regarding Opportunity Zones. This is in the 2017 most recent tax bill at the federal level, and the goal is to incentivize capital investments in low income communities nationwide. Eligibility for this program includes a census tract at 20% below poverty rate. Nearly every county in the state has at least one zone designated.

The RPI received the FY 2018 funding. \$250,000 was requested, and \$180,000 was received. This is the average amount we usually receive.

X. FEDERAL PROJECT REVIEW SYSTEM - INFORMATION

There was one (1) FPRS application processed - 2018-03

XI. REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

Dave Bee passed out a sheet with information regarding their programs.

XII. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS –

Motion was made by Commissioner Maike and supported by Commissioner Lenius to accept the February 2018 WMSRDC and HSGP Financial Statements. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Lenius and supported by Commissioner Steiner to accept the November 2017 WMSRDC and HSGP Financials. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Krauch and supported by Commissioner Lodholtz to accept the January 2018 WMSRDC and HSGP Financial Statements. Motion passed.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS –

WMSRDC received the grant agreement from the US Forest Service for the Reforestation Tree Planting Project in Muskegon, Oceana and Mason Counties. Work has begun on this project.

WMSRDC met with MDOT and FHA for the annual Pre-Unified Work Program meeting to discuss performance outcomes. MDOT also provides the budget estimates for the next fiscal year.

XIV. ROUND TABLE

Commissioner Wilkins stated that with the closing of Brook Haven, Muskegon County has received a 2-star bond rating.

Commissioner Maike mentioned how much White Cloud has changed with new businesses coming in. Jim offered assistance through the District 10 Health Department, as needed.

Commissioner McGuigan mentioned the collaboration of nonprofits who meet in the Lakeshore Resource Network Facility, where we are meeting today, and the pride over their accomplishments.

Crystal Young mentioned the Food Club on site which offers a program for people to invest \$10 and promote healthy eating. This provides, based on income and family size, points to use to purchase vegetables and fruits for lower points, and processed foods for higher points.

Commissioner Krauch talked about the new Fire Department building in Ludington, along with some other multi-purpose buildings going up downtown.

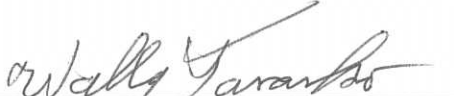
Commissioner Lenius announced his new position as Commissioner for the City of Ludington.

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT-WMSRDC PROGRAMS - There were no public comments.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Maike and supported by Commissioner Lenius to adjourn at 11:30 AM. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: May 21, 2018 – Lake County



Wally Taranko, Vice-Chairperson

5-21-18

Date



Erin Kuhn, Executive Director

5-21-18

Date