



**WEST MI
SHORELINE**
Regional Development Commission

March 22, 2021
10:00 AM – Microsoft Teams

I. CALL TO ORDER – 10:05 AM by Chairperson Bonnie McGlothlin

II. ROLL CALL QUORUM: Yes

Commissioners Present

Lake County:	Len Todd
Mason County:	Kathy Winczewski
Muskegon County:	Kay Beecham, Kim Cyr, Jennifer Hodges, Ken Johnson, Bonnie McGlothlin
Newaygo County:	Bryan Kolk, James Maike, James Rynberg
Oceana County:	Ron Christians, Phil Morse
WMSRDC Appointees:	Rich Houtteman, Andrea Large
Muskegon CC:	Dale Nesbary
West Shore CC:	Crystal Young

Commissioners Absent

Mason County:	Ron Bacon, Lewis Squires
Muskegon County:	Marcia Hovey-Wright, Rillastine Wilkins
WMSRDC Appointees:	James Kelly
Staff/Guests Present:	Erin Kuhn, Amanda Snyder, Syndi Copeland

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A roll call vote was unanimous, and motion was made by Commissioner Maike and supported by Commissioner Hovey-Wright to approve the agenda for the March 22, 2021 Commission meeting. Motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A roll call vote was unanimous, and motion was made by Commissioner Large and supported by Commissioner Nesbary to approve the January 25, 2021 Commission meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The February 22, 2021 executive officer's meeting minutes are attached for information only.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments.

VI. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Commission By-laws update. A roll call vote was unanimous, and motion was made by Commissioner Rynberg and supported by Commissioner Christians for an approval that allows for virtual participation during WMSRDC board meetings. Motion carried.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Conflict of Interest/Code of Ethics Policy – Please sign and return to Syndi.

Transportation –

West Michigan Regional Transit Systems Governance and Organization Transition Study proposals were due this last Friday. WMSRDC received three, and a meeting is scheduled this Friday to review and score the proposals.

The FY21 Pre-Unified Work Program (UWP) meeting was held on February 19 and included WMSRDC staff, the Michigan Department of Transportation, and the Federal Highway Administration. WMSRDC was reviewed on the management of our program, and staff was commended for their exceptional work during the pandemic. The budget for FY22 was identified. The UWP is due to MDOT in June with approval from MDOT expected in July or August.

Economic Development –

The Newaygo County Regional Educational Service Agency (NCRESA) and the City of Muskegon EDA grant applications were not successful. A meeting was held with EDA, WMSRDC, and NCRESA to identify opportunities to strengthen their application. EDA encouraged both to resubmit.

In the American Recover Plan stimulus package signed on March 11, EDA will receive \$3 billion nationally. WMSRDC will work with eligible applicants within our region to identify potential projects. Questions should be directed to Erin.

Staff continues to be involved in local, regional, and state-wide broadband discussions. Anyone interested in joining the broadband group should reach out to Erin.

Environmental –

WMSRDC staff continues working on year 2 funding through our NOAA Regional Partnership grant. We hope to hear back on Little Cedar Creek construction, White River, and Stony Creek projects. Staff continues working on Little Cedar Creek engineering and design.

Staff submitted three new environmental grant applications: One to EGLE for tree planting and environmental education in the Ryerson Creek watershed, one to Sustain our Great Lakes (SOGL) in partnership with the United Way for work in Ryerson Creek near their building, and one to EGLE to develop a Watershed Management Plan for Little Flower Creek.

Other –

The Michigan infrastructure Council is developing an Asset Management Champion Program for Michigan. The free training will be available to 100 individuals from across the state and will run from April through June. There are approximately eight people signed up from our region.

Bob Kittle from Munetrix will be holding a meeting for municipal finance managers on April 21. Please recommend that the financial folks in your jurisdictions participate. All 120 jurisdictions have access to this program through WMSRDC for free.

VIII. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Amanda presented the February 2021 financials.

A roll call vote was unanimous, and a motion was made by Commissioner Hovey-Wright and supported by Commissioner Houtemann, to accept the February 2021 financials. Motion carried.

IX. STAFF PRESENTATION – Erin Kuhn, Champion Program / Project Portal

X. NEW BUSINESS

- No new business.

XI. ROUND TABLE

- Marcia Hovey-Wright – Muskegon County resolved an internal issue regarding applying for transportation grants.
- Ken Johnson – The VanDyke Mortgage Convention Center will have a ribbon cutting on April 12, 2021. The first event to be held here will be the Muskegon Home Garden and Boat Show on April 16 and 17, 2021.
- James Maike - One township is interested in updating their Parks and Recreation Plan, so they will be contacting WMSRDC for assistance.
- Phil Morse – Wanted to know who sets up the board meetings when it is to be held in their county.
- Dale Nesbary – Muskegon Community College is just opening the FARM incubator. Stop by and check it out.
- James Rynberg – Welcomed all the new commissioners.
- Lewis Squires – Mentioned that the Gus Macker has been cancelled for 2021 due to the pandemic.
- Kathy Winczewski – Commented that Lake Michigan water levels are down 10 inches compared to last year. City of Ludington is hoping to open a road that has been closed due to flooding.
- Erin reported that the 50th Anniversary Newsletter should be released shortly.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Morse and supported by Commissioner Hodges to adjourn at 10:58 AM. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: May 24, 2021 – Teams or Lake County


Bonnie McGlothlin, Chairperson

5-24-2021

Date


Erin Kuhn, Executive Director

5-24-2021

Date