

CUPPAD REGIONAL COMMISSION
Quarterly Meeting
Meeting Minutes

February 25, 2021

RingCentral meeting-phone and in-person

12:30 pm EST

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jerry Doucette, Alger County*
Esley Mattson, Alger County
Michelle Doucette, Alger County Townships
Denny Olson, Dickinson County, Townships
Gregg Johnson, Delta County, Townships
Thyra Karlstrom, Marquette County Planning
John Malner, Delta County*
Gerald Corkin, Marquette County*
Nate Heffron, Marquette County Cities
Kristin Thornton, Marquette County Townships
Jill Beaudou, Hannahville Indian Community*
Peter Kleiman, Menominee County Townships*
Tony Graff, Menominee County Cities
Patrick Jordan, Delta County Cities

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dan Rushford, Alger County village
Craig Reiter, Schoolcraft County
Alan Ott, Schoolcraft County

OTHERS PRESENT

Dotty LaJoye, Executive Director, CUPPAD
Michelle Viau, CFO Michigan Works
Steven T. Gromala, Menominee County

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm by Chairperson G. Corkin. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited. Roll call was taken, a quorum was present.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D. LaJoye stated that item G. Update on Line 5 by Emma Cook has been rescheduled for 4/23/21 Quarterly Regional Commission meeting.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA WAS MADE BY P. KEIMAN, SUPPORTED BY K. THORNTON; MOTION CARRIED.

C. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM THE REGIONAL COMMISSION MEETING OF OCTOBER 23, 2020, AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF JANUARY 28, 2021 WAS MADE BY D. OLSON, SUPPORTED BY J. MALNER; MOTION CARRIED.

D. TREASURER'S REPORT

J. Beaudou reported that she had some questions about several grants and contracts that have end dates of 2018, 2019 or 2020 and are showing current expenses. Michelle and Dotty are working closely to clean those up. Some projects should have an updated contracts and others had expenses that exceeded the deadline but provide useful information about the actual cost. Otherwise, the budget looks good. **MOTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE TREASURERS REPORT WAS MADE BY J. BEAUDO, SUPPORTED BY P. KLEIMAN; MOTION CARRIED.**

G. Corkin thanked J. Beaudou and Michelle View for the excellent work they do on the budget.

G. Corking asked if cost adjustments have been made for CUPPAD services as CUPPAD has to be able to make enough money for the work they do to keep CUPPAD operating. D. LaJoye said she would prepare a recommendation for the Executive Committee next month.

E. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

EDA Cares Act funds are being targeted toward two out of three prominent projects and are being headed up by Ryan Soucy.

1. The Economic Recovery and Resiliency Plan.

CUPPAD has engaged economic development consulting firm TIP Strategies, based in Austin, Texas to assist with the preparation of an economic recovery and resiliency plan for Marquette County. This work will result in a blueprint for guiding Marquette County's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and sustainable long-term growth. TIP Strategies will also provide training and a template for the other EDO's in the region to prepare their own Economic Recovery and Resiliency Plans. Each community will work with their Community Development/Redevelopment Community cohorts to provide key input to their area's challenges and develop strategies to recruit new business, attract and retain talent, develop the local workforce and more.

2. Technology and Connectivity in the Post-COVID-19 World

CUPPAD is bringing a wide spectrum of UP Leaders together next month to learn more about the implementation of the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF). The FCC recently started Phase I of the RDOF, which initiated an auction for unserved rural areas to broadband providers who could provide infrastructure over the following six years. A significant area of the U.P.'s eligible service areas were won by a newcomer to the UP; *Atlantic Engineering Group (AEG) and Heron Broadband*. Jason Salter will join us from AEG to discuss future plans for implementation of projects happening in nearly every county of the U.P. on Thursday, March 25, 1-3 pm. Other presenters on the agenda include, Tom Stephenson, Tech Advisor with Connect Michigan. More information is available for those that would like to participate.

3. Overcoming Community Barriers to Economic Recovery

We are still learning about barriers, who or which groups are experiencing them. Currently, it appears to be women in the workforce, particularly women with children. Many have left their jobs as daycare centers and schools closed. It is uncertain if they will return to the workforce once the schools and daycare centers reopen. If not, what barriers exist? How can we build a more resilient

support system that allows women to remain in the workforce in the face of a health crisis as most families require two incomes? This situation is even more critical for single mothers.

Other Projects:

Julia Cogger is working on the City of Kingsford Recreation Plan, the City of Escanaba Recreation Plan, the City of Negaunee Recreation Plan as part of their Master Plan, Ford River Township Recreation Plan and a DNR Trust Fund Application grant application for Skandia Township.

Rawan is working on Schoolcraft County Parcel development and 911, Delta County parcel management, NEMT for UPCAP and the update of the Central Regions non-motorized trails for MDOT. She is preparing for Road Rating this spring summer and fall by attending required training sessions and she prepared maps as need for CUPPAD staff projects such as Master Plans, Recreation Plans and Zoning maps. She also does GIS for Hannahville one day per week.

Dotty is learning the annual MDOT Work Program with Peter VanSteen's guidance and assistance. In addition to Rural Task Force responsibilities and Asset Management responsibilities, new federal funds were recently announced as part of a COVID Relief package titled the Highway Infrastructure Program. More information will be provided by MDOT at 2:00 pm today with specifics about how those funds can be used by the local road agencies. Also, CUPPAD is responsible for rating 100% of the federal aid eligible roads in the Central Region. COVID-19 restrictions prevented typical year road rating last year due to the proximity of passengers in a vehicle.

CDBG projects currently being administered include the City of Iron Mountain Rental Rehabilitation, the City of Escanaba Façade, the City of Manistique Rental Rehab at 107 River St., the City of Manistique sewer extension project, the City of Negaunee Senior Center project and the City of Ishpeming Senior Center project and there will be another Rental Rehabilitation project in the City of Manistique is coming up soon. Peter's assistance is essential to the success of these projects.

CUPPAD also administers the Davis Bacon wage certification for the City of Escanaba Water Treatment Plant extension.

Community Planning projects Dotty is currently working on include the Alger County Hazard Mitigation Plan update, the Delta County Hazard Mitigation Plan update and the Schoolcraft County Hazard Mitigation Plan update. Also, the Harris Township Master Plan and the Ely Township Recreation Plan.

Community Planning projects out there that are not being properly attended to include the Menominee County Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Grand Island Master Plan, the Ely Township Master Plan, the City of Munising Low/Mod Income Survey, and the Ishpeming Township Master Plan update.

A new Community Planner will be joining CUPPAD in late March or April who has nearly 10 years' experience in Community Planning and he will be able to pick up the projects we can't get to right now.

F. NEW BUSINESS

F.1 Approval of Slate Commissioners for FY21-23

CUPPAD’s Slate of Commissioners by County for FY 21-23.

Alger County	Commissioners	Selected by:
County Board member	Jerry Doucette*	County Commission
County Planning Commission	Pam Johnson	County Commission
City of Munising	Kathy Reynolds	City of Munising
Village Chatham	Mike Van Den Branden	Village
Member at large	Esley Mattson	County Commission
Township	Michelle Doucette	Township Association
Delta County	Commissioners	Selected by:
County Board	John Malnar *	County Commission
County Planning Commission	John Denholm	County Commission
Member at large	Theresa Nelson	County Commission
City of Gladstone	Eric Buckman*	City
Village of Garden	Jacob Allison	Village
Township	Gregg Johnson	Township Association
Dickinson County	Commissioners	Selected by:
County Board	Vacant (Non-member)	County Commission
County Planning Commission	Vacant (Non-member)	County Commission
Member at large	Vacant (Non-member)	County Commission
Member at large	Vacant (Non-member)	County Commission
Township	Denny Olson	Township Association
City of Norway	Ray Anderson*	City
Marquette County	Commissioners	Selected by:
County Board	Gerry Corkin *	County Commission
County Planning Commission	Greg Seppanen	County Commission
Member at large	Thyra Karlstrom	County Commission
Member at large	Nate Heffron	County Commission
Township	Kristin Thornton	Township Association
City of Marquette	Vacant (Non-member)	City
City of Ishpeming	Craig Cugini	City

*Denotes CUPPAD Executive Committee member

Menominee County	Commissioners	Selected by:
County Board (non-member)	Steven T. Gromola	County Commission
County Planning Commission	Vacant (non-members)	County Commission
Member at large	Vacant (non-members)	County Commission
Township	Peter Kleiman*	Township Association
Village of Carney	Kathy Betters	Village
City of Stephenson	Dale Parret	City
Schoolcraft County	Commissioners	Selected by:
County Board member	Alan Kilar*	County Commission
County Planning Commission	Vacant	County Commission
City of Manistique	Mike Perilloux	City of Manistique
Member at large	Allan Ott	County Commission
Member at large	Craig Reiter	County Commission
Township	Vacant	Township Association
Hannahville Indian Communi	Commissioner	Selected by:
	Jill Beaudo*	Hannahville Indian Communit

*Denotes CUPPAD Executive Committee member

MOTION TO APPROVE THE SLATE OF CUPPAD COMMISSIONERS AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY P. KLEIMAN, SUPPORTED BY K. THORNTON, MOTION CARRIED

H. COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Peter Kleiman, supervisor of Harris Township has been named the 2021 president of the Michigan Townships Association.

Thyra Karlstrom announced that the Marquette County Master Plan is nearly ready for public review.

Menominee County recently formed a Brown Field Authority

Denny Olson is concerned about the lack of Dickinson County representation on the CUPPAD Commission.

Patrick Jordan would like to collaborate with the City of Gladstone on mutual wastewater treatment needs.

I. NEXT MEETING

- I.1 Executive Committee Meeting - 3/25/2021 at 2:00 PM ET
- I.2 Quarterly Regional Commission Meeting - 4/23/2021 at 12:30 PM ET