

**CUPPAD REGIONAL COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Meeting Minutes**

September 23, 2021
Escanaba MI
2:00 p.m. ET

CUPPAD Office, 2950 College Ave.,
Conference call option

PRESENT

G. Corkin, Marquette County (in person)
J. Beaudo, Hannahville Indian Community (on phone)
John Malnar, Delta County (in person)
Alan Kilar, Schoolcraft County (in person)
J. Doucette, Alger County (in person)
Ray Anderson, City of Norway (on phone)
Eric Buckman, City of Gladstone (in person)

ABSENT

Peter Kleiman, Menominee County Townships

OTHERS PRESENT

Dotty LaJoye, Executive Director, CUPPAD

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson G. Corkin. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

G. Corkin called for any changes or additions to the agenda. Hearing none **G. CORKIN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, SUPPORTED BY J. MALNAR, SUPPORTED BY JERRY DOUCETTE, MOTION CARRIED.**

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

G. Corkin called for any changes or edits to the minutes. Hearing none.
G. CORKIN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 25,2021, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, SUPPORTED BY J. BEAUDO, MOTION CARRIED

TREASURER'S REPORT

J. Beaudo reported that the Treasures Report looks good. Many of the projects we had talked about are near completion and we were able to increase the fund balance by nearly \$34,000.

J. BEAUDO MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE TREASURES REPORT, SUPPORTED BY R. ANDERSON, MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1 Adoption of the CEDS

D. LaJoye reported that the CEDS is complete and ready for adoption. A letter was submitted by Alan Barr, Chair of the CUPPAD CEDS Committee recommending approval of the CEDS per consensus of

the CEDS Committee. D. LaJoye read the resolution of adoption of the CEDS. **G. CORKIN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE ADOPTION OF THE CEDS, SUPPORTED BY A. KILAR, ROLL CALL VOTE; 7 AYES, 1 ABSENT; THE CUPPAD CEDS 2021 IS OFFICIALLY ADOPTED**

Printed copies will be made available to all Commissioners.

5.2 Budget FY22

M. Viau explained the budget for FY22 to the Commission and described additional projects that are pending and may be added to the budget when contracts are signed. J. Beaudou described the budget as being conservative but even before other contracts are added it still should add to the fund balance. D. LaJoye explained there is also a 3% pay increase for all CUPPAD employees including the CUPPAD Director. J. Doucette questioned if this is a one-time pay increase and J. Beaudou explained that the pay increase will become the new wage for CUPPAD employees going forward but the board is not approving an automatic pay increase every year. Instead, the possibility of pay increases will be assessed on an annual basis. Commissioners agreed that it is desirable to give the employees a pay increase when feasible and that CUPPAD is doing well this year despite the pandemic.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

The Michigan Association of Regions is partnering with MSU Extension to provide training to local units of government from across the state as they invest the dollars received through the American Rescue Plan Act. These workshops will be offered on numerous formats to accommodate virtual, in-person and hybrid options. The free workshops will highlight the importance of building capacity and strengthening infrastructure at local and regional levels to ensure communities are best positioned to receive the greatest return on their investments.

During the workshops, participants will explore practical considerations for contracting, accounting and project management processes. Group discussions will be facilitated to maximize effective regional collaboration and identify ways to leverage other state and federal funding priorities to achieve regional development goals. CUPPAD's workshop is October 6th from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. in Marquette at NMU's Northern Center in the Peninsula V room. The even is free but pre-registration is required.

The Central Region has two US EDA Build Back Better Challenge grants. One is coming from CUPPADs regional economic development partners lead by our own Ryan Soucy. This project is about economic growth and future resilience through diversification and the creation of an industry cluster in the central region that creates an outdoor recreation innovation district. The project capitalizes on the region's natural physical assets such as the proximity to Lake Superior and the variety of terrains and land cover and the vast expanse of undeveloped lands that are the basis of this opportunity. The recreation innovation district includes the region's local governments, four universities, four community colleges, three smart zones as well as boat building school and a culinary institute.

The other EDA Build Back Better Challenge Grant application is being advanced by Kalkaska Village with assistance from engineering company C2AE as the lead institution of a coalition comprising of Northern Lower Michigan, and Central and Eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan. It is titled the MITTIN project for the Michigan Interstellar Transportation and Tourism Infrastructure Network.

MOTION TO FILE THE DIRECTORS REPORT AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY G. CORKIN, SUPPORTED BY J. MALNAR, MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Meeting Schedule for FY22

7.2 Grant Agreement for Arts Services

The Michigan Council for the Arts and CUPPAD are continuing the distribution of Mini Grants and PODs to arts organizations and individual artists for FY22. Total award \$31,000: \$4,000 for schools, \$3,000 for professional development and \$24,000 for arts projects, which is incorporated herein and made part of this Grant Agreement. **MOTION TO APPROVE THE MCACA GRANT AGREEMENT AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY J. BEAUDO, SUPPORTED BY J. DOUCETTE, MOTION CARRIED**

NEXT MEETING AND PLACE - Quarterly Regional Commission Meeting , Friday October 22, 2021 the Delta County Board room. Lunch will be served at noon and the meeting will start at 12:30 ET. The meeting will be both in-person and virtual.

ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 3:05 p.m.

Minutes prepared by D. LaJoye