

**CUPPAD REGIONAL COMMISSION**  
**Quarterly Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes**

February 25, 2022

Join in person at the Delta County Boardroom  
2950 College Avenue, Escanaba, MI

Call-in: 1-312-626-6799  
Meeting ID: 873 3131 4828  
Passcode: 510783

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Gerald Corkin, Marquette County\*  
Allan Killar, Schoolcraft County  
Esley Mattson, Alger County  
Ray Anderson, Dickinson County Cities\*  
Gregg Johnson, Delta County, Townships  
John Malnar, Delta County\*  
Jill Beaudou, Hannahville Indian Community\*  
Peter Kleiman, Menominee County  
Townships\*  
Eric Buckman, Delta County Cities\*  
Theresa Nelson, Delta County  
John Denholm, Delta County  
Ray Anderson, Dickinson County Cities\*  
Thyra Karlstrom, Marquette County Planning  
Kristin Thornton, Marquette County  
Townships  
Craig Cugini, Marquette County Cities  
Kathy Vermaat, Marquette County Planning  
Commission

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Nate Heffron, Marquette County Cities  
Jerry Doucette, Alger County\*  
Kathy Reynolds, Alger County  
Mike Perilloux, City of Manistique  
Pam Johnson, Alger County  
Michelle Doucette, Alger County Townships  
Denny Olson, Dickinson County, Townships

Dan Rushford, Alger County village  
Eric Janofski, Carney Village

\* Denotes Executive Committee Member

#### OTHERS PRESENT

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

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

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

##### A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 22, 2021, WAS MADE BY P. KLEIMAN, SUPPORTED BY R. ANDERSON; MOTION CARRIED.**

##### B. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL QUARTERLY MEETING ON OCTOBER 22, 2022 WAS MADE BY J. MALNAR, SECONDED BY P. KLEIMAN; MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FROM JANUARY 27, 2022 WAS MADE BY J. MALNAR, SECONDED BY P. KLEIMAN; MOTION CARRIED**

##### C. TREASURER'S REPORT

We have about \$128,000 in our checking. The budget looks good, the revenues and expenditures are where they are supposed to be this time of year. If we get all of the work complete we should be able to add about \$87,000 to our fund balance. The last page shows the level of completion for each project. **MOTION TO TO APPROVE THE TREASURERS REPORT WAS MADE BY J. MALNAR, SUPPORTED BY J. BEAUDO; MOTION CARRIED.**

##### E. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

#### **EDA CARES Act**

Commissioners may recall that a significant portion of the funding CUPPAD and all other Regions across the State received in Economic Development Administration CARES Act funds included a region-wide Economic Resiliency Strategy Plan. Rather than produce one plan for the entire region, CUPPAD and the CEDS Committee members believed these plans would be most helpful if they addressed the economic issues unique to each county. We brought in a respected consultant from Texas known as TIP Strategies to achieve that goal. First, they provided an Economic Resiliency Strategy Plan for Marquette County. Next, they offered a templet for each local economic development organization to develop their own Economic

Resiliency Strategy Plan with assistance from CUPPAD. In the end, Alger County, Delta County, Dickinson County, Menominee County, and Schoolcraft County will each have its own Economic Resiliency Strategy Plan.

Currently, we have about \$148,000 in EDA CARES Act funds available to accomplish the grant requirements. CUPPAD will be applying for a time extension on that grant.

### **Michigan Associations of Regions (MAR)**

The Michigan Associations of Regions (MAR) is taking steps toward getting the State to recognize Regions as agencies that can provide equitable delivery of statewide American Rescue Plan Act funds to all corners of the State. SB 704 was proposed to appropriate 150 million dollars in local parks projects. MAR wants to make sure the Regions can work with the Department of Natural Resources to distribute these funds and provide maximum impact to our local parks. To that end, MAR suggested boilerplate language that includes regional planning agencies in facilitating and selecting projects for that grant program.

### **Brownfield Redevelopment**

The State of Michigan's Brownfield grant and loan program called CUPPAD and inquired about potential brownfield redevelopment projects that included tribal-owned property. I described the Wells Township location in Delta County as being the most prominent in that it has a long history of industrial use. Still, if cleaned up, the site will become prime real estate located between the City of Gladstone and the City of Escanaba. There have been many discussions about the need for municipal water and sewer on the Wells Township site before economic growth can occur. I explained that there had been multiple environmental studies and environmental cleanup initiatives but what seems to be lacking is a local vision for redevelopment on that site. The State connected me with Kansas State University's Technical Assistance for Brownfields Program. We briefly discussed the Hannahville Indian Community-owned property in that location and how I didn't think the tribe was pursuing redevelopment opportunities for those sites at this time.

We agreed to reconvene with additional information such as a better-defined map showing property boundaries of proposed redevelopment that provides the ownership of those parcels; a list of possible stakeholders that include township, city, and county affiliation; and any engineering or environmental reports that can be shared. The next meeting is on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

## **F. NEW BUSINESS**

### **F1. EGLE Materials Management Grants to Counties**

EGLE is currently offering grants to counties to help them transition from solid waste management to material management. A single county can apply for \$10,000 or a multi-county grant application

qualifies for up to \$12,000 per County. Grants can be awarded to a specific county or a multi-county region of a Designated Planning Agency.

If counties want a Designated Planning Agency to coordinate and complete many activities, each County would be responsible for designating CUPPAD as their DPA in the grant application. Once the grant application is submitted and reviewed by EGLE, the agreement will be sent to the DPA with the official contract and boilerplate language. The DPA will act as the responsible party for completing the activities outlined in the Activities and Deliverables.

This is a pass-thru grant, and the grant funds are to be used to accomplish the required activities and deliverables.

**Activities and Deliverables Include:**

1. Complete discussions on regional partnership opportunities for Materials Management Planning
2. The DPA will serve as the local contact for the Mega Data Project (State inventory of current solid waste management systems)
3. Promote municipal engagement in education and outreach activities for materials management planning.
4. Establish or continue the conversation with interested parties on materials management topics

**Prepare Management Needs Assessment**

1. Review County Profiles developed through the Mega Data Project  
Such as deficiencies and opportunities within the current materials management programs and infrastructure throughout the counties  
Review existing county/municipal agreements and ordinances related to materials management.
2. Determine changes and impacts due to potential legislative changes to Part 115, Solid Waste Management by evaluating potential impacts of the elimination of import/export authorization.
3. Determine if/how to integrate other substantial other sustainable

This grant is an excellent opportunity for counties and local units of government to become aware of these changes, understand new systems, and be ready for eventual legislation that will require materials management as an only option going forward.

CUPPAD can assist each County and request that they approve CUPPAD as their Designated Planning Agency and provide us with a contact person so we can work through the deliverables. CUPPAD will be requesting a meeting with the County Administrators and Boards of Commissioners to advance this opportunity across the central region.

F2. Project Completion Report

A list of CUPPAD projects was discussed by the Commission. Commissioners agreed that CUPPAD needs to complete the projects they are currently under contract to perform before adding new projects. Included with the monthly budget report is the CUPPAD Grant Balance Report. Going forward, we will include a column stating the percentage of completion for each project.

## G. PRESENTATIONS

1:40 pm – Presentation by Tom Stephenson, Broadband Solutions Manager with Connected Nation.  
*Tom coordinates and manages the activities of planning teams in support of Connected Nation's Connected Community Engagement Program and the development of community team creation, data gathering and action planning for technology.*

## H. NEXT MEETINGS

Executive Committee Meeting - March 24,2022 at 2:00 PM with call-in option

Meeting Adjourned 1:53 pm.

Minutes provided by Dotty LaJoye