

CUPPAD REGIONAL COMMISSION
Quarterly Meeting
Minutes

February 23, 2024
12:30pm ET

Delta County Boardroom, Escanaba, MI
Zoom and call options

MEMBERS PRESENT

Thyra Karlstrom, Marquette County Member at Large*
Denny Olson, Dickinson County Townships*
Peter Kleiman, Menominee County Townships*
John Malnar, Delta County Board*
Mike Perilloux, Schoolcraft County Cities*
Kathy Vermaat, Marquette County Planning Commission*
Pam Johnson, Alger County Planning Commission
Steven Gromala, Menominee County Board
Connie Westrich, Menominee County Member at Large
Dan Rushford, Alger County Villages
John Denholm, Delta County Planning Commission
Emily Leach, Marquette County Member at Large
Mike Schira (Alternate), Dickinson County Planning Commission
Dean Seaburg, Alger County Member at Large
Randy Gorecki, Delta County Townships

MEMBERS ABSENT

Kelly Livermore, Alger County Board*
Jill Beaudo, Hannahville Indian Community*
Michelle Doucette, Alger County Townships
Mike Stelmaszek, Dickinson County Cities
Craig Cugini, Marquette County Cities
Robert Peterson, Delta County Member at Large
Kristen Thornton, Marquette County Townships
Bruce Birr, Schoolcraft County Commission
Zak Aubert, Menominee County Cities
Joe Stevens, Dickinson County Planning Commission

*Denotes Executive Committee Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Rachel Johns, Administrative Assistant, CUPPAD
Ryan Carrig, Community Planner, CUPPAD
Pam Versailles & Mike Godlowski, Billerud
Henry Schienenbeck, Greak Lakes Timber Professionals

MEMBERS PRESENT BY ZOOM OR CONFERENCE CALL

Kathy Reynolds, Alger County Cities

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

D. Lajoie requested the addition of the Superior Strategy Plan Resolution to the agenda as New Business item F.3 and asked to conduct the presentations before regular Commission business to allow the presenters enough time before their next meeting.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AMENDED AGENDA WAS MADE BY D. OLSON, SUPPORTED BY P. KLEIMAN; MOTION CARRIED.

C. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 27, 2023, REGIONAL COMMISSION QUARTERLY MEETING BY P. KLEIMAN, SUPPORTED BY M. PERRILOUX; MOTION CARRIED. MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 14, 2023, AND JANUARY 25, 2024, CUPPAD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS BY P. KLEIMAN, SUPPORTED BY D. OLSON; MOTION CARRIED.

D. TREASURER'S REPORT

D. Lajoie provided clarification on the grant balances sheet showing we are 33% through the fiscal year and only 21% expended. There will be changes being made to the EDA Assisted Coal Communities Grant, which is pass-thru funds, and a budget adjustment will be required accordingly.

A full Treasurer's was tabled until the next meeting.

E. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Dotty LaJoye distributed information for an upcoming Michigan State University Extension Webinar series. **MOTION TO ACCPET THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT WAS MADE BY M. PERRILOUX, SUPPORTED BY P. KLEIMAN; MOTION CARRIED.**

F. New Business

F.1 FOIA Policy – **MOTION MADE BY J. DENHOLM, SUPPORTED BY M. PERRILOUX TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED FOIA POLICY. MOTION CARRIED.**

F.2 MSHDA Regional Housing Update – The central region suffered a budget cut of approximately \$200,000 leaving the budget at \$2.28 million. Those funds can be applied to public amenities, homeowner rehab, and new construction to include new construction for rental and homeowner. New construction over \$400,000 requires 1:1 match and 20% of units must be set aside to be 60% of area median income. Ryan Soucy and Michelle LaJoyie will be hosting an informational webinar. Dates and times will be provided to the Commission for those that would like to participate.

F.3 Superior Strategy Plan Resolution – The resolution was read to the Commission followed by a roll call vote. Resolution was adopted.

G. OLD BUSINESS

G. 1 CUPPAD By-Laws – K. Vermaat provided the Regional Commission with a comprehensive explanation outlining the proposed edits and changes to the current CUPPAD by-laws. During further discussion, emphasis was placed on the significance of incorporating “Grace Period” language for dues paying members and additional revisions to the description of the Treasurer’s check signing duties. The adoption of the new by-laws is tentatively scheduled for April; therefore, it is imperative the Regional Commission receives copies for review fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting date.

PRESENTATIONS

Mike Godlowski and Pam Versailles presented the current status of Billerud’s paper mill conversion plan.

Henry Schienenbeck presented on the importance of forestry management and highlighted the impact of alternative power methods on the land.

COMMISSIONER UPDATES

S. Gromala reported Jeff Carlson has been selected as his replacement to the Commission for Menominee county.

M. Perriloux thanked Ryan Carrig for his assistance with the materials management presentation for Schoolcraft County.

E. Leach seconded Marquette County’s gratefulness to Ryan for his assistance.

R. Carrig announced that all 6 counties have joined for a multi-county materials management plan.

NEXT MEETINGS

Executive Committee meeting- March 28, 2024, at 2:00PM

Quarterly Regional Commission meeting- April 26, 2024, at 12:30- lunch is served at noon.

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING BY T. KARLSTROM, SUPPORTED BY J. MALNAR;

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 2:12 pm.

Minutes provided by Rachel Johns