

WUPPDR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Western U.P. Planning and Development Region

Monday, March 21, 2022
4:15 PM (ET)
Via Zoom Audio/Videoconference

NAME	Present, voting	Present, non-voting	Absent
Robert Nousiainen, Chair, Ontonagon County	X		
Joe Bonovetz, 1 st V.C., Gogebic County			X
Patti Peretto, 2 nd Vice Chair, Iron County	X		
Bill Rolof, Treasurer, Baraga County	X		
James Vivian, Jr., Secretary, Keweenaw County			X
Del Rajala, Alternate, Keweenaw County			X
Albert Koskela, Member, Houghton County			X
Tom Tikkanen, Alternate, Houghton County	X		
Marlene Broemer, Alternate, Ontonagon County			X
MaryEllen Hyttinen, Office Manager, WUPPDR		X	
Jerald Wuorenmaa, Executive Director, WUPPDR		X	

Call to Order: Robert Nousiainen, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 4:22 PM (ET)

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was spoken.

Roll Call of Members: The following commissioners responded to roll call done by Hyttinen.
Patti Peretto, Bill Rolof, Tom Tikkanen, Robert Nousiainen.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Rolof, supported by Peretto to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes - (January 24, 2022, Executive Committee): Moved by Peretto, supported by Rolof to approve the minutes with correction to member attendance. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills Paid: Moved by Tikkanen, supported by Rolof to approve the bills paid as presented from January 1, 2022 – February 28, 2022, totaling \$98,455.20. Roll Call Vote: **Ayes:** Peretto, Rolof, Tikkanen, Nousiainen. **Nays:** None. Motion carried.

Public Appearances: None

Director's Report: Carried over to the Full Board.

Audit and MERS Update: Wuorenmaa notified the board the draft audit is complete. The audit is all clean except for one fund that went over budget on the EDA CARES fund, but it is a very minor exception. Wuorenmaa mentioned the General Fund is going up.

Wuorenmaa spoke with Tara from MERS who stated based on what MERS discovered it looks like we are where we should be at this time. Wuorenmaa increased the personnel costs in the budget to make some larger voluntary payments this year to make sure we stay funded at 100%. No action required.

EDA CARES remaining funds: Wuorenmaa said funds not being utilized for Gogebic and Ontonagon County EDOs will most likely get moved to personnel costs because there is still much work to be done on the current projects. No action required.

Quarterly budget update/amendment: Wuorenmaa provided an update of the budget through March and suggested the Commission could adopt it as an amendment if they wanted to. Moved by Tikkanen, supported by Peretto to accept the proposed quarterly budget update/amendment as presented. Motion carried.

Hazard Mitigation Plans County match shortfalls: Wuorenmaa reminded everyone this issue was already mentioned at the last Executive board meeting. Wuorenmaa will invoice the counties with shortfalls and if there are any issues, he will contact the individual counties directly. No action taken.

Materials Management County Engagement Grants – multi-county application: Wuorenmaa said Lisa McKenzie and himself have discussed with all county boards except Baraga about the grants. Discussion has evolved since conversations first started. Bonovetz from Gogebic County had suggested all six counties apply together with the multi-county application. Wuorenmaa would like to know how everyone would like to apply because he will need to write a sample resolution. Also, the state is trying to encourage the multi-county planning processes. No action taken.

Resolution of Support – Village of Ontonagon State Financial Support: Wuorenmaa explained the proposed resolution was requested by the Village of Ontonagon in an effort to obtain state support to relieve its pension obligations related to formal hospital employees. Moved by Peretto, supported by Rolof to recommend to the Full board for consideration. Motion carried.

June meeting date change: Moved by Rolof, supported by Tikkanen to accept a meeting date change from June 20 to June 28. Motion carried.

Annual meeting location: Hyttinen reminded the Iron County commissioner to start considering where the annual meeting will be held.

Other Business: Hyttinen thanked the board for including ‘parent’ in the sick leave policy. It allowed her to spend the last month of her mother’s life with her.

Adjourn: Moved by Tikkanen, supported by Rolof that the meeting adjourn at 4:52 PM (ET). Motion carried.


