

WUPPDR FULL COMMISSION MEETING
Western U.P. Planning and Development Region

March 15, 2021

5:00 PM (ET)

Via Zoom Audio/Videoconference

NAME	Present, voting	Present, non-voting	Absent
Robert Nousiainen, Chair, Ontonagon County	X		
Joe Bonovetz, 1 st Vice Chair, 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		
Albert Koskela, E.C. Member, Houghton County	X		
Glenn Anderson, Houghton County	X		
Mary Babcock, City of Hancock (Alt.)			X
Ron Blau, City of Hancock			X
Roy Britz, Houghton County			X
Marlene Broemer, Ontonagon County (E.C. Alt.)	X		
Mark Bromley, Iron County	X		
Donald Chastan, Village of Ontonagon (Alt.)			X
Gretchen Janssen, Houghton County	X		
Robert LaFave, Village of L'Anse	X		
Paul Lehto, Calumet Charter Township			X
Jim Lorenson, Gogebic County (E.C. Alt.)			X
Lyle Olsen, Baraga County (E.C. Alt.)	X		
Bruce Petersen, Portage Charter Township			X
Del Rajala, Keweenaw County (E.C. Alt.)			X
Jeff Ratcliffe, KEDA (<i>ex officio</i>)		X	
Dan Salo, City of Houghton	X		
Tony Smydra, Village of Ontonagon			X
Mike Stafford, Iron County (E.C. Alt.)	X		
Tom Tikkanen, Houghton County (E.C. Alt.)	X		
MaryEllen Hyttinen, Office Mgr., WUPPDR		X	
Jerald Wuorenmaa, Exec. Director, WUPPDR		X	

Call to Order: Robert Nousiainen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM (ET).

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Chairman Robert Nousiainen.

Member Roll Call: The following commissioners responded to roll call done by Hyttinen.

Joe Bonovetz, Bessemer, MI, Gogebic County; Patti Peretto, Crystal Falls, MI, Iron County; Bill Rolof, L'Anse, MI, Baraga County; James Vivian Jr., Mohawk, MI, Keweenaw County; Albert Koskela, Traprock Valley, Houghton County; Glenn Anderson, Hancock, MI, Houghton County; Marlene Broemer, Ontonagon, MI, Ontonagon County; Mark Bromley, Crystal Falls, MI, Iron County; Jeff Ratcliffe, Hancock, MI, Houghton County; Lyle Olsen, L'Anse, MI, Baraga County, Mike Stafford, Iron River, MI, Iron County; Tom Tikkanen, Calumet, MI, Houghton County; Gretchen Janssen, Houghton, MI, Houghton County; Dan Salo, Houghton, MI, Houghton County; Robert LaFave, L'Anse, MI, Baraga County; Robert Nousiainen, Bruce Crossing, MI, Ontonagon County.

Election of officer: Secretary, Keweenaw County: Nominated by Rolof, supported by Bonovetz to elect James Vivian Jr., as Secretary to the WUPPDR Executive board. Moved by Bonovetz, supported by Rolof that nominations be closed, and a unanimous ballot be cast for James Vivian, Jr., of Keweenaw County as Secretary to the WUPPDR Executive board. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto to approve the agenda as presented with addition of agenda item: Lease Agreement. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes (January 26, 2021): Moved by Bonovetz, supported by Rolof to approve the January 26, 2021 Full Commission minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills Paid: Moved by Stafford, supported by Peretto to accept the paid bills from January 1 – February 28, 2021, totaling \$112,808.06. **Roll Call Vote:** **Ayes:** Bonovetz, Peretto, Rolof, Vivian, Anderson, Broemer, Bromley, LaFave, Olsen, Stafford, Tikkanen, Janssen, Salo, Nousiainen. **Nays:** None. Motion carried.

Public Appearances: Molly Scappaticci, Schoolcraft College

Acceptance of Iron County as member as of January 2021: Moved by Bonovetz, supported by Koskela to accept Iron County back as a member to the WUPPDR board. Motion carried.

Director's report: The initial version of the Pandemic Response & Resiliency Plan (PRRP) has been completed which includes the formation of two housing committees that have been sharing thoughts & ideas for updating the housing stock including public awareness possibly thru articles in the local newspaper; labor force assessment and mental and behavioral health assessment are also proposed in the plan. Two new grants were received: National Science Foundation Civic grant for coastal disaster and MDOT to update the regional non-motorized plan and regional bike maps; EDA is receiving a large appropriation from the American Rescue Plan.

Lease Agreement: Wuorenmaa explained that Michigan Works! has agreed to reduce WUPPDR's rent by \$400/month as a result of vacating our corner office. Moved by Bonovetz, supported by Tikkanen to authorized signature to the lease agreement amendment. Motion carried.

Quarterly budget amendment: Moved by Broemer, supported by Bonovetz to accept the amendment and place on file. Motion carried.

ELPC request for support for new Ottawa NF wilderness designations: Moved by Bonovetz, supported by Rolof to table this item for further information. Motion carried. (Broemer abstained)

Change of September meeting date: Moved by Bonovetz, supported by Peretto to approve the revised meeting schedule. Motion carried.

Other Business: Wuorenmaa mentioned the current OMA amendment will require we return to in-person meetings starting in April and future full commission meetings will return to Parkview Lodge & Grill.

Adjourn: Moved by Rolof, supported by Stafford that the meeting adjourn at 5:59 PM (ET). Motion carried.



Robert Nousiainen, Chair (In lieu of Secretary)

