

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

Alice's Supper Club, 402 West Adams St, Iron River, MI

Tuesday, September 27, 2022
5:00 PM (CT)

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
Glenn Anderson, Houghton County	X		
Mary Babcock, City of Hancock (Alt.)	X		
Ron Blau, City of Hancock			X
Roy Britz, Houghton County (E.C. Alt.)	X		
Marlene Broemer, Ontonagon County (E.C. Alt.)	X		
Zach Hautala, Iron County			X
Donald Chastan, Village of Ontonagon (Alt.)			X
Jan Cole, City of Houghton			X
Tim Gasperich, Calumet Township (Alt.)			X
Gretchen Janssen, Houghton County			X
Robert LaFave, Village of L'Anse	X		
Paul Lehto, Calumet Charter Township	X		
Jim Lorensen, Gogebic County (E.C. Alt.)			X
Lyle Olsen, Baraga County (E.C. Alt.)	X		
Bruce Petersen, Portage Charter Township			X
Paul Putnam, MSU Extension			X
Del Rajala, Keweenaw County (E.C. Alt.)			X
Jeff Ratcliffe, KEDA (<i>ex officio</i>)		X	
Tony Smydra, Village of Ontonagon			X
Mike Stafford, Iron County (E.C. Alt.)	X		
Tom Tikkanen, Houghton County	X		
MaryEllen Hyttinen, Office Mgr., WUPPDR			
Jerald Wuorenmaa, Exec. Director, WUPPDR			
Lisa McKenzie, Asst. Regional Planner, WUPPDR			
Rachael Pressley, Regional Planner, WUPPDR			
Guests: Jason Socia, Public			
Judi Schwalbach, Representative for Senator McBroom			

Call to Order: Robert Nousiainen, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM (CT)

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

Member Roll Call: The following commissioners responded to roll call done by Hyttinen. Glenn Anderson, Roy Britz, Marlene Broemer, Robert LaFave, Paul Lehto, Lyle Olsen, Patti Peretto, Jeff Ratcliffe, Bill Rolof, Mike Stafford, Tom Tikkanen, Robert Nousiainen.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by LaFave, supported by Broemer to approve the agenda with the correction to agenda item 10. Final amendment of FY2022 audit, corrected to: Final amendment of FY2022 *budget*. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes - (August 15, 2022, Full Commission): Moved by Stafford, supported by Rolof to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills Paid: Moved by LaFave, supported by Peretto to approve the bills as presented from August 1, 2022 – August 31, 2022, totaling \$54,388.91. **Roll Call Vote:** **Ayes:** Glenn Anderson, Roy Britz, Marlene Broemer, Robert LaFave, Paul Lehto, Lyle Olsen, Patti Peretto, Bill Rolof, Mike Stafford, Tom Tikkanen, Robert Nousiainen, Mary Babcock. **Nays:** None. Motion carried. Mary Babcock arrived at 5:04 PM (CT)

Public Appearances: None

Auditor Selection: Wuorenmaa informed the commission the three-year audit had been bid out. The first year of audit costs as presented is a definite for the first year, which is coming up for this fiscal year ending September 2022. The next two years are optional renewals. The audit bids were sent to a dozen firms and the only response submission was from our current auditor Gabridge & Co. WUPPDR has been satisfied with their work and Wuorenmaa feels the price is reasonable. Wuorenmaa stated WUPPDR had paid more in the past years with a different auditing firm.

Moved by LaFave, supported by Broemer to approve the audit selection of Gabridge & Co. **Roll Call Vote:** **Ayes:** Glenn Anderson, Mary Babcock, Roy Britz, Marlene Broemer, Robert LaFave, Paul Lehto, Lyle Olsen, Patti Peretto, Bill Rolof, Mike Stafford, Tom Tikkanen, Robert Nousiainen. **Nays:** None. Motion carried.

Director Updates: Wuorenmaa reported on several topics.

Regional Housing Study & Strategy – was finished last month. Sarah Lucas, Deputy Director of the Office of Rural Development for the state suggested to MSHDA that they talk with WUPPDR to move forward with housing planning activities. MSHDA is planning to put out some housing planning related funds throughout the state in connection with the state housing plan that was recently completed. WUPPDR is in a good position to receive some of this funding due to the completed Regional Housing Study & Strategy. Wuorenmaa also informed the Commission that WUPPDR will be funded \$500,000 for the MI-HOPE program that WUPPDR applied for. WUPPDR will be focusing on homeowner repairs and upgrades related to energy efficiency which can also be used for roofs, windows, insulation, etc. Hyttinen and McKenzie will be working on this program.

Materials Management County Engagement Grants – WUPPDR requested an extension to the middle of May, which was granted. The bulk of work will be collecting information from every local government, hopefully on what they have for solid waste recycling and services, and what services they would like to have. WUPPDR intern will be making calls to collect information. Wuorenmaa will also start requesting information via email.

Houghton County Recreation Authority – This group is almost formalized now as a state recognized recreation authority. Wuorenmaa agreed for WUPPDR to be the principal location of the organization so meetings will continue at WUPPDR and have the postings at the WUPPDR office. An audit is required but there is not a budget for this authority. WUPPDR may add this as a component to our audit, which should not substantially change the cost of the audit.

Staff Travel – A lot of travel for staff is expected next month. Wuorenmaa will be attending the Michigan State Association of Regions in Traverse City. The week after Wuorenmaa, Pressley and McKenzie will be attending the State Planning conference on Mackinac Island. Wuorenmaa may also be attending Asset Management related work groups downstate.

Final amendment of FY2022 budget: Wuorenmaa explained the final revisions which include additional funds since the original budget. Moved by LaFave, supported by Stafford to approve the final amendment of FY2022 budget. **Roll Call Vote:** **Ayes:** Glenn Anderson, Mary Babcock, Roy Britz, Marlene Broemer, Robert LaFave, Paul Lehto, Lyle Olsen, Patti Peretto, Bill Rolof, Mike Stafford, Tom Tikkanen, Robert Nousiainen. **Nays:** None. Motion carried.

FY2023 General Appropriations Act – budget adoption: Wuorenmaa mentioned this changed from the original version sent out with meeting materials due to the addition of the MI-HOPE funding. \$25,000 will be received

for administration with possible additional fees for individual addresses. Anderson suggested the total grant amount of \$500,000 be included in the budget even though \$475,000 would be passed through for contractual costs. Wuorenmaa further explained and addressed questions regarding numerous other items within the budget. Moved by Anderson, supported by LaFave to approve the FY2023 General Appropriations Act – budget adoption as presented with the additional of adding the \$475,000 of the MI-HOPE grant as revenue and expenditures. Roll Call Vote: **Ayes:** Glenn Anderson, Mary Babcock, Roy Britz, Marlene Broemer, Robert LaFave, Paul Lehto, Lyle Olsen, Patti Peretto, Bill Rolof, Mike Stafford, Tom Tikkanen, Robert Nousiainen. **Nays:** None. Motion carried.

Other Business: None

Adjourn: Moved by Stafford, supported by Rolof that the meeting adjourn at 5:43 PM (CT). Motion carried.


