



Region 1 Planning Council Board

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

127 N Wyman St, Ste 100, Rockford, IL 61101

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Mayor Jury at 8:01 am.

2. Roll Call

A quorum was present, including:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Boone County | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | McHenry County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Chicago Rockford Int'l Airport (8:03) | <input type="checkbox"/> | McHenry Economic Development Association |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | City of Belvidere | <input type="checkbox"/> | Nicor / Southern Co |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | City of Freeport | <input type="checkbox"/> | Northern Illinois University |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | City of Loves Park | <input type="checkbox"/> | Northwestern Illinois Building Trades |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | City of Rochelle | <input type="checkbox"/> | North Park Public Water District |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | City of Rockford | <input type="checkbox"/> | Rochelle Economic Development Corporation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | City of South Beloit | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Rockford Mass Transit District |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | ComEd (8:05) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Rockford Park District |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Four Rivers Sanitation Authority | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Rock Valley College |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Greater Freeport Partnership | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Stephenson County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Greater Rockford Chamber of Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Village of Cherry Valley |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Growth Dimensions | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Village of Machesney Park |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Highland Community College | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Village of Roscoe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | McHenry Community College | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Winnebago County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Martesha Brown | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The Workforce Connection |

3. Public Comment

There were none present who wished to address the Board.

4. PRESENTATION: State and Region Economic Development Partnership – Lisa Clemmons Stott, Electric Mobility and Innovation Director of the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (IL DCEO)

Lisa Clemmons Stott, Electric Mobility and Innovation Director of IL DCEO presented on IL DCEO's five-year strategic plan and areas where they are looking to invest. This strategic plan should be introduced to the Illinois legislature by July 1. There has been a lot of state money invested in manufacturers and infrastructure projects. Future strategies will continue this focus and maximize job readiness in the state's workforce. Strategies for the next five years include site readiness, customized job training, strengthening and leveraging economic development partnerships, and building on incentives. Identified growth industries are next generation agriculture and food manufacture, life science and biology, next generation computing, clean energy, and advanced manufacturing.

5. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of February 8, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Motion by Winnebago County, seconded by Four Rivers, to **approve** the Consent Agenda.

Motion **approved** unanimously by voice vote.

6. Budget Adoption for FY 2025

Mr. Dunn gave an overview of the proposed Region 1 Joint Planning Commission budget for FY 2025.

a. RESOLUTION 2024-02: Adoption of Budget for Fiscal Year 2025

Motion by Machesney Park, seconded by Winnebago County, to **approve** the Resolution.

Motion **approved** unanimously by voice vote.

7. Election of Officers for FY 2025

A motion was made by Four Rivers and seconded by Winnebago County to re-appoint Mayor Jury as Board Chair.

A motion was made by Winnebago County and seconded by City of Loves Park to re-appoint Tim Hanson as Board Vice-Chair.

a. RESOLUTION 2024-03: Approval of Officers for Region 1 Joint Planning Commission

Motion by Machesney Park, seconded by Winnebago County, to **approve** the Resolution.

Motion **approved** unanimously by voice vote.

8. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Dunn gave a report on 3rd quarter financials. Mr. Dunn stated that he was proud of the impact made across four regional counties in 2024. That impact includes land use technical assistance and a RISE grant award for Marengo (McHenry County); infrastructure work to support economic development in Boone County and adding Boone County to the Trustee Land Auction; various program plan updates for Winnebago County; and Land Bank, brownfield, and flood grant application work for Stephenson County.

9. Trustee/Land Bank Update – Eric Setter

Mr. Setter reported that the Land Bank continues to acquire properties regularly. He mentioned that the nationwide competitive housing market presents new challenges with acquiring Land Bank properties. Mr. Setter attended the Habitat for Humanity groundbreaking for their 2024 build season. The Land Bank provided property for these builds, which aligns with the board's directive to support regional housing improvement. He just completed a successful Trustee Auction in April for Winnebago and Boone Counties. There were 476 parcels sold in Winnebago County and 69 in Boone County for just over \$1 million made in bids. Closing should be complete by June 7.

10. Mental Health Programming Update – Jason Holcomb

Mr. Holcomb reported that the Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board recorded administrative costs of under 5% and over 5000 unique individuals per quarter were served. The WCCMHB just awarded \$60 million over three years in the latest round of funding to 38 programs. New this year was Accelerator funding. This one-time funding is intended to improve system capacity in perpetuity. Seven awards were made, totaling \$10 million.

11. MPO Update – Sydney Turner

Ms. Turner gave an update on smaller MPO projects, many of which are in partnership with organizations represented on the board. Those projects included RECUPERAT, EPA Section 319 grant, Winnebago County Hazard Mitigation Plan update, City of Oregon sustainability plan, Safe Streets 4 All, and Bus Rapid Transit.

12. Other Business

Chairman Jury discussed the grocery tax and a proposed plan to reinstate. The statewide tax expires in January 2026, with each municipality to vote it back in by October 2025. For those who vote to reinstate, the tax revenue will begin being collected again in January 2026, with the state collecting 1.5%. Regionally, we will put together a plan for all agreeing municipalities to vote as a region to reinstate. No one present was aware of any municipalities who would not participate in this regional collaboration. This planning is expected to begin in August. Contact Isaac Guerrero or Michael Dunn with any questions.

13. Adjournment

Motion by Machesney Park, seconded by Winnebago County, to **adjourn**.

Motion **approved** unanimously by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 am.

Meeting minutes prepared by: Amy Salamon
Minutes approved by action of the Board: _____