



**REGION I PLANNING COUNCIL**  
MEETING MINUTES / Thursday, December 14, 2017  
(Regional Design Center – 315 N. Main Street, Rockford)

**1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND REPRESENTATION:** Meeting was called to order by Mayor Chamberlain, City of Belvidere with a quorum present at 1:29 PM.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Karl Johnson, Boone County; Mayor Mike Chamberlain, City of Belvidere; Ms. Nancy McDonald, City of Freeport; Mayor Greg Jury, City of Loves Park; Mayor Thomas McNamara, City of Rockford; Mr. George Gaulrapp, ComEd; Ms. Pam Fettes, Growth Dimensions; Mr. Tim Hood, Highland College; Mr. Dave Young, NIDA; Mr. David Anthony Pietryla, Nicor; Ms. Rena Cotsones, NIU; Mr. John Donahue, North Park Water; Ms. Karen Brown, OSF Healthcare; Mr. Nathan Bryant, Ms. Michele Petrie, RAEDC; Dr. Doug Jensen, RVC; Mr. Jeff Polsean, Rockford Airport; Ian Linnabary, Rockford Park District; Tim Hanson, RRWRD; Chairman Bill Hadley, Stephenson County; Mayor Steve Johnson, Village of Machesney Park; Chairman Frank Haney, Winnebago County; Ms. Lisa Bly, The Workforce Connection.

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** Village of Cherry Valley.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mike Dunn, Christina Washington, Jon Paul Diipla, Ben Rohr, Sydney Turner, Colin Belle, Marlana Dokken, Thomas Bona, Ivy Hood, Jay Fieser, Michelle Vella, RMAP; Mike Schblaske, Transform Rockford; Steve Ernst, RMTD; Todd Cagnoni, Glenn Trommels, City of Rockford; Ken Terrinoni, Boone County; Tim Savage, James Richter, Village of Machesney Park; Steve Gregg, Sarah Stromberg, WinGIS; Eric Stromberg, North Park Water; Steve Thompson, Nathan Bruck, City of Loves Park; Wayne Vlk, Winnebago County Highway; Kim Zimmerman, NCICG; Heather Snider, RVC; Mike Roberts RRAR; Doug DeLille, IDOT District #2.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mr. Ernst provided a brief history of the planning commission in Rockford. Mr. Ernst stated that RIPC is truly regionalism at work and he is excited for the future of the region.

Mr. Schablaske stated that RIPC is formally creating a table and an expectation for planning that is both regional and comprehensive and he is very excited for the future of Northern Illinois. Mr. Schablaske stated that there's two (2) challenges ahead:

1. That we respect the regions vision for greatness. That best practices should not only be followed here but also established here. We have the capacity, the asset and the talent to do that here in Rockford.
2. The region's shared value also be respected. Particularly those impacted by the work and are included in the process as we move forward.

#### 4. ITEMS PRESENT FOR ACTION

##### A. Resolution for Passage of RPC Bylaws

Mr. Dunn referenced the bylaws in front of members and pointed out that at the bottom of page 4, top of page 5 in red line is an addition that was suggested through discussions with WinGIS Board members. Mr. Dunn stated he would need a motion to amend the draft and then a motion to approve once any other concerns or questions on the bylaws have been discussed. First motion to amend the draft was made by the Mayor Chamberlain, City of Belvidere and Mayor Johnson, Village of Machesney Park; seconded by the Ian Linnabary, Rockford Park District. Amended draft bylaws approved unanimously. Mr. Dunn asked for a motion to approve the amended bylaws as presented. First motion was made by Mayor Johnson, Village of Machesney Park, seconded by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford. Roll call voice vote; approved unanimously.

##### B. Election of Officers

Mr. Dunn stated that the floor was open for nominations for the Chairman of Region 1 Planning Council. Chairman Haney, Winnebago County made a motion to nominate Mayor Chamberlain, City of Belvidere for RIPC Chair; seconded by Chairman Johnson and Boone County. Motion carries unanimously. Mr. Dunn turns the meeting over to Mayor Chamberlain, City of Belvidere to lead the rest of the RIPC meeting.

##### C. RPC Board Meeting Dates for 2018

##### D. Confirmation of Committees

Mr. Dunn stated that the organization has been structured to be an umbrella agency for some of the sub entities represented such as WinGIS and RMAP (MPO) which will provide status reports to the RIPC Board at the bi-monthly meetings on activities occurring. In 2018 RIPC is looking to establish a Council of Government which would act as a committee that would be open to any group, any Mayor and any Village to join for the distinct purposes of creating a legislative priority list for asks on both the state and federal level, and also the seating of an Executive Committee based on the bylaws; Mr. Dunn deferred the scheduling and composition of that committee to RIPC Chair and Vice-Chair. Mayor Chamberlain provided a brief summary on what a possible Executive Committee would look like and how the meetings would be scheduled and asked that anyone interested in serving on one of the committees reach out to him to discuss further. A brief discussion took place among members regarding committees under the RIPC Board.

Motion to approve the 2018 RIPC Board meeting schedule and Mike Dunn as the RIPC Executive Director was made by Ian Linnabary; seconded by Mayor McNamara. Motion carries unanimously.

#### 5. ITEMS PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION OR DISCUSSION

##### A. Overview of RPC

Mr. Dunn provided a brief overview of the inception and implementation of the Region 1 Planning Council.

##### B. Deputy Director Introductions

Mr. Dunn provided a brief summary on each of the RIPC Director position:

- Jon Paul Diipla, Deputy Director of Regional Planning/ Director of MPO
- Dana Northcott, Deputy Director of Program & Funding/Director of Economic Development
- Thomas Bona, Research & Information Director
- Steve Gregg, WinGIS Executive Director

### C. Goals for 2018

#### i. Establishment of Fiscal Agency

Mr. Dunn provided the steps that are being taken to move forward for the RIPC to be its own Fiscal Agent. Mr. Dunn stated that a Council of Governments will also need to be created and provided a brief summary of that process.

#### ii. Administrative Priorities

#### iii. Interim Budget and FY19 Budget Process

#### iv. RPC Board member Suggestions for Project Work

#### v. Setting Other Strategic Initiatives

Mr. Dunn provided an overview of the RIPC goals for 2018 regarding administrative priorities, interim budget and FY19 budget process along with setting other strategic initiatives.

During a brief discussion among members a few comments given and had member's consensus are the following:

- Chairman Haney suggested that the RIPC analyze what a possible Council of Governments (COG) would do for ongoing talks in relation to Inter-government cooperation and efficiency and follow-up with RIPC Board on possible suggestions,
- Mayor McNamara thanked Mr. Dunn and staff for their hard work and asked how will information is being decimated to the RIPC Board from the committees that are being created through the RIPC. Mr. Dunn stated that staff will provided updates at the bi-monthly RIPC Board meetings as information becomes available, but also email summaries back to the board as soon as meetings take place.
- Ms. Cotsones stated that having higher education at the table is important and suggests that each member of the RIPC Board could provide a brief report on their projects at the bi-monthly meetings.

### 6. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

### 7. ADJOURNMENT:

As there was no further business, Ian Linnabary, Rockford Park District made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Tim Hood, Highland Community College. Approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM.