



REGION I PLANNING COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES / Thursday, June 28, 2018 – 1:30p
(Regional Design Center – 315 N. Main Street, Rockford)

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND REPRESENTATION: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Haney with a quorum present at 1:39 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Frank Haney, Winnebago County; Chairman Karl Johnson, Boone County; Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere; Steve Thompson, City of Loves Park; Mayor Steve Johnson, Village of Machesney Park; John Donahue, North Park Water District; Dan Jacobson, Rockford Park District; Tim Hanson, RRWRD; ComEd Proxy (Tim Hanson, RRWRD); Rebecca Motley, Greater Freeport Partnership; Nathan Bryan, RAEDC; Pam Fettes, Growth Dimensions; Lisa Bly, The Workforce Connection; Jim Ryan, Rock Valley College; Dr. Tim Hood, Highland Community College; Shelly Cassaro, Greater Rockford International Airport; Lowell Crow, City of Freeport; Michael Stubbe, RMTD.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Village of Cherry Valley, NIU Rockford, NICOR.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Dunn, Jon Paul Diipla, Ivy Hood, Jay Fieser, Michelle Vella, Sydney Turner, Colin Belle, Brandon Geber, Anna Ma, RPC; Steve Gregg, Sarah Stromberg, Aaron Frey, WinGIS; Heather Snider, Rock Valley College; Taylor White, Cassie Carroll, ComEd; Joe Vanderwerff, Winnebago County Highway.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

4. APPROVAL OF THE MAY 3, 2018 & MAY 16, 2018 RPC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve the May 3, 2018 and May 16, 2018 RPC Board meeting minutes was made by the Village of Machesney Park seconded by Boone County. Motion carried unanimously.

5. ITEMS PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION OR DISCUSSION

A. Energy Saving Opportunities Through the ComEd Energy Efficiency Program

Cassie Carroll and Taylor White from ComED provided a brief presentation regarding ComEd Energy Efficiency Program. Key items to assist in costs are the following:

1. Indoor lighting upgrades (LED)
2. Outdoor lighting upgrades
3. Lighting sensors and controls
4. Municipal Street Lights Incentive
 - o ComEd offers incentives and assistance to municipalities for LED street light upgrade projects
5. Building Optimization Options

6. Wastewater Treatment Plants Study
 - o Comprehensive study of WWTP and supply water system
 - o Study is 100% paid by ComEd Energy Efficiency Program
 - o Report has detailed assessment of current operation and recommended measures, with costs, energy savings, and ComEd incentives
 - o Save up to 20% of plant's energy use through energy efficiency improvements
7. Energy Advisor Program
8. New Construction Assistance

Free energy efficiency facility assessments and numerous of incentives available.

B. Landbank Update

Mr. Dunn stated that at the May 16th RIPC Board meeting a vote was needed for IHDA regarding Landbank. IHDA awarded RIPC and Landbank Award for Boone & Winnebago Counties. Freeport was also an IHDA Land Bank recipient. Mr. Dunn indicated that the Landbank award Boone & Winnebago Counties received is the second highest amount awarded. Mr. Dunn provided a brief summary regarding Landbank which acquires titles to problem properties, eliminate the liabilities, and transfers the properties to new, responsible ownership in a transparent and efficient manner that supports community-based plans. Mr. Dunn stated that a Landbank Committee will be formed.

C. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Dunn reported that the RMAP-MPO Policy Committee met at 1:00p today and unanimously approved the following three projects to received TAP Funding.

- City of Rockford
 - o East State Street Sidewalk Gaps / Alpine Road to Newton Drive (\$268,400.00)
 - o West State Street/Pierpont Sidewalk Gaps (\$264,592.00)
- Rockford Park District
 - o Jefferson Street Bridge Underpass Approaches (\$200,000.00)

Total cost of all three (3) projects is \$732,992.00.

RIPC Newsletter

Mr. Dunn referenced the current RIPC Newsletter which gives a good glimpse of the work that's being done at RIPC. Marlana Dokken has had a lot of success on the ICJIA front.

RMAP-MPO Transit Planner

Mr. Dunn introduced Brandon Geber who will be taking on the role of Transit Planner and will work directly with RMTD.

RIPC Transition Status

Mr. Dunn stated that HR Policies for RIPC is being crafted with the assistance of an HR consultant. Mr. Dunn stated that the draft RIPC HR Policies should be available for review in a few weeks and will provide members a copy for their review. Mr. Dunn is anticipating possible adoption/approval of the RIPC HR Policies by August-2018 at the latest October-2018. A brief Q&A took place among members regarding the RIPC HR Policies and the status of RIPC Transitioning into their own IMRF employer. Mr. Dunn stated work has begun to setup RIPC's own bank account and a line of credit for payroll with Illinois Bank & Trust (IBT). Mr. Dunn stated that RIPC is using Reno Zahm for legal counsel and Jennifer Wood, CPA as the outside accountant.

Technical Assistance Award

Mr. Dunn stated that going forward there is approximately \$50K in the budget that is unallocated. Mr. Dunn stated he would like to embark either this year or next year on a program that is occurring at CMAP and Metropolitan Planning Council and other RPC; this council can award that \$50K for free technical assistance from RIPC staff to a unit of government or non-profit. Mr. Dunn provided a brief summary and a discussion took place among members with the consensus to start review and continue to discuss at future meetings.

6. ITEMS PRESENTED FOR ACTION

A. Resolution for RIPC Participation in IMRF

Mr. Dunn stated we've had IMRF votes in the past. This document is the IMRF Resolution that we have to enter into to show that we are formally asking for their approval. If IMRF adopts at their upcoming IMRF Board meeting, then RIPC would become an IMRF Employer.

Chairman Haney asked for a motion, first motion was made by the Village of Machesney Park; second motion made by the City of Rockford. Roll call 17:0:3 – Approved unanimously.

B. Resolution for RIPC Fiscal Year 2019 Budget

Mr. Dunn stated that this was presented at the last RIPC Board meeting on May 3, 2018 for RIPC Board members review. Mr. Dunn stated that as an organization we are striving for an overall balanced budget, however there is a loss projected for the Economic Development District. The Economic Development District operational cost is at a negative balance is acceptable since they are viewed as a loss leader; they've generated millions of dollars of grant revenue for a lot of the members around the table today. Mr. Dunn stated that he is waiting for additional funding from the EDA but he's not banking on it. Mr. Dunn stated that overall as an organization we can cover the Economic Development District's loss but as a full organization we have a balanced budget. A brief discussion took place among members regarding the RIPC FY2019 Budget.

Chairman Haney asked for a motion, first motion was made by the City of Rockford; second motion made by North Park Water District. Voice vote 17:0:3 – Approved unanimously.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Haney stated that on July 10, 2018 at 1:00pm there will be a press conference held regarding community education on recent discussions on literacy and the initiative of onboarding to a larger community wide effort.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

As there was no further business, Village of Machesney Park made a motion to adjourn, seconded by the City of Belvidere. Approved unanimously (17:0:3). The meeting was adjourned at 2:16 PM.