

**Eastern U.P. Regional Planning & Development Commission  
Executive Committee Meeting**

**Sault Ste. Marie SmartZone; 2345 Meridian; Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

**Friday, December 10, 2021**

**Attendance**

Dean Reid      Jeff Holt      Mike Patrick

**Staff:**

Jeff Hagan      Kim Wilcox

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:40 p.m. by M. Patrick.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as submitted following a motion by D. Reid with support by J. Holt.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment addressed at this meeting.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE & PROGRAM UPDATE**

CEO J. Hagan provided a review of the financial report along with a general overview of current program updates. Overall, there are no areas of concern with the Financial Report as presented. J. Holt moved to approve the Financial Update/Program Report as presented. D. Reid supported. Motion passed.

**New Business—Blue Cross Blue Shield Renewal Update**

CEO Hagan indicated that the renewal of the current Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan noted an increase of 9.82%. Upon review of the plan with Jeremy Peacock of the Garceau Insurance Agency, it was determined that due to “Covid Years”, this increase is reasonable as many policies have an average increase of 15-21%. It is recommended that this plan be renewed as other policies could be lower yet not be a cost savings to staff. Jeff has also requested information on short term disability and supplemental insurance policies. D. Reid moved to approve the renewal of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Policy for 2022. J. Holt supported. Motion passed.

**New Business—Nominating Committee Update**

The Nominating Committee met on November 29 to provide a slate of nominees of officers to be presented for appointment at the January Annual Meeting. As the Representative for Chair and Vice Chair rotates among the counties, a representative from Mackinac County will be Chair and

a representative from Luce County will be Vice Chair. The following slate of nomination of officers will be presented to the EUPRPDC Board at the Organizational Meeting in January 2022:

Chair: Mike Patrick

Vice Chair: Allison Watkins

Treasurer: Dean Reid

Minority Representative: Jeff Holt

Member At Large: Richard Timmer

### **New Business—EGLE Materials Management Grant**

J. Hagan described an EGLE Materials Management grant opportunity. This grant will allow EUPRPDC to transition the Solid Waste Planning Committee to Materials Management. The grant totals up to \$36,000--\$12,000 for each county in the Region. There is no financial commitment from EUPRPDC or member Counties for any matching funds. It does require approval from each County; and at this time, Chippewa County has noted their approval. It is the expectation that Mackinac and Luce will also submit their approval. The grant application also requires the approval from the Executive Committee to authorize EUPRPDC to make this application as the DPA. J. Holt moved to authorize EUP Regional Planning and Development to apply for the EGLE Materials Management Grant. D. Reid supported. Motion passed.

### **New Business—Member Updates**

Jeff Holt noted the completion of the Brownfield CFRE project and provided additional information of other Brownfield funding opportunities and its advantages to the tax base. He also provided an update of the Union Carbide Dock and the Kmart building sale.

Dean Reid mentioned that Representative DaMoose's office is working on the preliminary engineering plans for the MDOT Welcome Center in St. Ignace. This building will be constructed as a mass timber building.

Mike Patrick indicated that Straits Area Ambulance will be building a new ambulance hall by the airport. Funding for this construction was received from the State of Michigan.

Jeff Hagan mentioned that a Bill is being drafted to allow for virtual meetings for regional planning agencies.

The next Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled to be held on March 11, 2022.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m. following a motion by J. Holt and support by D. Reid.