

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

**EUP Regional Planning & Development Commission Office
2345 Meridian; Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

Tuesday, September 9, 2025; 9:00 a.m.

Attendance

Allison Watkins
Mike Patrick

Jeff Holt

Jim Traynor

Kelly Freeman

Staff

Jeff Hagan

Kim Wilcox

Amber Pietrangelo

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman K. Freeman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted following a motion by M. Patrick with support by A. Watkins.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment addressed at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS—Financial Update & Program Report

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. M. Patrick supported. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS—FY2026 Draft Budget

A summary of the anticipated program budgets for FY 2026 was provided to members. There are no foreseeable issues with the FY 2026 budget. Potential upcoming projects that could be awarded in the future were also described. M. Patrick moved to approve the FY 2026 Budget as presented. A. Watkins supported. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS—IT Service Agreement

Members reviewed the IT Services Agreement with the EUP Intermediate School District. This agreement details the IT services provided to Regional Planning by the EUPISD with an ending date of June 30, 2026. M. Patrick moved to approve the IT Services Contract with the EUPISD. J. Holt supported. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

A. Watkins: Yes	J. Holt: Yes	J. Traynor: Yes	K. Freeman: Yes
M. Patrick: Yes			

NEW BUSINESS—CEO Update

CEO Hagan indicated that Staff Compensation Review would be an agenda item for consideration at the December Executive Committee meeting. There will be different factors to consider including cost of living increases and health care renewal costs. He also noted that upon review of the recent NADO Compensation Report, EUPRPDC staff are 25% below average with comparable positions.

Another item for discussion at the next meeting would be to review the formula used to determine the amount of the annual local share dues for each county in the region. The current level of local share funding is not comparable to that of similar organizations. Currently, local share funding received from the counties total \$50,000/yearly versus approximately \$125,000 other organizations. The last increase requested from the Counties was June 2022 which was phased in over the 2023 and 2024 fiscal years to allow for each county to adjust budgets. If additional funding is provided, EUPRPDC could puruse other funding opportunities.

NEW BUSINESS—Member Updates

Jeff Holt: Indicated that the Kewadin Hotel/Casino renovations should be completed by October 1 and that the construction of the Black Rock Restaurant is underway with plans for completion by November 14.

Mike Patrick: Provided an update Les Cheneaux Club which did not open this year and most likely will not open in the upcoming due to the most recent ice storm which caused power outages, sewer issues, and an oil spill. This has affected tourism in the area.

Kelly Freeman: Noted that construction of Culvers has started.

Allison Watkins: Indicated that the Village of Newberry is working on a partnership with the Luce County Sheriff to provide a full-time resource officer at the Tahquamenon School. She also mentioned that the Village of Newberry’s Recreation Plan is outdated and may need to be ready for an update.

OLD BUSINESS

Upcoming Meetings:

- *EUP Regional Planning & Development Commission Board* Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 29 at the Crow's Nest at the Walker Cisler Center at 9:00 a.m.
- *EUP Materials Management Committee* will meet following the EUPRPDC Board Meeting at 11:00 a.m.
- *EUPRPDC Executive Committee* meeting will be held on December 2, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m. following a motion by M. Patrick and support by J. Traynor.