

# **MINUTES**

Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

Full Commission Meeting

Tuesday, October 15, 2019 9:30 a.m.

Van Buren ISD Conference Center

490 South Paw Paw Street, Lawrence, MI 49064

## **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Hanson, Don, Chair, Van Buren County Commissioner  
Freehling, Teri Sue, Vice Chair, Berrien County Commissioner  
Akinwale, Yemi, Treasurer, Berrien County Representative  
Preston, Linda, Secretary, Cass County Representative  
Gundersen, Kristen, Alternate Secretary, Berrien County Representative  
Remus, Richard, Alternate Treasurer, Berrien County Representative  
Curran, Jim, Berrien County Commissioner  
DeLong, Don, Cass County Representative  
Doroh, Kurt, Van Buren County Commissioner  
Foerster, David, Van Buren County Representative  
Hanson, Sandra, Van Buren County Representative  
Laylin, Leon, Cass County Representative  
Marchetti, Roseann, Cass County Commissioner  
Meeks, Donnie, Berrien County Commissioner  
Newton, Matthew, Van Buren County Representative  
Pantaleo, Paul, Berrien County Representative  
Patterson-Gladney, Gail, Van Buren County Commissioner  
Schueneman, James, Berrien County Representative  
Stauffer, Dick, Berrien County Representative  
Stover, Jim, Berrien County Representative  
Torzynski, Robert, Pokagon Band Representative  
Tyler, Doug, Cass County Representative

## **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Fette, Dan, Berrien County Representative  
Janssen, Judy, Van Buren County Representative  
Payne, Gloria, Berrien County Representative

## **STAFF PRESENT:**

K. John Egelhaaf, Executive Director  
Patrice Rose, Office Manager

## **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Nick Culp  
Mick Middaugh

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Don Hanson called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Office Manager, Patrice Rose took roll call and a quorum was present.

**2. ACCEPTANCE AND/OR REVISION OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Hanson presented the Agenda. Kurt Doroh moved to “**ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.**” Paul Pantaleo seconded. The motion carried.

**3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Director Egelhaaf gave an overview of the report, asking members what they wanted to discuss. The items highlighted included; Broadband, Pucker Street Dam, and the Upjohn Housing Toolkit, which Egelhaaf asserts will be covered in detail at the December meeting. Dick Stauffer inquired if there was any news on the Berrien Community Foundation “Love your Community Grant”; Egelhaaf stated that he has not received any information from them. Linda Preston moved to “**ACCEPT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT.**” Yemi Akinwale seconded the motion, which carried.

**4. CONSUMERS ENERGY PALISADES PLANT UPDATE**

Nick Culp and Mick Middaugh from Entergy presented a PowerPoint updating the Board on what to expect for the 2022 closure and decommissioning of Palisades Nuclear Plant. Discussion followed.

**5. AWARDS**

Egelhaaf gave a synopsis of the Welch Lackey Award and presented Jim Curran and Don Hanson as the staff’s candidates, requesting that Board members leave their completed ballots with Patrice before leaving.

The Graham Woodhouse Award was discussed, with Egelhaaf soliciting project nominations from Board members.

**6. SWMPC 2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

Director Egelhaaf presented the SWMPC Annual Report, highlighting the new approach taken and the incorporation of the staff team building products into the report. He solicited comments and feedback. Overall, the SWMPC Annual Report was well received. Rich Remus offered that there is a consensus that the new format is well liked. Linda Preston appreciated the dedication to Johnie Rodebush.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Roseann Marchetti commended Egelhaaf for his involvement in various Cass projects including the Edwardsburg Visioning Project, and stated that his involvement is much appreciated.

Teri Freehling addressed the upcoming Director’s Evaluation for 2019, she requested that an Ad Hoc Committee be formed to carry out the task, pointing out that the Bylaws state that the committee should consist of the Executive Committee and one appointee from each

county. Dick Stauffer, Berrien; Roseann Marchetti, Cass; Kurt Doroh, Van Buren volunteered to serve. Chair Hanson called for a voice vote and received full Board approval.

## **8. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



K. John Egelhaaf, AICP

Date: October 16, 2019

### *SWMPC Mission Statement*

*Our team uses its passion and expertise to connect people, assist communities and advance cooperative solutions to regional challenges experienced by the communities that created us.*