1. CALL TO ORDER
Meeting was called to order by Chairperson VALITCHKA at 6:40 pm.

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

3. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 24 AND OCTOBER 22, 2015 MEETINGS
Minutes will be available for approval at the next meeting.

4. BRONZE LEVEL BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY DESIGNATION
RUFF and LYNCH announced the Bronze-level designation given to the Wausau Metropolitan area by the League of American Bicyclists. They both thank the committee for their work, energy and ideas in the past that made this designation possible. The award is valid for four years and MACK noted the MPO plans on purchasing several ‘Bicycle Friendly Community’ (BFC) road signs to put up in the community.

5. BICYCLE COUNTING PROGRAM
LYNCH began the discussion with a presentation about automated traffic counters. He detailed the type and quantity of counters the MPO had purchased and distributed an infrared counter. LYNCH discussed the future program of collecting data to inform policy or infrastructure decisions. VALITCHKA reminded the group they had done manual counts approximately two years ago and suggested that that information be incorporated. Response was positive to the use of the counters and LYNCH will seek suggestions at future meetings on placement of counters in the community. HELKE inquired about the MPO staff using a GoPro camera purchased last year. MACK reported in 2016 the bike routes would be filmed and used in promotional tools.

6. 2016 ACTION PLAN
MACK requested this item moved up in the agenda order. RUFF discussed the meeting he, MACK, LYNCH, BURROWS, an Aspire Healthcare representative, and Marathon County Health Department staff held to start developing a work plan based on the Bike/Ped plan and feedback from the League of American Bicyclists. This work plan will enable goals to be sorted into tasks and defines responsibilities. The work plan will not be complete until March.

7. AREA WIDE BIKE SUMMIT
MACK requests the bike summit be delayed until after the work plan is completed in March. This would allow for tasks to be assigned during the summit and drive interest in participation. BEATTY notes this would not leave much time to prepare events for Bike Month in May. LYNCH agrees to keep emphasis on May events but feels the summit should be in March to capitalize on the work plan.

8. COMMUNITY UPDATES AND FUTURE EVENTS
   • RIB MOUNTAIN – BEATTY relayed his experience of a recent trip to France and the cycling experience. Feels the US has a long way to go but is on the right track.
   • KRONENWETTER – working on ped path from Kowalski Road to Maple Ridge. Not expected to be complete until 2017 due to right of way concerns around the railroad. MACK explained the funding situation and difficulties with obtaining easements.
   • WAUSAU – PLATH discussed the Wausau Bike Polo club and their search for a new permanent court. RUFF gave an update on the Stewart Ave 2016 project. There was question
by the City’s Parking and Traffic Committee about the north side on-street parking but it is no longer a concern. Update on the extension of the River’s Edge trail to the north and the type of marking on the proposed path. Open Streets event is still in progress. RUFF noted a new path segment from a subdivision to Thom Field. VALITCHKA notes this was built as a requirement of the subdivision construction.

- WAUSAU WHEELERS – HELKE relayed his experience at the Wisconsin Bike Summit and noted the example of Marquette, MI in promoting bike tourism. HELKE, RUFF, LYNCH, MACK will attend the local Convention and Visitors Bureau dinner to promote cycling in the area. HELKE would like feedback on public perception of the Wheelers.

- NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL PLANNING – LANDEAU introduces a new staff member that will be working on the Regional bike plan over the next year. Is also working on grants for a region wide Safe Routes To School Program.

- MACK discusses possible applications from Wausau and Rib Mountain for Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grants. Notes an update for the Mountain Bay Trail is needed to move trail construction along. MPO will purchase 10,000 new bike maps due to extra funding this year.

- MACK will explore the possibility of including the BFC Bronze shield on the map. Grand Ave reconstruction in Schofield will include bike lanes.

- LYNCH notes the creation of a pedestrian specific committee through the Healthy Eating Active Living Coalition. This committee is in the process of organizing and will take a more active role in pedestrian issues.

9. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA
   Summit planning
   Action Plan
   Counting program update

10. NEXT MEETING DATE – JANUARY 28, 2016

11. ADJOURN
    Motion/second by VALITCHKA to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by voice vote, no dissent. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Submitted by:
David Mack
Program Manager/MPO Director
Marathon County
Conservation, Planning and Zoning/Wausau MPO