1. CALL TO ORDER
Meeting called to order by Vice-Chairperson BURROWS at 6:30 p.m.

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

3. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2016 MEETING
Motion/second by BEATTY/RUFF to approve the meeting minutes of the September 22, 2016 meeting. Motion carried by voice vote, no dissent.

4. SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SRTS) TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM (TAP) AWARD UPDATE FROM NCWRPC;
HEIDER, North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC), wrote the grant and will be producing the plans for participating school districts. Mosinee is the only participating district in the Wausau metro area. Everest showed interest but opted to not join, Wausau decided to wait until the next funding cycle. Plan will highlight best practices and strategies for each school district. Currently there is no start date for the plan due to WisDOT’s funding cycle; HEIDER is working on moving up the start date.

5. COUNTER UPDATE
LYNCH reported on the weekly and monthly totals for the metro area’s five infrared counters. A downward trend in numbers is in line with previous trends. LYNCH determined there was an issue after manually checking the Wisconsin River Bridge counter, explaining the low numbers spotted at the last meeting. Action to calibrate the numbers will come next year as LYNCH is planning to remove the counters on or about November 1st for the season.

6. SUCCESSION PLANNING
LYNCH reported a good response to the letter asking for designated community representatives for the committee. Deadline was November 1st after which MPO staff will develop a member survey to determine better meeting times/frequency, purpose, and priorities. LYNCH would like the survey done quickly to possibly accommodate a change in time for the next meeting. The committee is still without a chairperson.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON GRAND AVE SHARROWS IN SCHOFIELD
LYNCH reported that the Wausau Bike and Pedestrian Committee wanted to discuss adding sharrows to Grand Ave south of Lakeview with Schofield and determined that the MPO B/P committee would be the appropriate forum. RUFF and PLATH provided the context: encourage riding on the street in Wausau; riders coming from Schofield often stay on the sidewalk. Other members expressed that it was more dangerous to bike on the sidewalk due to pavement conditions but did so to be in compliance with Schofield’s ordinance. THOUT discussed the width restrictions on the corridor that prevented a bike lane from being placed during the last reconstruction. THOUT was willing to talk to the Schofield city council at the next meeting to discuss lifting the ordinance as a first step. Further action is not necessary at this time.

8. DISCUSSION ON HELMET USE
BEATTY discussed a pilot program to encourage adults to wear a helmet. The program starts in March and is for Rib Mountain residents who will receive a coupon for a discount on helmets at Rib Mountain Cycles. The committee felt this was a great program and reacted positively. RUFF and LOERTSCHER mentioned that all area residents can purchase a $7 helmet from an Aspirus clinic.
in Wausau. There was further discussion on the efficacy of the current helmet programs for children and how data could be collected and utilized.

9. COMMUNITY UPDATES AND AREAS OF CONCERN

BEATTY: Rib Mountain is working with Marathon County to solve issues in the tunnel under Highway 51/29. Drainage issues have created unsafe conditions and there were recently two injury resulting crashes. County has installed drainage measures to be monitored for effectiveness. Trillium project is moving forward with a DOT meeting in December.

HEIDER: Stewart Ave and 1st Ave intersection concerns regarding the proper way for bikes to cross 1st Ave. Markings or changes in infrastructure were not considered with the current project.

THOUT: South Grand Avenue in Schofield is open; continuing to work on off street trails.

WOLDASKI: Volkman Street was treated to a road diet during that last resurfacing. Weston is applying for a DNR stewardship grant to continue the path on Volkman that currently terminates at Weston Avenue.

LOERTSCHER: Aspirus trauma unit has seen some recent bike crashes. One involved a doctor, the other a child that was not wearing a helmet; looking for better outreach efforts to promote safe riding and helmet use.

HELKE: Kronenwetter still working to resolve issues with the Old Hwy 51 trail planned for construction next year.

PLATH: Wausau Bike Ped committee has been discussing several treatments for the Washington St crossing of the River's Edge Trail. Best possibility is flashing pedestrian crossing sign. 2nd Ave is reopening on Friday with pedestrian friendly design.

RUFF: With Stewart Ave expected to be complete in late November, the possibility of doing a celebration ride is questionable; will know more as construction progresses.

SIPPEL: The NCWRPC’s regional bike plan survey is now active and will be sent out via email or it can be accessed on the NCWRPC webpage.

10. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Member survey results, NCWRPC survey and bike plan.

11. NEXT MEETING DATE – DECEMBER 15, 2016

Due to the current meeting schedule and the approaching holiday season, it was decided to schedule the next meeting on December 15th.

12. ADJOURN

Motion/second by RUFF/BEATTY to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by voice vote, no dissent. Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 pm.

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