Members: Rebecca Frisch, Dave Mack, Randy Fifrick, Brad Marquardt, Brad Lenz, Gaylene Rhoden, Darryl Landeau, Tim Vergara, Keith Donner, Jeff Gates, Dave Meurett
Others: Jennifer Higgins, Scott Turner

1. Call to Order.
The presence of a quorum, the agenda being properly signed and posted, the meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. The meeting was held in the Conservation, Planning and Zoning Department Conference Room, 210 River Drive, Wausau, Wisconsin.

Action: MOTION / SECOND BY RHODEN / GATES TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 13, 2012 MEETING. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

Discussion: The current criteria had been distributed with the agenda. An explanation of the STP/Urban funds and evolution of the criteria was provided. The timeline for the current funding cycle: communities submit their projects to DOT in June; the Commission will rank the area’s projects and return the ranked projects to DOT by September. Discussion included:
- Criteria 10 and 11
  o Criteria 10 addresses livability issues;
  o Criteria 11 addresses Environmental Justice;
- Adding a criteria question regarding past award of funds – years/amounts/award amount on percentage basis;
  o Need for a regional transportation perspective, not a competitive grant process;
  o Possibly add points for:
    ▪ Project promoting regional cooperation – ties to DOT or other communities;
    ▪ Project was previously ranked and moving forward / community decides to pull funds;
- Communities supporting projects through the passage of local resolutions;
- Scoring tied to functional classification of road segments;
- Eligibility of bikeway projects;
- Verify if projects need to be built within 4 years of allocation, ability to ask for project extension;
- Signals as standalone projects;
- Balancing the dollar amount with DOT’s required paperwork/monitoring;
- Developing a different formula for allocation of funds to projects:
  o Award top ranked project 50% of allocation;
  o Remaining 50% of allocation to be spread around among smaller projects;
  o Identify minimum level of funding.
Action: NONE NEEDED AT THIS TIME.
Follow Through: Timeline – submit comments to Mack by the end of March, a meeting to be scheduled in mid-April, and finalized criteria presented to the Commission for approval by May to enable communities to consider as projects are developed. Discussed and submitted changes will be made and distributed to the members for their review prior to the April MPO/TAC meeting.

Discussion: Information and background of Marathon County’s current farmland preservation planning process was provided. Incorporated communities are to identify a 15 year growth area and farmland preservation areas within their community. Discussion included:
The village of Kronenwetter and towns of Weston, Wausau, and Maine have met with Conservation, Planning and Zoning (CPZ) staff to identify areas to be preserved for farmland;

Maps were displayed showing the 1982 farmland preservation areas, the MPO’s 20 year Planning Boundary, the sewer service area boundary;

Agriculture is important to the county and the Farmland Preservation Plan needs to be consistent with comprehensive plans:
- The metro communities to review their comprehensive plans and land use maps;
- Rib Mountain is currently discussing changes to its land use map and currently does not anticipate identifying farmland to be preserved;
- Boundary conflicts between the city of Wausau and towns of Maine and Wausau;
- Need for a regional approach to growth in the metro area and the need for input from all communities:
  - Look within a communities to identify farmland to preserve;
  - Look at neighboring communities to discuss 15 year growth areas;
  - County may be able to help facilitate discussions between communities in a limited capacity;

The 20 year Urban Planning Boundary is for transportation needs not land use;

The FPP:
- Plan and map must be completed by December 2013 without any “holes” in the map;
- The plan enables landowners to claim tax credits;
- All counties, including Milwaukee County, are required to complete a FPP;
- Supports the creation of Agricultural Enterprise Areas (AEA);
- Changes to zoning (Exclusive Agricultural Zoning/Farmland Preservation Zoning)
- Extra-territorial zoning discussions between urban and rural communities;

Maps available to assist the discussions between communities.

Action: NONE NEEDED AT THIS TIME.

Follow Through: Maps will be sent to communities in a pdf format to assist in their discussions with neighboring communities to identify farmland areas to preserve and the 15 year growth boundary. Staff will set up joint community meetings. As part of this discussion, it is recommended that the communities review their land use maps and comprehensive plans to ensure consistency.

5. Adjourn.

There being no further business, motion / second by Rhoden / Donner to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 pm.

Submitted by:
Rebecca Frisch, Director
Conservation, Planning and Zoning
March 6, 2013
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