CUPPAD REGIONAL COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

December 3, 2014
3:00 p.m. (Eastern)
Rapid River Lodge
Rapid River, MI

PRESENT
G. Corkin, Chairperson, Marquette County
T. Elegeert, Vice-Chair, Delta County
J. Stevens, Secretary, Dickinson County
J. Beaudo, Treasurer, Hannahville Indian Community
B. Bedard, Director, Dickinson County
R. DesJardins, Director, Alger County
J. Gardiner, Director, Menominee County

ABSENT
S. Aldrich, Director, Schoolcraft County

OTHERS PRESENT
J. Schultz, staff
R. Haller, staff
A. Milne, staff
E. Schada, staff
R. Smith, staff
P. Van Steen
W. Beach, Consultant

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chairman, Corkin. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
A MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO ADD ITEM 7B “DICKINSON COUNTY” TO THE AGENDA MADE BY J. STEVENS, SECONDED J. BEAUDO, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES
A MOTION TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 31, 2014 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY T. ELEGEERT, SECONDED BY R. DESJARDINS, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

TREASURER’S REPORT
The Treasurer’s Report was reviewed with a cash balance on October 31, 2014 of $46,343.98. Treasurer Beaudo questioned the atypically low cash balance; J. Schultz explained that a deposit of $48,000 was made on 11/21/14 and therefore will be displayed shortly, as well as grant reimbursements and a $20,000 release totaling approximately $107,000. Treasurer Beaudo asked about the $11,000 computer expense; J. Schultz explained this was as part of the “RPI” to improve communication throughout the Central U.P. partners through use of a video conferencing system. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE TREASURER’S REPORT WAS MADE BY R. DESJARDINS, SECONDED BY J GARDINER, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Grant/Contract Update
The Committee reviewed the updated list of potential contracts and grants staff are currently pursuing.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT
J. Schultz turned it over to the staff members present to update the board on their various activities. These included the Rural Task Force (P. Vansteen); Zoning Updates for several Townships (R. Smith); the Rural Wage Study (W. Beach); Outreach and Art Mini-Grant Program (E. Schada); National Endowment for the Arts grant potential with Escanaba (R. Haller); and Regional Transit System, Coastal Community Planning Grant, Hannahville Food to Farm Grant (A. Milne).

J. Stevens reported that Dickinson County is struggling with their budget and his gut feeling is they won’t fund CUPPAD next year. It has nothing to do with the service CUPPAD provides; it’s all about the budget. He is working with the Board on this and suggesting they take the money out of their fund balance for CUPPAD dues.

G. Corkin said he was very impressed and proud of the great work CUPPAD staff is doing.

J. Schultz closed by saying he was optimistically hopeful that we will receive the RPI grant either in full or portion as we fulfilled our obligations from the first phase and successfully set out to do what we said.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Membership Dues Update
The recent membership roster was included for discussion. There were no further questions.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of FY15 Mini-Grant Funding Recommendations
E. Schada reported on the Art Mini-Grant FY15 process which marks the 20th year CUPPAD has acted as a re-granting agency for the program. Bonnie Strem was instrumental in getting the word out of the funding opportunity and the result was 11 project applications and 3 POD applications. Since there were more requests than funding available, the panel scored each application carefully and ultimately recommended the top seven scoring grants for full funding; 1 for partial and 1 POD grant. There will be another round for POD applications otherwise the un-granted funds will need to be returned to the State.

7B. Additional Agenda Item “Dickinson County.”
J. Stevens was sad to report this would be his last meeting due to Dickinson County’s funding realities making it imperative they cease funding auxiliary and member-based organizations such as CUPPAD. J. Stevens hoped it will be temporary at best and reiterated he is not enthused about the situation and has genuinely enjoyed his partnership with the organization and being engaged as a board member.

FEDERAL REVIEWS
No Federal Reviews for the month of November.
NEXT MEETING DATE AND PLACE
The next meeting will be held on January 22, 2015 in Escanaba.

ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
- Dickinson County - Business is good in Dickinson County in general; recent announcement of two closures but one may already have a new tenant in the works;
- Hannahville - The Oasis addition is going well with natural gas lines;
- Alger – There will be an MEDC-funded pier expansion to accommodate the Pictured Rocks Boat cruises; infrastructure improvements continue updating streets, sidewalks, and underground infrastructure making their community’s basic fundamental infrastructure five years old or less;
- Menominee – Street work is in the works
- Delta – T. Elegeert remarked this would be his last meeting and he has enjoyed his 37-year run but it is time to retire. Chairman Corkin presented T. Elegeert with a certificate of appreciation for his many years of dedicated involvement and service to CUPPAD.

ADJOURNMENT
A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 4 P.M. WAS MADE BY J. STEVENS, SECONDED BY B. BEDARD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted by
Emilie Schada
December 4, 2014