PRESENT
G. Corkin, Chairperson, Marquette County
D. Rivard, Director, Delta County
J. Beaud, 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
J. Stevens, Secretary, Dickinson County

OTHERS PRESENT
J. Doucette, Alger County Board of Commissioners
J. Schultz, staff
E. Schada, staff

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 3:02 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 7d “Board Composition Discussion” TO THE AGENDA MADE BY J. SCHULTZ, SECONDED D. RIVARD, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES
A MOTION TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 3, 2014 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY J. CORKIN. J. Beaud asked for a correction to the minutes to separate Hannahville projects (addition and natural gas lines). WITH THIS CORRECTION, A MOTION MADE BY RIVARD SECONDED BY R. DESJARDINS CARRIED.

TREASURER’S REPORT
The Treasurer’s Report was reviewed. Treasurer Beaud questioned why December rent was not reflected. J. Schultz pointed out the fund balance has been restored to a more typical level and should continue to do so with an average monthly expense amount of $56,000. Treasurer Beaud asked about “Paser” training. J. Schultz believed this is a pass through for MDOT but can clarify. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE TREASURER’S REPORT WAS MADE BY R. DESJARDINS, SECONDED BY B. BEDARD, 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 updated the group about the status of the RPI grant request and process. A letter was received that the requests were still under review and funding decisions would be anticipated by the end of January. Discussion continued about “what ifs” particularly the unlikely scenario NO funding would be received. It would be commonly understood that this would make things uncomfortable for the organization. With $3.5 million available state-wide, it’s unlikely that three regional planning agencies in the U.P. will each get funded, comprising $1.5 of the total funding. We eagerly a-wait to get notification and clarification of what will happen with the request.
Director Schultz told the group of internal staff discussion to add greater use, value, and appeal to the Master Plans for our local government agencies by including customized video footage of the community they can use in several applications to market their communities. Discussions with NMU have occurred to partner in this endeavor.
J. Schultz said he’ll be attending a meeting with the regional director of the EDA on January 28, 2015.
J. Schultz mentioned opportunities for board members to get involved in regional conferences including “MAR” and “MAP” meetings; dates which will be forwarded in advance to board member’s consideration.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Membership Dues Update
The recent membership roster was included for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

7A. RPI Advisory Committee
A MOTION BY RIVARD, SUPPORTED BY BEDARD, THE PROPOSED RPI ADVISORY / CEDS COMMITTEE WAS APPROVED.

7B. Resolution
Chairman Corkin requested this resolution and statement of position on the proposed road funding be tabled.

7C. March Executive Meeting
Due to a meeting conflict, a request to reschedule the March Executive meeting came before the board. A MOTION BY J. GARDINER, SUPPORTED BY J. BEAUDO A MOTION WAS MADE TO RESCHEDULE THE MARCH MEETING TO MARCH 19, 2015 at 3 p.m.

7D. Board Composition
J. Schultz provided documentation from the EDA on proposed board composition and discussed the fact that there is flexibility to an extent in terms of board composition.

FEDERAL REVIEWS
The list of December Federal Reviews was shared with the group.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND PLACE
The next meeting will be held on February 27, 2015 at Sydney’s s in Munising. Joel asked Emilie to facilitate getting Michigan Works! IT department to assist with audio visual assistance as it’s hard to hear in the restaurant.

ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Delta County – the Jail continues to be discussed at the County level;
- Alger County- J. Doucette was welcomed and Rod DesJardins said that GEI Engineering has been hired to carry out the work for the pier expansion;
- Hannahville – No changes since last month;
- Menominee County– A housing project is moving forward in the City of Stephenson despite the poor weather to do so;
- Dickinson County- B. Bedard reported about a Dollar Store relocation.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 4:08 P.M. WAS MADE BY J. STEVENS, SECONDED BY B. BEDARD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted by
Emilie Schada
January 28, 2015