CUPPAD REGIONAL COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

MARCH 19, 2015
CUPPAD Offices
3:00 p.m. (Eastern) Escanaba

PRESENT
G. Corkin, Chairperson, Marquette County
J. Doucette, Alger County
J. Linder, Menominee County
D. Rivard, Director, Delta County
J. Beudo, Treasurer, Hannahville Indian Community
C. Reiter, Schoolcraft County

ABSENT
R. DesJardins, City of Munising
A. Edlebeck, City of Kingsford

OTHERS PRESENT
J. Schultz, Executive Director
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 ITEMS 7B “CEDS PROGRESS REPORT AND AMENDMENTS” and 7C “RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR U.P. STATE FAIR” WAS MADE BY CRAIG REITER, SUPPORTED BY JILL BEAUDEO AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES
A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 27, 2015 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED MADE BY D. RIVARD, SECONDED BY C. REITER, CARRIED.

3. TREASURER’S REPORT
The Treasurer’s Report was reviewed. Treasurer Beudo asked about an expenditure coded to “Computer Software.” Emilie Schada believed this was a quarterly renewal of ArcGIS as budgeted but will clarify. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE TREASURER’S REPORT AS PRESENTED MADE BY D. RIVARD, SUPPORTED BY C. REITER CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. DIRECTOR’S REPORT
J. Schultz updated the group on the recent news of the closure of the Future Mark Mill in Manistique which is sending ripples of concern throughout the region due to the loss of 145 jobs, tax revenue, millage contributions and other implications. Michigan Works! is on rapid response mode meeting with the company and its employees to find gainful employment alternatives for them and identify where replacement options may be. Craig Reiter, Schoolcraft County said the exodus of people from the
community will sting the community and the schools. This fall the enrollment of the schools will most likely drop. Many of the employees of the mill have school-aged children. J. Schultz outlined the funding necessary to reduce the mill’s liability and maintain operation. This funding is currently being pursued by various sources including U.P. investors and previous paper mill executives. The mill closure is anticipated Tuesday, March 24th pending supplies or mechanical breakdown. The holding company is exploring options of transfer of the property (as well as unfunded liability) to another party. Whether they can come to agreement at this point is unknown.

On a positive note, an injection of new employees is expected in Dickinson County as Systems Control is seeking to expand and will be looking for skilled labor to join their team. Despite not being as well-known as a major employer in Dickinson County – most people know of TORO- Systems Control has intentions to aid in economic growth in Dickinson County for years to come with a new hire of 150 people immediately and 700 over the next five years.

Joel also updated the group that the Governor’s Summit was well represented with many “Yoopers,” which was well received. CUPPAD is also in the process of interviewing senior interns for the purposes of assisting with planning activities and the RPI.

5. Membership Dues Update
The recent membership roster was included for discussion with minimal changes since last month. Emilie said that the current membership rate is 73%. The membership drive, typically done in June, may need a more personal or different approach other than a letter. We need to continue to demonstrate and articulate the return on the member’s membership and value received. Joe Linder asked how representation was in Menominee County. Of the 20 local units of government there, they have 75% membership.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
6A Audit
The 2014 audit was discussed. Jill and the group wanted clarification on the Mid-Peninsula line item as well as the Local District Membership levy ($28,993) and Special Revenue ($25,979). A MOTION BY J. DOUCETTE, SUPPORTED BY C. REITER, THE AUDIT WAS TABLED FOR CLARIFICATION ON THE ABOVE.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7A. Board Orientation and Welcome to new Board Members: Emilie Schada provided a brief board member orientation as well as handbook for new and current board members equipped with organization history, structure, policies, procedures, and financial information.

7B. CEDS Project Reports and Amendment
It was explained that the CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) is a priority project of CUPPAD and part of the organizations’ relationship with the EDA (Economic Development Administration) to identify and report out on progress in meeting the goals of the five year CEDS plan (2011-2015). The report includes progress in meeting the goals of the CEDS and also reflects and scores a list of projects in the region that local governmental regions are anticipating or actively pursuing that relate to economic development; they are scored accordingly to the extent to which they serve “regional importance” create jobs, etc. The higher the score the better likelihood they have to potentially receive Federal EDA support. This five-year
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The report reflects those types of significant projects that the local units of government informed CUPPAD about. The report also summarizes CUPPAD activities and priorities in the region, and is part of our reporting responsibility with the EDA and is due April 1st. As one of the first steps to streamline and align the RPI with CEDS due to their similarities in propelling economic development initiatives in our region, the RPI Advisory Committee is also the CEDS Strategy Committee and they recommended the report for approval to the CUPPAD Executive Committee. A MOTION BY CHAIRMAN CORKIN, SUPPORTED BY D. RIVARD, THE CEDS PROJECT REPORT WAS APPROVED.

7C. Resolution of Support for the U.P. State Fair  
In support of the U.P. State Fair’s grant application, A ROLL CALL WAS MADE FOR THE RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE U.P. STATE FAIR’S GRANT APPLICATION FOR INFRASTUTUTRE AND TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

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

NEXT MEETING DATE AND PLACE  
The next Executive Committee meeting will take place April 24, 2015 in Schoolcraft County.

ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
- Delta County – Still working on Administrator hiring process.
- Alger County- “PILT” vote is coming up; contact your Federal representatives to support.
- Hannahville – Nothing new since last month.
- Menominee County– The Township Association meeting is coming up. J. Linder said a lot of the Townships need assistance but don’t necessarily know what’s available for them or where to start. Emilie Schada said she would attend the TA meeting and she believes Rhiannon Haller is as well.
- Schoolcraft County- Craig Reiter stated his concerns about the paper mill.
- Marquette County – G. Corkin thanked CUPPAD staff for the communication efforts.

ADJOURNMENT  
A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 5:08 A.M. WAS MADE BY D. RIVARD, SECONDED BY C. REITER AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Emilie Schada  
March 26, 2015