CUPPAD REGIONAL COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Meeting Minutes

September 22, 2016
3:00 pm EST

PRESENT
J. Beaudo, Hannahville Indian Community
G. Corkin, Chair, Marquette County
J. Doucette, Alger County
C. Reiter, Schoolcraft County
D. Rivard, Secretary, Delta County
T. Edlebeck, City of Kingsford/Dickinson County
J. Linder, Menominee County

ABSENT
R. DesJardins, Vice Chair, City of Munising/Alger County

OTHERS PRESENT
J. Schultz, Director; E. Schada, Staff; Dotty LaJoye, Marquette County

CALL TO ORDER
Meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm and quorum was present.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA MADE BY D. RIVARD, SUPPORTED BY C. REITER CARRIED.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES
WITH CORRECTION (page 2 “Exit” type –o) A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 25, 2016 MINUTES MADE BY J. BEAUDO, SUPPORTED BY C. REITER, CARRIED AND THE MINUTES WILL BE PLACED ON FILE.

4. TREASURER’S REPORT
A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AUGUST TREASURER’S REPORT WAS MADE BY D. RIVARD, SUPPORTED BY C. REITER; MOTION CARRIED. THE AUGUST TREASURER’S REPORT WAS APPROVED AND WILL BE PLACED ON FILE.

5. DIRECTOR’S REPORT
J. Schultz updated the committee that the RPI Council has announced a call for project concepts to be included in 2017 RPI funding. The RPI Advisory Committee has begun to brainstorm about potential projects and will be asked to prioritize / rank the projects to help CUPPAD staff develop the grant budget. The RPI boilerplate is to be released in October with the plan to be completed by December. The same amount of funding is expected to be made available as last year although there may be less funds to be distributed as SEMCOG may be applying for funds for the first time. In general, projects will be related to two objectives: “Place” and “Careers” and improving the conditions for both in the Central U.P. in various ways. Some examples include the Place Making Mini-Grants, Capacity Building funds for Arts and Cultural Nonprofits like
the Bonifas to spearhead a U.P. Wide Arts Alliance, Energy Education and Training (understand your bills 101), an Impact Study for the U.P. State Fair, etc.

The group was updated on the copier lease issue with Cooper and Wells Fargo. We are issuing a formal request to exit the lease. Gerry Corkin requested of the Director to pursue a Procurement Policy and formal review of lease agreements in the future to avoid costly lease contracts in the future.

The topic of the Manistique Paper Mill was discussed and Director Schultz took the opportunity to point out the tremendous support the MEDC demonstrated throughout the process, without which, the deal may not have taken place as they ensured to “guarantee” a $1.5 million loan as part of the financial package.

The Empire Mine closure was discussed. Approximately 278 people will be affected with demographic characteristics of 94% males between the ages of 30 and 39 with exit salaries of $70,000- $90,000. Joel discussed his involvement with “Project Empire” an initiative spearheaded by the Governor’s Office to lessen the impacts of the mine closure. Only time will tell.

Director Schultz took the opportunity to introduce Dotty LaJoye, who may be interested in coming on board at CUPPAD at a later date.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
None

7. NEW BUSINESS


7B: CUPPAD 2017 FEE STRUCTURE: NOTING OUR HOURLY RATE WAS NOT CHANGING BUT SIMPLY THE PRESENTATION TO POTENTIAL CLIENTS A VARIETY OF FUNDING OPTIONS FOR OUR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2017 FEE STRUCTURE MADE BY G. CORKIN, SECONDED BY J. DOUCETTE, CARRIED.

7C: MEMBERSHIP UPDATE: THE 2017 MEMBERSHIP SPREADSHEET WAS DISTRIBUTED FOR REFERENCE. D. RIVARD SAID HE MAY CHECK WITH WELLS TOWNSHIP ON THEIR STATUS.

8. FEDERAL REVIEWS
None

9. The next meeting will be October 28, 2016 in Schoolcraft County. It was suggested to have the meeting in the paper mill.

10. Items from Executive Committee

Alger County: Work for the new jail is ahead of schedule and the target open date is October 1, 2016.

Delta County: The Escanaba harbor welcomed the first International Ship in its waters since the 1930s when a ship from Italy hauled the power generators bound for Marquette. The ship yard owner is doing a great job expanding the economic potential of this asset. The county budget is status quo; the county jail will be back on the ballot with a reduced millage amount after reducing the project’s scope accordingly; the equalization department is in renegotiations; the Disc Golf course at Pioneer Trail Park will be closing in the winter to allow the landscape to regenerate after trees and shrubs were unauthorized to be removed by the golf leagues.

Executive Committee September 22, 2016
**Dickinson County:** The County is welcoming Brian Bousley, formerly with Menominee County, as their new Controller; a Millage for the Veterans Affairs office will appear on the ballot; a public hearing for the Amendment of the Dickinson County Solid Waste Plan will occur; Michigan Manufacturers will highlight Norway’s Load Masters on October 7th; a void in welding, machining, masonry, carpentry and other skilled trays at Bay College West has the community looking across state lines at NWTC for classes and opportunities to educate a skilled work force in demand by local employers.

**Marquette County:** The closing of the Empire Mine will affect not only the 400 laid off employees, but also the County as a whole. Of the 400 laid off individuals some will be able to transfer to a mine in Minnesota, others will be retiring, and the majority will be looking for another job. Michigan Works! is assisting these employees with retraining opportunities. The collaboration is working out.

**Menominee County:** Nadeau Township is continuing work on a walking trail and pavilion construction. Little changes in the County to report on since last month.

**Schoolcraft County:** The new Ford dealership on US2 is near complete; three millages will be on the ballot in November with one for a senior center expansion, another for the VA, as well as EDC support.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm by Chairperson Gerry Corkin.