CUPPAD REGIONAL COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
October 31, 2014
10:00 a.m. (Eastern)
Marquette Food Co-op
Marquette, MI

PRESENT
G. Corkin, Chairperson, Marquette County
J. Stevens, Secretary, Dickinson County
J. Beaudo, Treasurer, Hannahville Indian Community
B. Bedard, Director, Dickinson County
D. Rivard, alternate for T. Elegeert, Delta County

ABSENT
T. Elegeert, Vice-Chair, Delta County (alternate present)
J. Gardiner, Director, Menominee County
R. DesJardins, Director, Alger County
S. Aldrich, Director, Schoolcraft County

OTHERS PRESENT
J. Schultz, staff
B. Strem, staff
R. Haller, staff

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chairperson Corkin. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY J. STEVENS, SECONDED BY J. BEAUDO, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES
A MOTION TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 25, 2014 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY J. BEAUDO, SECONDED BY B. BEDARD, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

TREASURER’S REPORT
The Treasurer’s Report was reviewed with a cash balance on September 30 of $89,879. Receipts for the month were $43; total cash outlays $63,327. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE TREASURER’S REPORT WAS MADE BY D. RIVARD, 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 reported he met with key players in the RPI process. The State would have liked to see a joint U.P. plan and we pushed for a U.P. wide application but the other two regions wanted their own plan; the
decision was made yesterday not to do a U.P. plan. We will be applying for a Regional Prosperity Council (Tier Two) with a total of $375,000 requested. $200,000 will be for us and $175,000 for projects we have identified.

The next Board meeting will be December 3 at the Rapid River Lodge. Strategic planning will start at 11:00 a.m. for staff; Board participation is encouraged. The Board meeting will start at 3:00 p.m., with dinner and a party atmosphere to follow. The goal of the strategic planning is to determine where we want to be as an organization five years from now; how do we start prioritizing our growth.

Bonnie Strem will be retiring the end of November; the Board thanked her for her many years of service. We hired Emilie Schada on a temporary employment contract as a Regional Planner. Emilie will be job shadowing with Bonnie on the Art Minigrant program and working on other planning projects.

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.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Staff Salary Increases
J. Schultz reviewed the current salary structure which was adjusted last January when the health insurance was dropped. The salary schedule is broken into levels with step increases. At the last meeting the Board discussed a cost of living increase and the possibility of a bonus to reward staff. Joel is recommending two options: A 2.5% permanent step increase which would cost the organization approximately $74,000 with fringes; and a one-time payout with no commitment equivalent to a step which would cost the organization approximately $7,608. Board discussion followed. J. Stevens stated that he could not vote for the 2.5% permanent increase because of budget implications; nothing to do with the staff’s performance. B. Bedard noted that she would consider one or the other, but not both. J. Beaudo noted that she would support the 2.5% increase; we have to be competitive and it’s very hard to find good people. G. Corkin and D. Rivard agreed.

A MOTION TO APPROVE A PERMANENT 2.5% SALARY INCREASE AND A ONE-TIME PAYOUT EQUIVALENT TO A STEP WAS MADE BY G. CORKIN, SECONDED BY J. BEAUDDO. THE MOTION PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE: J. STEVENS-NO; B. BEDARD-NO; G. CORKIN-YES; D. RIVARD-YES; J. BEAUDDO-YES.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution for Regional Prosperity Initiative Grant Application
R. Haller noted the resolution supports CUPPAD’s application on behalf of the Central U.P. Regional Prosperity Council, and authorizes Gerald Corkin and Joel Schultz to sign the application forms. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REGIONAL PROSPERITY INITIATIVE GRANT APPLICATION RESOLUTION WAS MADE BY B. BEDARD, SECONDED BY J. BEAUDDO. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.
FEDERAL REVIEWS
No Federal Reviews for the month of October.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND PLACE
The next meeting will be held on December 3, 2014 at the Rapid River Lodge.

ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
D. Rivard reported that Delta County is waiting to see what the Board will look like after the November 3 elections. J. Stevens reported that BOSS has been sold to the Toro Company; Toro has indicated they will stay in Iron Mountain. J. Beaudo reported Hannahville is in the design phase of adding on to the gas station; will include a couple small store fronts, specialty shop, pharmacy. B. Bedard reported the Dickinson County fair is working on a grant to expand their bathroom facilities. G. Corkin reported Marquette County’s budget looks fairly sound for the coming year; their switch to Consumer Mutual Health Insurance saved them a lot of money. Construction for the new hospital in Marquette will be starting in the spring.

ADJOURNMENT
A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 11:25 A.M. WAS MADE BY J. STEVENS, SECONDED BY B. BEDARD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.