CUPPAD REGIONAL COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

February 26, 2016
10 a.m. (EST) 

UPCAP
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PRESENT

Gerry Corkin, Marquette County
Jill Beudo, Hannahville Indian Community
Rod DesJardins, City of Munising
Dave Rivard, Delta County
Tony Edlebeck, Director – City of Kingsford
Craig Reiter, Director- Schoolcraft County

ABSENT
Jerry Doucette, Alger County
Joe Linder, Nadeau Township

OTHERS PRESENT
J. Schultz, E. Schada

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman, Corkin. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
A MOTION BY C. REITER, SUPPORTED BY R. DESJARDINS, THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA CARRIED.
IT WAS SUGGESTED TO INCLUDE THE MTU SUSTAINABILITY WHITE PAPER ON NEXT MONTH’S AGENDA.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES
THE MOTION ACCEPT THE MINUTES WITH A NOTED CORRECTION RELATED TO THE SPA AT HANNAHVILLE
NOTED; ACCEPT THE JANUARY 21, 2016 MEETING MINUTES WITH CORRECTION MADE BY C. REITER,
SUPPORTED BY J. BEAUDO; MOTION CARRIED.

4. TREASURER’S REPORT
A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE TREASURER’S REPORT AS PRESENTED MADE BY J. BEAUDO SUPPORTED BY D.
RIVARD; MOTION CARRIED. The fund balance is healthy as we continue with FY 16 and will be supplemented
even further with the $320,000 RPI grant.

5. DIRECTOR’S REPORT
With year-end financials of FY16 at $313,000 compared to $169,999.69 (FY15), CUPPAD is in a much
stronger financial position than in year’s past. With RPI funds, CUPPAD is operating with approximately
$866,000 although there is pass through included in that as well. Director Schultz explained the strategic
priorities of this year’s RPI:
1. Talent and Attraction strategy: $12K
2. Regional GIS: $69,600
3. Place Making grant program: $60,000
4. Pure Michigan partnership: $20,000
5. Community Health Needs Assessment: $8,000
6. EDO Support: $36,000
7. Sawyer Airport Customs Study: $8,000
8. U.P. Wide Smiles: $5,000
9. MAR Statewide Plan: $6,400

There was discussion about the Talent and Attraction strategy, as we know from Michigan Works! a number of positions are unfilled, but what are they, and how can we direct people toward those positions with sustainable wages? Director Schultz explained the purpose of the strategy is to best identify models of attraction that will be palatable and more likely to be supported in our region. We can look to best practices (Kalamazoo Promise and BHOP – Bronson Housing Opportunity Program) were given as examples, but our region may require a customized analysis on the best strategy to use to attract and retain talent.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
None

7. NEW BUSINESS

7A AUDIT-
The FY 15 audit came back with no findings. However, Treasurer Beaudo did not see the RPI reflected in it and requested an explanation for next time.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE AND PLACE: March 24, 2016

9. Items from Executive Committee
   - Alger County- A myriad of investment projects are occurring in Munising including bidding out the new Pictured Rocks Interpretive Center, the Peer Expansion, they’re pursuing acquisition of Federal property to establish an Airport Authority; Nenah Paper is employing 40 additional people and its growth continues for several reasons including its continued self-reliance on power generation; Mather Elementary is undergoing rehabilitation into 40 units, and there are six new businesses and two new brewpubs;
   - Schoolcraft County- Dan Lafoile is now on the Road Commission. The County is re-writing its ordinances. There are rumblings of an end user at the paper mill;
   - Menominee County- N/A
   - Dickinson County – There are business expansions occurring; Multi-Color Complex was sold;
   - Hannahville – 2% grant rounds are open currently until March 31st. We agreed that we could coordinate together around the Place Making mini-grants to direct applicants to the best source of support;
   - Delta County- The County is working with CUPPAD on the Non-Motorized Trail plan and starting to meet as a stakeholder committee; the County wants to use some of the money that was left over for the bridge removal to be redirected to clean up the river around it; The County will pursue a May 3rd millage election requesting $15-$18 million for a new jail. There was an application for a Solar Farm on the Garden Peninsula, an unprecedented land-use so far. The Airport is also developing a new schedule striving for greater flexibility for its consumers.
• Marquette County- the Empire Mine will be closing in August affecting 1,000 jobs. Fortunately, Eagle is doing well and may absorb some of the employees. Hopefully the mine has at least a 10-20 years’ worth of materials to mine. Work on the Dark Store issue continues. The County has invested time and money into it; hopefully it will go to the Legislative Branch for the Governor to sign.

10. **Adjournment:** A MOTION BY D. RIVARD SUPPORTED BY T. EDLEBECK 11:30 a.m.