CUPPAD REGIONAL COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

June 19, 2014
CUPPAD Office
3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

PRESENT
G. Corkin, Chairperson, Marquette County
T. Elegeert, Vice-Chair, Delta County
J. Stevens, Secretary, Dickinson County
B. Bedard, Director, Dickinson County
J. Beaudo, Treasurer, Hannahville Indian Community
J. Gardiner, Director, Menominee County

ABSENT
R. DesJardins, Director, Alger County
S. Aldrich, Director, Schoolcraft County

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

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairperson Corkin. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
J. Stevens requested addition to agenda: New Business - 7A Summer Meetings. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS AMENDED, WAS MADE BY J. STEVENS, SECONDED BY B. BEDARD, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES
A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MAY 22, 2014 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY J. STEVENS, SECONDED BY J. GARDINER, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

TREASURER’S REPORT
The Treasurer’s Report was reviewed with a cash balance on May 31 of $171,220. Receipts for the month were $14,043; total cash outlays $49,727. J. Beaudo noted that the line item Other Office Expenses of $3,571 seemed high. Staff will check out what that figure includes for the next meeting. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE TREASURER’S REPORT WAS MADE BY T. ELEGEERT, SECONDED BY J. STEVENS, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Grant/Contract Update
The Committee reviewed the updated list of potential contracts and grants staff are currently pursuing. J. Schultz reported that two federal grants were submitted on June 13: the EDA Technical Assistance grant to address off-grid affordable energy solutions and the USDA Beginning Farmer Initiative grant. The MDARD
Specialty Crop Block Grant (cold hardy grapes) was not funded; we will resubmit. The Superior Health Foundation grant will be submitted July 1.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT
J. Schultz reported that we just got the boilerplate for next year’s RPI. There are some changes, joint application of eligible entities will be accepted; we could partner with the Western and Eastern regions and still ask for $250,000 each. The application is due in November; a lot of decisions will have to be made on how to approach this. We will go forward utilizing our funds to implement the projects associated with our plan. J. Schultz also reported on the power grid/generation project, where the main pipeline will be located. The Board agreed that as soon as the project is identified we will have to support it.

J. Schultz reported that Anne Ives did a lot of work on our Cow Power project but it was denied by EDA because she is not an employee. We have to spend down on the grant; we will have three Request for Proposals going out for creating handbook on how to raise the calves, publish how-to guide for hobby farmers, etc. Now that the beef market has changed, we will find good solutions for the deacon calves. J. Schultz also reported we received a response on our EDA Planning grant. EDA is saying that Joel is not an employee but we say we don’t use contracted employees in our grant. Lee Shirey is reviewing; one option would be to put Joel and Michelle Viau on the payroll.

Masonville Township’s Supervisor, Peter Brock, complained about the Median Annual Household Income Survey we assisted them with. They didn’t like the instrument we used, envelopes were not used, and the training for the survey only took 10 minutes. They felt they were over-paying for what they received. We took their feedback and came up with an official certification process for future use.

The City of Gladstone has selected a firm out of Detroit to do their Master Plan. We responded to the RFP; when asked why our proposal was not selected, they responded that our examples were templated. Many communities want a plan completed as reasonable as possible just to meet the requirements. There is some merit to the template version but we have to make sure everyone knows if they want the fancier, marketing aspect, we can do it.

The question came up why our plans don’t include climate change planning. Our staff will be putting some text and concepts together that will be available for future plans, if the local unit wants to include it. We posted for a GIS Intern to help with the busing study and other projects. J. Beaudo stated that Hannahville will be looking for GIS help too; it would be nice if we could partner.

The Alger County Board Chair, Jerry Doucette, has been asking about reduced membership rates for smaller counties. The Board discussed. We should make a pitch for membership to our smaller counties; maybe a reduced, temporary rate of $4,500 to counties under 10,000 in population. We could commit for three years, after which time the rates would be reviewed. The Board agreed it would be good to have more counties on board. If a county joins now, the rate would be prorated for the remainder of the year. A MOTION TO OFFER MEMBERSHIP TO OUR COUNTIES UNDER 10,000 IN POPULATION FOR A REDUCED, TEMPORARY YEARLY RATE OF $4,500, TO BE REVIEWED AFTER THREE YEARS WAS MADE BY T. ELEGEERT, SECONDED BY G. CORKIN, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Membership Dues Update
Letters and statements for the FY15 membership dues will be going out next week.

NEW BUSINESS

Summer Meetings
J. Stevens stated that a lot of organizations don’t meet in the summer, but we have a lot going on right now; he withdrew the item from further discussion and action.

FEDERAL REVIEWS

NEXT MEETING DATE AND PLACE
The next meeting will be held on July 25, 2014 in Escanaba.

ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
J. Stevens reported the VA in Iron Mountain in well-run, the biggest controversy right now is covering up religious symbols in the chapel. J. Beaudo reported the next two weekends will be busy at Hannahville with the Pow Wow and golf event. B. Bedard reported that the airport waterlines froze and lightning struck the lines. T. Elegeert reported that the new medical helicopter at the airport will cover a 90 mile radius.

ADJOURNMENT
A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 4:25 P.M. WAS MADE BY T. ELEGEERT, SECONDED BY J. STEVENS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.