April 26, 2019  
12:00 noon EST

CUPPAD REGIONAL COMMISSION  
Quarterly Meeting  
Meeting Minutes

CUPPAD office  
2950 College Ave  
Escanaba, MI 49829

PRESENT
Jerry Doucette, Alger County  
Esley Mattson, Alger County  
Rod DesJardins, Alger County  
Dan Rushford, Alger County  
Michelle Doucette, Alger County (alternate for Lisa Howard)  
Theresa Nelson, Delta County  
Patrick Jordan, Delta County  
Jacob Allison, Delta County  
Tony Edlebeck, Dickinson County  
Gerald Corkin, Marquette County  
Greg Seppanen, Marquette County  
Craig Reiter, Schoolcraft County  
Alan Ott, Schoolcraft County  
Mike Perilloux, Schoolcraft County  
Jill Beudo, Hannahville Indian Community

ABSENT
Dave Rivard, Delta County  
Benny Herioux, Delta County  
Gregg Johnson, Delta County  
Denny Olson, Dickinson County  
Thyra Karlsrom, Marquette County  
Nate Hefferon, Marquette County  
Kristin Thorton, Marquette County  
Tony Graff, Menominee County  
Lori Van, Menominee County  
Joe Linder, Menominee County

OTHERS PRESENT
Dotty LaJoye, Executive Director, CUPPAD  
Michelle Viau, CPA, CFO, Michigan Works  
Peter Van Steen, Transportation Planner, CUPPAD  
Richard Smith, Community Planner, CUPPAD

1. CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Chairperson G. Corkin. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
   **MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WAS MADE BY J. BEAUDO, SUPPORTED BY C. REITER; MOTION CARRIED.**

3. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES**  
   **MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM THE REGIONAL COMMISSION MEETING OF FEBRUARY 28, 2019 AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF MARCH 21, 2019 WAS MADE BY J. DOUCETTE SUPPORTED BY J. BEAUDO; MOTION CARRIED.**

4. **TREASURER’S REPORT**  
   Michelle Viau was present at the meeting to discuss the financial report. J. Beaudo reviewed the Treasurer report noting operating fund revenue from contracts is under projected revenue. The report only shows receipts not receivable accounts. Payment for the Schoolcraft County GIS project is spread over three years, but it is expected CUPPAD will complete the project prior to the AMR review; this project is “labor forward”. **MOTION TO APPROVE THE TREASURER’S REPORT AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY J. BEAUDO, SUPPORTED BY J. DOUCETTE; MOTION CARRIED.**

5. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**  
   D. LaJoye provided an update on activities. Regional Prosperity Initiative is a special pool of funds that is not included in the current state budget. The funds have been utilized to for projects in various communities throughout the region. The Michigan Association of Regions has launched a united front and prepared a white paper on the value of the program. MAR has been meeting with legislators; Dotty will be meeting with Beau LaFave in Garden Friday night, and will be calling Sara Cambensy on May 2nd to discuss the impact RPI has on rural communities. One of the current RPI projects is a Housing Market Analysis. It is a rather large project that could bog down CUPPAD staff. There is a new planning talent in the region and CUPPAD will be contracting with Callie New at $25.00 per hour. There is $20,000 budgeted for the project from RPI funds. Focus groups will be formed for each community or count. Callie will be presenting the scope of work at the May 8th RPI meeting; the meeting will be held at the M-Tech Building at Bay College. CUPPAD assisting OHM Associates on the development of the Delta County Master Plan; OHM will be here May 6-8.

6. **PRESENTATION**  
   Patrick Jordan, Escanaba city manager, discussed the Dark Store issue and the impact on the community. The city has received financial support from communities around the state and will likely ask for contributions again. The city has spent $350,000 of its own funds in legal costs.

   While waiting for the presentation for the CUPPAD audit, Dan Rushford asked about marihuana dispensary businesses. There was a general discussion among the commissioners.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**  
   7.A **CUPPAD Audit for FY 2018:** Joe Verlin, Gabridge and Company PLC, was on video conference. He reviewed the audit, noting it was a “modified opinion” which indicates there are no problems. He noted the Commission’s fund balance at the end of FY 2018 was $191,516, a decrease of $39,353. A number of questions were raised by Commissioners. **MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AUDIT REPORT WAS MADE BY G. SEPPANEN, SUPPORTED BY D. RUSHFORD; MOTION CARRIED.**

8. **NEXT MEETING AND PLACE**  
   The next Executive Committee meeting will be May 23 at 2:00 PM at Escanaba.
The next quarterly Regional Commission meeting will be July 26 at 12 noon at Escanaba.

9. **COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**
   C. Reiter will send information he obtained from MAC on marihuana dispensaries to Dotty to be forwarded to members.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**
    The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 1:57 P.M.

    Minutes prepared by Peter Van Steen