CUPPAD REGIONAL COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2019
CUPPAD office
2950 College Ave
Escanaba, MI 49829

PRESENT
Rod DesJardins, Alger County
Tony Edlebeck, Dickinson County
Gerry Corkin, Marquette County
Dave Rivard, Delta County
Jerry Doucette, Alger County
Jill Beudo, Hannahville Indian Community
Craig Reiter, Schoolcraft County

OTHERS PRESENT
Dotty LaJoye, Executive Director, CUPPAD
Michelle Viau, CPA, CFO, Michigan Works

1. CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson G. Corkin; a roll call was taken with all members present.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WAS MADE BY R. DESJARDINS, SUPPORTED BY T. EDLEBECK; MOTION CARRIED.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES
MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF MAY 23, 2019 MOTION WAS MADE BY J. BEAUDO with the correction that the audit determination say unmodified opinion, not modified opinion. SUPPORTED BY R. DESJARDINS; MOTION CARRIED

4. TREASURER’S REPORT
J. Beaudo requested clarification on contracts listed. General Operating is lower. Michelle Viau said it is because of how the billing cycle was set up for Schoolcraft County. LaJoye explained the billing system was designed to make the project affordable for Schoolcraft County and that CUPPAD will begin getting reimbursed in about 3 months. MOTION TO APPROVE THE TREASURER’S REPORT AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY J. BEAUDO, SUPPORTED BY T. EDELBECK; MOTION CARRIED.

There was a discussion on the continuation of the RPI. LaJoye stated that the Regions were taking a collective approach and the Michigan Association of Regions (MAR) produced several documents that show the value of Regions to the Governor’s agenda and the value of the RPI. Each Region has taken the responsibility to meet with their legislatures to provide them the information prepared by MAR. Also,
Ryan Soucy compiled a timeline of RPI projects for the central region along with project descriptions to hand out to our legislators. T. Edlebeck will provide that information to Beau LaFave. Staff feels strongly that the RPI is most valuable in the rural regions of the state where other services are not available. Many of these projects would not happen if not for the RPI. G. Corkin explained that the Governor’s budget will not pass right away, and we still have time to get the RPI in the Governor’s budget.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
   5. A Job Description: The executive committee reviewed the various job descriptions provided. Several observations were provided to strengthen the job descriptions and employee evaluation process. Employee evaluations should occur before the annual budget process. The Executive Committee will be approving the job descriptions as part of the Personal Policy at a later date.

6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT
   D. LaJoye provided an update on activities. CUPPAD assisted with the kick off of the Delta County Master Plan. CUPPAD will continue to get information out about the website and survey across Delta County. A new contract was signed for four façade redevelopment projects in the City of Negaunee and the MSHDA NEP grant is also moving forward. The housing marketing project is ongoing and several recommendations were made for local housing experts to participate in the process. A new Regional Regranting application will be submitted to the MCACA for FY 2020. CUPPAD will select new panel members to review the grants and provide valuable feedback to the applicants. Emily Bosch Soucy has submitted a new contract for consideration. The Executive Committee believes that hiring someone to work on tasks that free up the time for the planners and the director is good as long as CUPPAD can afford it, and it improves productivity.

7. NEW BUSINESS
   7. A Michigan Launch Initiative: G. Corking described the potential for Sawyer to be selected as one of five sites under consideration for a Michigan spaceport for low orbit satellites. Sawyer has a good chance of being selected because of its infrastructure and the vast amount of county-owned lands surrounding the airport. A resolution was passed in support of the MLI. All other executive committee members will have their respective boards also pass resolutions in support for the MLI at Sawyer as they recognize the economic benefit to the entire region. MOTION BY T. EDLEBECK, SUPPORTED BY D. RIVARD TO SUPPORT THE LOCATION OF THE SPACEPORT PROJECT AT SAWYER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT; MOTION CARRIED.

8. REGIONAL PROSPERITY INITIATIVE
   There was a discussion on the RPI previously.

9. FEDERAL REVIEW
   No federal reviews reported.

10. NEXT MEETING AND PLACE
    The next Executive Committee/Quarterly Regional Commission meeting, will be July 26, 2019, at 12:00 PM in Escanaba.

11. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

12. ADJOURNMENT
    The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:15 P.M.