

NORTHWEST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Monday, September 28, 2012

MEETING MINUTES

Roll Call – COG

Present: Mike Crawford, Antrim County; Chris Christensen, Charlevoix County; Don Tanner, Benzie County; Jim Tamlyn, Emmet County; Larry Inman, G.T. County; Stuart McKinnon, Kalkaska County; David Marshall, Leelanau County; Richard Schmidt, Manistee County; Les Housler, Wexford County

Absent: Susan Rogers, Missaukee County

Guests: Chip Johnston, Benzie/Manistee Community Mental Health

Staff present: Elaine Wood, Denise Culman, Charlene Schlueter, Matt McCauley, Darla Rowland, Steve Shugart

Call to Order and introductions

Larry Inman, Chair, welcomed everyone. He also welcomed, Jim Tamlyn, the new Emmet County Chair, who will be taking Les Atchison's place on the board, and asked for introductions around the room.

Approval of the Amended Agenda

Larry asked for approval of the agenda. Larry said that Chip Johnston had a doctor's appointment and needs to leave, so he would like to switch item 4 and 5 around.

Motion by R Schmidt, supported by D. Marshall to approve the agenda with the requested change in order of agenda items. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of May 12, 2012

Larry asked for any changes to the minutes. Hearing none he asked for approval.

Motion by D. Tanner, supported by R. Schmidt to approve the May 12, 2012 minutes as presented.

Abstained: S. McKinnon, Kalkaska County. Motion passed unanimously with one abstention.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Financial Report

Charlene Schlueter, CFO presented the Financial Report, Amended Budget and Actual Expenditures through August 2012 for FY 2012 (10/1/2011 – 9/30/2012). Charlene went over a couple of items. Questions were answered and Larry asked for a motion.

Motion by D. Marshal, supported by D. Tanner to accept the August 2012 Financial Report as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

FY'13 Budget

Charlene pointed out a few things on the Initial Budget for FY 2013. Elaine and Charlene answered questions. Larry asked for a motion for the budget as presented.

Motion by M. Crawford, supported by R. Schmidt to accept the Initial Budget for FY 2013 (10/1/2012 – 09-30/2013). Motion passed unanimously.

PIHP role

Elaine started by giving a summary of PIHP (Prepaid In-patient Health Plan), how the system is currently set up, and how the state Department of Community Health wants to reorganize the PIHP function. D. Tanner and C. Johnston reported on the current events that have taken place with the state and local CMH directors. There is some possibility that NWMCOG will be asked to serve as the PIHP for the 21 counties of northern Lower Michigan. It was agreed that Don will keep the board informed as the process moves along. Questions were answered.

CEO's report

Elaine highlighted all the different things going on in the agency that don't make the agenda, but the Board should know about. The MI Works! programs were brought in house and it went quite smoothly. The move allowed NWMCOG to take \$400,000, which was previously going to overhead with the contracted TBAISD, and put it into direct program services. The new health insurance contract for staff will reduce the cost by 4%, and is under the state cap. Adult Ed had 84 adults graduate in June with either a GED or High School diploma. A grandmother of a student at the Beaver Island Light House School was so impressed with the program she donated \$500 to the school which will enable them to replace the washer and dryer at the school. Patty O'Donnell from Regional Planning will be leaving for a position with MDOT. She has been instrumental in bringing millions of dollars back to this region. She will be greatly missed. Elaine touched on other things going on with the agency. Questions were answered.

Workforce Development Board report

Elaine talked about a few projects that the Workforce Development Board is doing.

a. Appointment

Elaine explained that the Workforce Development Board (WDB) composition is federally mandated and mostly private sector business representatives, which are two from each of the ten counties and are appointed by the County Boards. The other positions on the WDB are appointed by the NWMCOG Board. The three before the Board are one re-appointment and two new member appointments for two-year terms: Re-appointment - Steve Perdue, President, GTI; New appointments - John Stephenson, Executive Director, Northwest Michigan Human Services Agency; Craig Anderson, Business Agent, United Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 85.

Motion by M. Crawford, supported by D. Tanner to approve the three appointments to the Workforce Development Board. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Update on the demand-driven model

Elaine reported the main thing the WDB has been working on for the past six months is to become a totally demand driven system – where the needs of the employer is what drives everything that is done. At the last meeting the WDB approved the process. Elaine gave a quick summary for the board and went over the six industry clusters that were identified and the process to be used to determine the occupations for training. Questions were answered.

c. Formation of Talent Districts

Elaine reported that the 25 Michigan Works Agencies are voluntarily forming into the ten talent districts that coincide with the state's economic development district regions. They want to reinforce the position that workforce development is part of economic development by better aligning activities with the economic development regions. Questions were answered.

Community Development

a. County Guides to Permitting & Zoning

Matt McCauley, Director of Regional Planning & Community Development, explained there was a binder on the table specific to each county. As the region grows and new businesses open they have to go through a variety of zoning and permitting activities in many of the counties or communities. Often times those businesses don't know where to go. Within the ten county region, there are 198 units of government and about 70% have some sort of zoning and a process to build or develop a business in a community. NWMCOG's planning department developed a straight forward approach to understanding how permitting and zoning happens in every particular community throughout the region. They worked with all the economic development organizations within the region. The information is from interviewing the local units of government and the county's planning, assessors etc. asking what exactly is the process in each community and how can it be mapped out to make it more understood by the person wanting to open or locate a business. The document is in near final draft form and will be given to each county's planning department to review for accuracy. Questions were answered.

b. Housing Inventories & Assessment

Matt said this is the next book being worked on with the counties' assessors and equalization departments, and should be ready in the next 6 – 8 months. The Grand Traverse one is completed and the realtors have found it to be very useful. He's hoping the book will be done on an annual basis. Questions were answered.

c. Rotary Grant for Up North Trails

Matt explained that recreation and tourism are an integral part of the economy within the region. The trails of all types are playing a big part in driving business. The planning department is currently working on an up north trail project for 21 counties, together with NEMCOG. A large scale web-based mapping project will show where all the businesses are that would accommodate a particular activity along a trail- such as a restaurant that would accommodate parking for snowmobiles. Some funding has been acquired from the state and now a grant application is being submitted to Rotary charities for the remainder of funding needed. This grant requires a motion of board approval. Questions were answered. Larry asked for a motion.

The recommended motion was as follows

As a means to leverage northern Michigan's existing recreational assets in such a way to further economic development efforts in the region, the NWMCOG Board recognizes the positive impact implementation of the Up North Trails Project would have throughout northern Michigan. Further, the NWMCOG Board supports staff efforts to identify and capture the necessary funds to complete the project, including a direct request to Rotary Charities in the amount of \$40,000.

Motion by D. Tanner, supported by D. Marshall to approve the Rotary Charities grant application for Up North Trails. Motion passed unanimously.

d. Inter-governmental summit

Matt informed the board that a couple of years ago the NWMCOG held an inter-governmental summit at Shanty Creek and it was well attended. He wanted to know if the board would be interested in having NWMCOG host another one. After much discussion it was decided to have Matt's department send out a survey to the counties to find out if there was any interest and what subjects they would like covered.

Governor's Regional Reinvention Committee

Matt said that right now policy discussions at the state and federal level are often being more focused around regions as possible service providers. A map was passed out earlier in the meeting about health providers and there are maps for transportation, economic development, workforce development, adult education, regional planning and others as well. Rarely do the boundaries line up among them. There is a serious effort by the Governor's office to better align state departments and other functions in such a way where there are shared geographic boundaries. This is for the

purpose of reducing administrative costs and facilitating easier collaboration and shared services. The Northwest region is exceptional in this regard, in part because of our common boundaries for many state and federal funding streams. The Governor's Regional Reinvention Committee, which Matt serves on, is charged to explore what the role of regions can be and potential for better aligning the boundaries. The focus right now is more about prosperity, infrastructure and economic development - what are the appropriate state departments that fall within those three categories and how to better align the services & boundaries. The Governor is very interested and regions will probably be a topic in the state of the state address. Questions were answered.

Correspondence

Correspondence was included with the board packet.

County round-table/Commissioner open discussion time

Various topics were discussed by commissioners relative to their counties, with sharing of ideas about how other counties handle various issues.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 12:28p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Culman

Denise Culman
Recording Secretary

Please
check off your name

Sign In Sheet

Council of Governments Board

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|-------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------|---------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1. | Crawford, Mike..... | Antrim County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 2. | Tanner, Donald..... | Benzie County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 3. | Christensen, Chris | Charlevoix County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 4. | Tamlyn, Jim | Emmet County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 5. | Inman, Larry..... | Gr. Traverse County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 6. | McKinnon, Stuart | Kalkaska County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 7. | Marshall, David | Leelanau County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 8. | Schmidt, Richard | Manistee County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 9. | Rogers, Susan..... | Missaukee County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 10. | Housler, Les..... | Wexford County |

Others - Sign In Here

#	Name	Organization
1	Chip Johnston	Benzie/Manistee Community Mental Health
2	Charlene Schlueter	NWMCOG
3	Matt McCauley	NWMCOG
4	Darla Rowland	NWMCOG
5	Steve Shugart	NWMCOG
6	Elaine Wood	NWMCOG
7	Denise Culman	NWMCOG
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