



La Crosse Area Planning Committee

*Metropolitan Planning Organization
Serving the La Crosse/La Crescent Urbanized Area*

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Minutes of LAPC Meeting, March 16, 2011

Minutes of the meeting of the La Crosse Area Planning Committee held on Wednesday, March 16, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 3220 of the La Crosse County Administrative Center, 400 4th St N, La Crosse.

Members Present: Lynnetta Kopp, Town of Shelby; Dennis Manthei, Village of West Salem; Mike Giese, City of Onalaska; Matt Harter, City of La Crosse; Steve Doyle, La Crosse County. **Members Absent:** Mike Poellinger, La Crescent; Scott Johnson, Town of Campbell; Linda Seidel, Town of Medary. **Members Excused:** Nancy Proctor, Village of Holmen; Dave Paudler, Town of Onalaska. **Others Present:** John Boland, Greg Pates, Sue Howe, Nick Nichols, Jeff Bluske, Tom Faella, and Jackie Eastwood.

Call to Order: Lynnetta Kopp called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

1) Approval of Minutes of the January 19, 2011 LAPC Meeting:

Steve Doyle motioned to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2011 meeting; Dennis Manthei seconded. All were in favor.

2) Public comment relative to agenda items, with a 5-minute time limit per comment:

None.

3) 2011 Local Studies Program:

Tom Faella stated that the LPAC has \$100,000 available for local studies in 2011. Three projects were received to total the amount available. The projects include an Onalaska area transit study, a transportation study of the Theater Rd corridor, and a traffic impact analysis in Holmen. The planning funds are made up of 80% federal and 20% local. Questions arose as to whether the federal funds were in jeopardy with the budgetary problems at the federal level. Mr. Faella stated that he would verify that the funding is still available.

Steve Doyle motioned to approve funding the Onalaska transit study, the Onalaska Theater Rd corridor study, and the Holmen traffic impact analysis contingent upon receiving the federal planning funds; Dennis Manthei seconded. All were in favor.

4) Resolution 3-2011 Amending the 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):

Tom Faella provided an overview of three new projects added to the TIP. He stated that the City of Onalaska will move the trail portion of the Sand Lake Rd project to 2013 to coordinate with the WisDOT project for the USH 53 interchange ramp. In response to a question by Matt Harter regarding project prioritization, Mr. Faella stated that we do not WisDOT projects. The DOT informs the LAPC of state projects that need to be added to our TIP. Mr. Faella said that he will work with WisDOT to gain more local involvement in the Region 6-year program planning.

Dennis Manthei motioned to approve the amended TIP project list as discussed; Mike Giese seconded. All were in favor.

5) Local Share Dues:

Tom Faella stated that the local dues have been the same since 2004. He had been asked to keep a minimum of a six-month reserve for operations and for the LAPC aerial photography program and the total is now about \$187,000. With annual expenses increasing, the amount of carryover from one year to the next has been decreasing. Lynnetta Kopp asked about the interest to which Mr. Faella stated that the interest has been retained by La Crosse County.

Steve Doyle motioned to hold over a decision about the local share and the reserve to the May meeting; Matt Harter seconded. All others were in favor.

6) I-90 Dresbach Bridge:

Tom Faella stated that Mn/DOT had contacted him to say they would prefer to present to the BPAC in April and to the TAC in May. Mr. Faella gave some background on the LAPC bike plan recommendations and his correspondence with Mn/DOT project manager Craig Falkum regarding designing bicycle and pedestrian accommodations into the bridge. Sue Howe spoke in favor of retaining design for bicycle and pedestrian accommodations. Ms. Howe stated that Mn/DOT refers to the Wagon Wheel Trail, which is 4.8 miles south of I-90, as the preferred Mississippi River bicycle and pedestrian crossing, but that the DOT would not ask motorists to travel that far out of their way.

Mike Giese asked that Tom Faella correspond with Mn/DOT, asking them to be prepared to discuss the issue of bicycles and pedestrians on the Dresbach Bridge at the LAPC meeting in May.

7) State of Wisconsin 2011-2013 Biennial Budget Bills:

Jackie Eastwood summarized the impacts of the Wisconsin governor's proposed budget bill on transportation, education, shared revenue, and the environment.

8) Strategic Goals:

With the absence of some of the policy board members, Dennis Manthei motioned to hold over this agenda item to the May meeting; Mike Giese seconded. All were in favor.

9) Other business; Director's report; Adjourn; Next meeting to be announced:

Tom Faella provided a summary of staff activities since the last Policy Board meeting.

Dennis Manthei motioned to adjourn at 5:38 p.m.; Matt Harter seconded. All were in favor.