UPPER EXPLORERLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
September 23, 2010
REVISED MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dean Darling, Jan McGovern, Leigh Rekow, Leon Griebenow, Larry Gibbs, Ray Whalen, Warren Steffen, Les Askelson, Randy Keehner, Mike Kennedy, Randy Uhl, Paul Ryan, Kathy Campbell, Darla Kelchen, Roger Thomas, Karla Organist, Andrew Wenthe

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jerry Freund, Mark Bohle, Charles Frana, Kay Zimmerman, Elise Bergan, Duane Brandt, Barbara Ettleson

OTHERS PRESENT: Aaron Burkes, Mary Jungblut, Ardie Kuhse, Lisa Lensing, Sue Severson, Fern Rissman, Bill Ziegler, Larry Leliefeld, Lori Brockway, Larry Murphy, Paula Enyart, Cloy Kuhse, Jason Meyer, Larry Moore, Paul Foxwell

Chair Jan McGovern called the quarterly meeting to order at 6 p.m. on Thursday, September 23, 2010 at the Regional Planning Commission office, Postville, Iowa.

A motion was made by Askelson/Uhl to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Campbell/Gibbs to approve the August 19, 2010 minutes as mailed. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Griebenow/Steffen to approve the Treasurer's Reports as presented by Lisa Lensing and Sue Severson. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the quarterly check disbursements followed. A motion was made by Campbell/Kennedy to approve the check disbursements for publication. Motion carried unanimously.

A Personnel Policy Change was presented. A motion was made by Askelson/Kelchen to change Section 8.11 to read: "Upon written request of an employee, the Executive Director may grant an employee a leave of absence without pay not to exceed six (6) months. Approval of any leave without pay shall be in writing and signed by the Executive Director. No vacation or sick leave benefits or any other benefits shall accrue while an employee is on leave of absence without pay; moreover, the employee's anniversary date will be adjusted by the length of the leave granted. The employee shall reimburse UERPC for the cost of employer-paid insurance benefits paid on behalf of the employee while on leave. Upon expiration of approved leave without pay, the employee shall be reinstated in the position held at the time the leave was granted or to another equivalent position." Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of a contract to purchase an office building for a UERPC expansion was next on the agenda. Two buildings were discussed, and summaries of terms offered were presented for the former REC building in Postville and the Bruening building in Decorah. After lengthy discussion and a conversation via telephone conference call with Deputy Director Joe Walsh and

Lori Adams from Iowa Workforce Development regarding leasing from UERPC, a motion was made by Steffen/Griebenow to approve the contract for the Bruening building including the contingencies listed as number 20 on the Contract which include a satisfactory lease/sublease from Iowa Workforce Development. The decision for a ballot vote was unanimous and not contested. The ballots were publicly counted and there were 10 yes votes and 6 no votes. Motion carried.

Department Head reports were given by Fern Rissman, Lori Brockway, and Bill Ziegler; Aaron Burkes gave a report for Bev Krambeer and Mary Lynn Revoir in their absence.

Under floor items, 1) Leon Griebenow and the Tiger Team were thanked for their diligent work on our office expansion. 2) The next quarterly meeting will be held on January 20, 2011. 3) A motion was made by Darling/Kennedy stating that no suitable facilities were available for rent or sharing at or within another public agency within the general geographic area. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Askelson/Whalen to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

The above constitutes my interpretation of the matters discussed and the decisions reached. Please contact the undersigned for any errors or omissions.

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Mary Jungblut, Secretary

REVISION
October 15, 2010

Following the September 23, 2010 meeting, several Commissioners began discussing the potential problem of taking a vote by ballot in a manner that did not allow for the proper identification of each Commissioner's vote, as is required by the Iowa Open Meetings Law. In consultation with the State Ombudsman's office, a follow-up written ballot with the individual Commissioner's name on the ballot was mailed out to each Commissioner who voted at the meeting. The Ombudsman's office has authorized us to include their findings and recommendations for curing the problem of not being able to identify each Commissioner's vote. The results of this written ballot are as follows: YES – Les Askelson, Karla Organist, Dean Darling, Kathy Campbell, Randy Uhl, Ray Whalen, Warren Steffen, Leon Griebenow, Mike Kennedy, Andrew Wenthe; NO – Roger Thomas, Darla Kelchen, Randy Keehner; ABSTAIN – Larry Gibbs; BALLOT returned unmarked – Paul Ryan; BALLOT not returned – Leigh Rekow. Motion carried.