UPPER EXPLORERLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (UERPC)
BOARD MINUTES OF OCTOBER 30, 2025 MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dennis Keatley (arrived at 11:34 am), Jack Knight, Fern Rissman (via zoom), Barb Collins (via zoom), Brandi Crozier (via zoom), Darla Kelchen (via zoom), Ray Peterson, Brett Devore (via zoom), Leon Griebenow (via zoom), Bruce Lehmann (via zoom), Alison Holten, Pat Murray, Peggy Lensing, Nina Taylor, Shirley Vermace, and Cheryl Wiesler (via zoom).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tim Burrack, Darla Recker, and Mark Vick

OTHERS PRESENT: Rachelle Howe, Jodi Emery, and Diana Johnson

Chair Vermace called the meeting to order at 11:30 am. Roll call was taken. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was requested for approval of the agenda. A motion was made for approval by Knight; seconded by Lensing. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was requested for approval of the meeting minutes of the August 28, 2025, meeting. A motion was made for approval by Holten; seconded by Rissman. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Keatley arrived.

DISBURSEMENTS: Emery presented the list of disbursements from July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025 to the board for review. A motion was made by Peterson; seconded by Murray to approve these disbursements for UERPC. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER REPORT: Emery also presented the treasurer's report to the board for review. A motion was made by Devore; seconded by Kelchen to approve the treasurer's report as presented. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

EPA BROWNFIELDS APPLICATION: Howe discussed an application to be submitted to the EPA Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant for redevelopment activities in McGregor, Oelwein and Lansing. A motion was made by Peterson; seconded by Murray to authorize and direct staff to submit this EPA grant application and approve resolution #2025-01. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye, except Crozier and Devore who abstained from the vote. No further discussion. Motion carried.

RLF UPDATE: Johnson gave the board an update regarding the RLF/IRP loan committee meeting of September 29, 2025, and the recent EDA Risk Rating of an A.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE: Howe prepared a director's report and sent it within the board packets. She highlighted the recently awarded IA Workforce Tax Credits in Edgewood, the substantial work demands in the RHA program due to the federal government shutdown and encouraged everyone to attend the regional workshop on open meeting laws on November 12th in West Union, as well as the Housing Summit on January 29th in Calmar. She also provided an update on the recent insurance meeting, where health insurance rates increased by 13%.

Collins left the meeting.

FLOOR ITEMS: No floor items were discussed.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 22, 2026, at 1:00 pm or as called by the Chair.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Taylor; seconded by Knight to adjourn the meeting. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:02 pm.

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

/s/ Diana Johnson, Recording Secretary