

**Executive Committee  
of the Regional Planning Board  
Meeting Minutes  
June 19, 2006**

Will County Conference Room  
Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois

**Board Members Present:** Gerald R. Bennett-Chair (Mayor, City of Palos Hills), Rita R. Athas-Vice Chair (Deputy Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office, City of Chicago), Elliott Hartstein (President, Buffalo Grove), Al Larson (President, Schaumburg), Marilyn Micheline (President, Montgomery), Michael Smith-Vice Chair (Mayor, New Lenox)

**Staff Present:** Randy Blankenhorn-Executive Director RPB, Jill Leary-RPB, Tom Garritano-NIPC, Don Kopec-CATS, Ron Thomas-NIPC and Sherry Kane-NIPC.

**Others Present:** Stephen T. Vaughn-CCHD, Rick Curneal-DMMC, Amanda Eichelkraut-RTA, Tom McKone-CCA,

**I. Call to Order and Introductions**

Mayor Gerald Bennett of Palos Hills and Chair of the Executive Committee of the Regional Planning Board, called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m. The meeting was held, via conference call, in the offices of the Regional Planning Board at 233 South Wacker, Chicago, Illinois.

**II. Agenda Changes and Announcements**

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

**III. Approval of Meeting Minutes – May 10, 2006**

Unfortunately the meeting minutes of the May 10, 2006 meeting were not available for approval at this time.

**IV. Board Meeting Agenda**

Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn reported that under the caption *Director's Report*, the Board could expect to see additional reporting and would be asked to reaffirm approvals for the following contracts: 2007 UWP Funds, Financial Forecasting for 2030 RTP and CATS Councils of Mayors. Blankenhorn continued that staff would be seeking approval naming NIPC as a fiscal agent to the Regional Planning Board. Final staffing adjustments and employee survey comments are also included in the packet. The survey comments are raw data only and a complete analysis will come later. *Committee Reporting* will follow.

A presentation will be made by *Department of Natural Resources*. Debbie Stone, Deputy Director and her staff will talk about the Governor's Water Supply program and Senator Garrett's funding of that program. The grant program is basically \$500,000 state-wide this year and we will be looking at getting \$350,000. The DNR would like the RPB to take the lead on this with funding actually going to about 10 or 11 counties including DeKalb, Kankakee & Boone.

The Board, staff and numerous others were consulted regarding *renaming* of the Regional Planning Board and a recommendation will be made to rename the RPB to Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), since there was strong feeling that the Regional Planning Board has no geographical reference. A logo will be presented and approval will also be sought. Staff is asking that the naming remain a low-key item until details can be worked out and a full roll-out can be launched.

Mayor Hartstein will be seeking approval of the *Citizens' Advisory Committee*. A slate consisting of thirty-three (33) members is recommended and assuming Board approval an introductory meeting could be conducted in July. While there were over 200 interested in filling the 33 slots, we still should try to keep the others interested in the process in some way. Mayor Smith questioned the structure of the committee, will it be chaired? Mayor Hartstein suggested they may be able to elect their own chair, or the Board may wish to appoint a chair. Ron Thomas recommends that an RPB member chair the committee and allow the committee to elect a co-chair. Mayor Hartstein agrees the matter should be talked through.

A memo regarding *governance*, drafted by Executive Director Blankenhorn is discussed at length. Finally, agreement is reached, suggesting that the MPO stands as-is with no redesignation, that there is shared decision making on transportation issues between the MPO and the [Regional Planning] Board, for transportation issues there is staff and committee support that is simultaneous to the [Regional Planning] Board and the MPO, and that non-transportation related issues receive the full face and value of what they do under NIPC from this new board in some committee structure. These are the goals statements for what governance should be. With the Board's concurrence, staff then has the basis to move forward.

Staff will conduct a *Vision and Mission* presentation pulling together materials that were first introduced at the December retreat that basically looks at where we are today regarding processes from a staff perspective; where we think we want to be as an agency, what it will take to get there; who else is involved in these activities so as not to duplicate but to support; what resources and authorities might be used to answer the questions where do we want to be in 2-3 years; and what does it take to get us where we want to be as an agency in the seven areas of transportation, housing, economic development, environment, human services, land use, and regional information. After the presentation, we would then like to invite the Board to a vision session within the next couple of week with senior staff to talk

about how we put this together. It is imperative to have the Board's input since the Vision is the basis of the report in September.

CCA had been asked and will provide the Board with information regarding *Funding*. Karen Greenbaum will conduct the presentation that looks at what others do to fund their agencies. The presentation is meant to get you thinking and talking about how we want to fund the operation of this agency.

A final draft of the *By-Laws* was included in the packet for which staff will be seeking approval. Unfortunately, however, absent is language that would construct a nominating committee for the election of officers. Consequently, an addition will be made to the by-laws establishing a nominating committee to elect a chair, two vice-chairs and the Executive Committee. Executive Director Blankenhorn recommends structuring the committee with 1 member from each of the 3 geographical areas (city, county and collar county) and that those be appointed by the Chairman with Board approval. Once the nominating committee is established, and with present officers' terms expiring at the end of June, a slate of officers and board members must be re-nominated. Of course, it is hoped that there be no change at this point in time with the work ahead of us.

*Schedule* to get everything accomplished to meet September deadline is as follows:

Next Board Meeting	<b>July 12</b>
Board Meeting	<b>August 9</b> (present final draft and obtain input from partners)
Intermediate Board Meeting	<b>August 30</b> (approval prior to September deadline—relatively short to approve this one item)

**Recap:** governance, vision and funding approved in July so as to get those in the draft report for the August 9 meeting. August 2, 2006 packet (for Aug 9 meeting) will include a DRAFT of the report to the General Assembly.

## V. **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Vice-Chair Rita Athas, seconded by Mayor Hartstein. All in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

/stk  
07-06-06

*Approved as presented by unanimous vote July 10, 2006*