

MINUTES
of the
Capital Area Regional Planning Commission

April 10, 2025

Microsoft Teams Webinar

6:00 pm

Participant Information

Commissioners Present: Maureen Crombie, Steve Greb, Kris Hampton, Barbara Harrington-McKinney, Peter McKeever, Heidi Murphy, David Pfeiffer, Cynthia Richson, Jim Schuler, Caryl Terrell, Bill Tishler, Alison Volk

Commissioners Absent: Barbara Harrington-McKinney, Nick Zavos

Staff Present: Nick Bower, Sean Higgins, Caitlin Shanahan, Tanya Sime, Jason Valerius

Others Present: Tom Mathies, James Tye

1. Establish Quorum

The meeting was called to order by Chair Pfeifer at 6:18 pm. A quorum was established.

2. Public Comment on Matters not on the agenda

No public comments.

3. Consent Agenda (*all items below are actionable items*) (6:20 pm)

a. Minutes of March 13, 2025, CARPC Meeting

b. Executive Committee Recommendations

(1) Approve February 2025 Financial Statements and March 2025 Operating Account Reconciliation

(2) Agreement with Rock County for Comprehensive Planning Assistance

(3) Agreement with the City of Evansville for Human-Powered Transportation Planning Assistance

Chair Pfeiffer moved to separate items 3(b)(2) and 3(b)(3) (agreements with Rock County and the City of Evansville) from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion. Commissioner Richson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Approval of the Minutes of March 13, 2025, CARPC Meeting (amended to correct attendance record for Commissioner Greb. The Commission postponed approval of the February 2025 Financial Statements and March 2025 Operating Account Reconciliation to the next meeting for the treasurer's approval. Commissioner Crombie moved for approval. Commissioner Schuler seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Clean Lakes Alliance Watershed Council Letter of Intent (Actionable Item) (6:42 pm)

James Tye from Clean Lakes Alliance presented the initiative to the Commission. He detailed goals around land conservation, water quality tracking, and community engagement. CARPC's role: participation with two representatives (one staff, one commissioner) on the Watershed Council; \$750 annual contribution for 2025 (increasing to \$1,500 thereafter). Commissioners expressed general support, discussed data availability, outreach, and regional collaboration. Commissioner McKeever moved to approve the Letter of Intent and associated commitments. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Consideration of Updates to the CARPC Personnel Manual (Actionable Item) (7:25 pm)

Commissioner McKeever raised concerns about language related to Affirmative Action and recommended striking a note referencing potential federal Executive Order changes. Commissioner Richson provided

extensive comments on numerous policy provisions, including holidays, rollover of leave, retirement benefits, sick leave accrual, and political activity policy. Commissioner McKeever moved to table approval of the Personnel Manual to allow time to review Commissioner Richson's comments. Commissioner Schuler seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5.1 Agreement with Rock County for Comprehensive Planning Assistance(7:28 pm)

Jason Valerius explained the scope and legal review. Concerns were raised about subsidies, workload, and arbitration clauses. Commissioner McKeever moved for approval of the agreement with Rock County for Comprehensive Planning Assistance. Commissioner Hampton seconded the motion. The motion carried. Commissioner Richson voted no, citing concerns about arbitration and the use of public funds.

5.2 Agreement with City of Evansville for Human-Powered Transportation Planning Assistance(7:30 pm)

Discussion centered around competition with private firms and arbitration clauses. Commissioner McKeever moved for approval of the agreement with the City of Evansville for Human-Powered Transportation Planning Assistance. The motion carried. Commissioner Richson voted no.

6. Next Steps for a Regional Farmland Preservation Discussion – Staff presentation and discussion (7:32 pm)

This item was deferred due to time constraints and technical difficulties earlier in the meeting.

7. Reports (7:46 pm)

- a. Commission Chair
- b. Executive Director
 - (1) Program and Services Updates
 - (2) Partnership Updates

Commission Chair Report Chair Pfeiffer emphasized the decision to return to Zoom for future meetings due to technical challenges with Microsoft Teams. Executive Director Jason Valerius reported on ongoing program updates, partnership discussions, and the focus on broader regional collaborations.

8. Future Agenda Items (next meeting May 8, 2025, via Zoom Webinar and in-person location TBD, 6:00 pm)

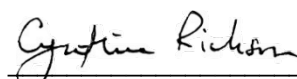
- a. Update on the MMSD effort to discontinue effluent return to Badger Mill Creek (May?)
- b. Update on Regional Population Projections (May?)
- c. Commission presentation/discussion on stormwater management (May?)
- d. Others?

9. Adjournment (8:07 pm)

Commissioner Hampton motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 pm. Commissioner Richson seconded the motion.

Minutes prepared by Tanya Sime and reviewed by the Executive Director.

Respectfully Submitted



Cynthia Richson, Secretary