

**River Area Council of Governments  
November 19, 2019**

**Members present:** M. Bigness, J. Der, F. Fazio, B. Ferguson, R. Grunert, W. McIlroy, R. Schell, P. Smith, T. Stewart, S. Storms, R. Vary, K. Vogt, and J. Zando

**Absent:** S. Burto, K. Clarke, R. Larabee, M. Moser, and A. Peck

Chairman McIlroy called the meeting to order at 6:00pm at the V/Carthage Municipal Building, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by M. Bigness, seconded by J. Zando to approve the minutes of September 17 and October 22, 2019 meetings, as presented. Ayes-13, Nays-0. Motion carried.

**Reports**

M. Dietrich submitted the Circuit Rider report and updated the Council on a number of ongoing projects including:

- Interns have completed their terms.
- RACOG Resource Plan pending.
- LED – J. Waldorf suggests a conference call with all RACOG communities involved in the LED project to update and respond to questions. Members questioned whether it would be difficult to have so many participants asking questions but directed M. Dietrich to coordinate the call.
- Anticipate award announcement for Local Government Efficiency grant in December.

**Presentation**

- Jeanette Turner, Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, presented information regarding the Chamber's 2020 calendar of events.
- K. Malinowski, Tug Hill Commission Executive Director, presented the 2019 Tug Hill Resident and Landowner Survey RACOG results. Ms. Malinowski highlighted issues that had a significant change as compared to the 2009 survey.

**New Business**

- Members considered an amendment to the RACOG Bylaws; Section 14. The amendment recommends posting the minutes to the website instead of distribution by mail. Motion by F. Fazio, seconded by P. Smith to approve changing Section 14 as follows: Minutes of all Executive

Committee meetings shall be “posted to the River Area Council of Governments’ website” with fourteen (14) days of the date of that meeting. Ayes-13, Nays-0. Motion carried.

- Chairman McIlroy distributed financial information provided by T/Champion Supervisor Ferguson regarding a long standing carry-over balance in the amount of \$40,000 that was accumulated by the four original RACOG communities prior to the admission of additional municipalities. Motion by J. Der, seconded by T. Stewart to authorize the treasurer to return \$10,000 each to the V/Carthage, V/West Carthage, T/Wilna, and T/Champion. Ayes-13, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Chairman McIlroy appointed the following to an ad hoc committee to consider compensation for the RACOG secretary/treasurer: J. Der, R. Schell, and B. Ferguson.

### **Other Business**

- J. Zando offered contact information for a potential intern that is seeking employment.
- K. Malinowski reported that the Tug Hill Commission has adopted a new strategic plan.

Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by M. Bigness to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.

*Christina Vargulick*  
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RACOG Secretary