

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners, held at the Chippewa County Courthouse, 319 Court St., Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan on the 14th day of October, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Scott Shackleton, George Kinsella, Ted Postula and Don McLean

ABSENT: Don Cooper

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Commissioner McLean and seconded by Commissioner Kinsella.

**Resolution In Support of Eastern U.P. Regional Planning & Development Commission (EUP)
Application on behalf of the Eastern UP Prosperity Region**

Resolution 13-18

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, in 2012 the State of Michigan formed a Regional Reinvention Initiative Committee to plan for improving collaboration between Michigan's Regional Planning Agencies, Work Force Development Agencies, Adult Education Providers, Economic Development Agencies, and other agencies; and

WHEREAS, in August 2013 the Regional Reinvention Initiative Committee introduced the Regional Prosperity Initiative that includes ten new Prosperity Regions, and various levels of funding to enhance collaboration and to develop a Five Year Regional Prosperity Plan for each of Michigan's ten Prosperity Regions; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private business, and,

WHEREAS, the Eastern U.P. Regional Planning & Development Commission will serve a 3 county area which includes over 39 local governments, 2 higher education institutions, 1 Work Force Board, 1 Regional Planning Agency, 1 Rural Transportation Task Forces, 1 Intermediate School District and many Economic Development, business and non-profit organizations, and,

WHEREAS, only the one (1) regional planning agency in the 3 county region is qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners hereby supports the Eastern U.P. Regional Planning & Development Commission as the grant applicant on behalf of the Eastern Upper Peninsula Michigan Prosperity Region.

A VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS

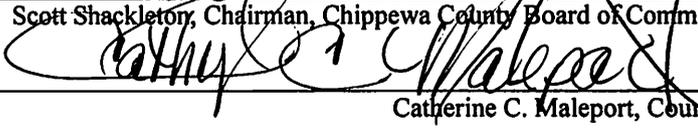
AYES: Shackleton, Kinsella, Postula, McLean

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.



Scott Shackleton, Chairman, Chippewa County Board of Commissioners



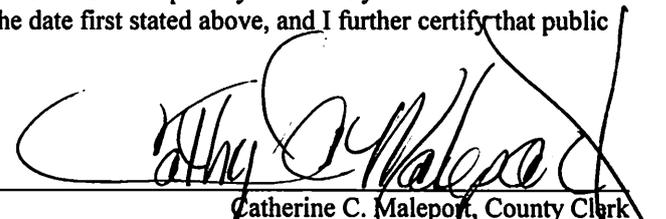
Catherine C. Maleport, County Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

) ss.

COUNTY OF CHIPPEWA)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the resolution adopted by the County Board of Commissioners of Chippewa County at a regular meeting held on the date first stated above, and I further certify that public notice of such meeting was given as provided by law.



Catherine C. Maleport, County Clerk

*Chippewa County Board of Commissioners
319 Court Street
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783*

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*Scott Shackleton
George Kinsella
Don Cooper
Ted Postula
Don McLean*

October 14, 2013

Jeff Hagan, Executive Director
Eastern U.P. Regional Planning & Development Commission
P.O. Box 520
SSM, MI 49783

Dear Mr. Hagan:

On behalf of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioner would like to express our wholehearted support for the Eastern UP Prosperity Region's grant application for Regional Prosperity Initiative grant funding.

The Eastern UP's economic development and community organizations along with the business community have been working together to improve the Eastern UP's economy through the EDA Economic Development District planning process for over 40 years. The Region 1c Prosperity Alliance has been established in the tri-county region with its primary purpose being collaboration between the community and economic development organizations and implementation of regional strategies outlined in the Eastern UP Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The CEDS, however, has been focused primarily on community and economic development and has not been inclusive of Workforce Development, Adult Education, Transportation and Higher Education organizations. In order to be truly comprehensive and enable an approach that drives economic prosperity and sustainability a broader collaboration and Strategic Doing Plan is necessary. Not only will efficiencies be realized but opportunities created that will result in a service delivery system that is responsive to the needs of the region. From this a new regional structure will arise, the region will possess a highly skilled and talented workforce along with a support system that encourages innovation and entrepreneurship. Ultimately, this will result in new job and wealth creation, reducing unemployment and poverty rates in the Eastern UP.

As a partner in this application, we fully support the Eastern UP Regional Prosperity initiative. In addition we are committed to participating in this initiative. We believe this opportunity will provide the missing pieces to support the framework needed to spur community and economic development in the Eastern Upper Peninsula of MI. Not only will new jobs be created and incomes increased but also through enhanced education and workforce development the possibilities of a cultural change of attitude from one of complacency to that of possibilities may occur.

Sincerely,

Scott Shackleton
Chairman