

Agenda and Notes: Central Mississippi River Regional Planning Partnership

April 30, 2020 ♦ 7:30 a.m. ([Partnership and Staff Roster](#))

Under COVID-19 guidelines, all meetings are conducted virtually at this time

(Sherburne County Government Center - County Board Room, 13880 Business Center Drive, Elk River 55330)

Join Zoom meeting from computer <https://zoom.us/j/98624020518?pwd=bVVlekFKNjRicFIFYVdTNU9mWE9ZZz09>

Password: 693540; meeting ID: 986-2402-0518

Note: To join via smartphone, download the Zoom app:

I-phone: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/zoom-cloud-meetings/id546505307>

Android: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=us.zoom.videomeetings&hl=en_US

Topic	Action	Lead
Routine Business		
<p>1. Agenda review, changes (note the regular meeting is very short to leave time for the Planning NEXT and Ninigret Partners presentations and discussions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Welcome and call to order b. Introductions (both in-person and online)/ sign-in sheet c. Meeting Presentation <p><u>Members Present (Remotely):</u> Becker Township: Brian Kolbinger Big Lake Township: None present City of Becker: Tracy Bertram, Jacob Sanders City of Big Lake: Amy Barthel City of Monticello: Lloyd Hilgart, Jeff O’Neill, Angela Schumann Monticello Township: Shannon Bye, Bob Idziorek Sherburne County: Raeanne Danielowski, Tim Dolan, Marc Schneider, Dan Weber Silver Creek Township: Barry Heikkinen Wright County: Barry Rhineberger, Deb Schreiner, Darek Vetsch</p> <p><u>Others Present (Remotely)</u> Anne Carroll, Partnership process consultant Claudia Dumont, MnDOT Jamie Greene, Planning NEXT Kyle May, Planning NEXT Kevin Hively, Ninigret Partners</p>	Changes, Approve	Chair
<p>2. Previous meeting draft notes February 27, 2020 Heikkinen moved to approve the 2-27-20 CMRP regular meeting minutes, seconded by Dolan. The motion carried unanimously.</p>	Changes, Approve	Chair
<p>3. Treasurer’s Report</p> <p><u>Notes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dolan referenced the attached document regarding the expenditures. Budget vs. Actual suggests that the Partnership is a few thousand dollars over budget, but it is because accounting is done on a 12-month budget, but the work is on a 15-month budget. The cash balance as of 3-31-20 was \$513,145. 	Receive, Accept	Treasurer

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vetsch acknowledged receipt of the Financial report. Carroll said approval was not necessary as the Report was not formally presented. 		
Action Items, Issues		
No Action Items at this time.		
Discussion or Information Items		
<p>4. FW 2030 update and highlights of 3 Factbook Briefings (30 min)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Three Factbook Briefings prepared to date <ol style="list-style-type: none"> April 6: People April 16: Prosperity April 24: Place Briefings are sent to distribution list, highlighted on website homepage, embedded on Briefings page (displays directly on page and crosslinked throughout site, and linked directly from the various online surveys Factbook Briefing Highlights Q&A Discussion: Future Briefing topic options and guidance from Partnership <p><u>Notes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● See Presentation. 	Information	Kyle May and Jamie Greene
<p><Suspend formal Partnership Meeting and stop recording></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The regular meeting was suspended and the workshop opened at 8:22 A.M. Dolan moved to suspend the meeting, seconded by Bertram. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote. 	Action	Chair
<p>5. Workshop: Round 1 Partnership engagement (40 min)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Gather Round 1 input from Partners and staff (see Workshop info) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual shall-group sessions; a few questions at a time, with highlights reported out between sessions Questions focus on long-term regional topics, from online surveys Facilitated by LT members + consultants; all results are documented Consultants will compile these results along with online survey results 	Workshop: Information & Questions/ Discussion	Anne Carroll and Liaison Team
<p><Reopen formal Partnership Meeting and restart recording></p> <p>The meeting reopened at 9:03 A.M. with a motion by Hilgart, seconded by Heikkinen. The motion carried unanimously.</p>	Action	Chair
<p>6. FW 2030 engagement activities, issues, approach (15 min)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Activities and participation to date: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Following the February meeting and with direction from the Executive Committee, the Liaison Team and consultants developed a multi-pronged request to “community partners” -- jurisdictions (including school districts), community organizations and groups, employers, and others -- asking them to encourage <i>their</i> stakeholders to contribute ideas to the region’s future. That outreach began in March. With COVID-19 concerns, however, several administrators directed Liaison Team members to put a 	Information & Questions/ Discussion	Liaison Team ExComm

<p>hold on these requests beyond elected and appointed officials; those other invitations have <i>not</i> been sent.</p> <p>iii. To date, 40+ elected and appointed officials from Partnership jurisdictions plus two other townships have contributed, along with some community members and a couple of employees.</p> <p>iv. Contributors have offered thoughtful, hopeful, and interesting ideas in response to the questions about their communities and the larger region.</p> <p>b. Current issues and challenges <Discussion Memo></p> <p>i. Partners have raised some issues around participation, timing, priorities related to impacts of COVID-19</p> <p>ii. ExComm proposing meeting with Planning Next to refine Framework 2030 scope and schedule to address issues raised</p> <p>c. Discussion, consensus</p>		
<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carroll thanked everyone for their participation. The results of the workshop will be compiled and presented in the future. • Vetsch said this agenda item is related to the email he sent this week. Executive Committee members have discussed concerns expressed by members about the impact of COVID-19 issues on Framework 2030 content and process. What socio-economic changes may be impacted? Discussion is needed regarding this related to changes in the Project timeline or other considerations. • Carroll referred to the Discussion Memo that lays out the work done to date and where things were working well and not so well, and to reflect in more detail issues related to COVID 19. • Vetsch requested input from the Partnership. Is there anything the Partnership should consider? Hopefully within a month or so meetings can be held in person. • O’Neill said he was initially concerned about moving forward at the established pace due to COVID-19. There might be the involvement desired due to this distraction. The other concern is maybe the Partnership needs to wait to see how the economy shapes up as the pandemic unfolds. However, O’Neill said he has changed his thinking on this. He now feels the Partnership should keep chugging along, move forward, and not take a pause. This could be an opportunity because the Partnership is thinking ahead. • Schneider said Danielowski expressed the thought that this project is an opportunity to understand who we are when promoting this region. This situation might highlight some of the issues we’re facing, such as broadband. How severe is it for the region? COVID 19 will help us focus on addressing the obstacles and challenges in the region. • Dolan echoed O’Neill. He understands how it could be a distraction. It’s a reason for being more diligent regarding how the Partnership tries to involve other people. It will be harder than before. From a project standpoint, it is easy to look at these events on a day-to-day, month-to-month, year-to-year basis as being impactful, but despite what happens in the future, short of something cataclysmic, he didn’t think it will alter what we think our future direction will be. It may impact timing, but it will not ultimately change why people live here or want to live here or start 		

<p>businesses here. He advised to not get dragged down into the daily grind of things but to stay the course. This project will guide the region. There's more value chugging forward, as long as the Partnership is mindful and diligent with communications. Methods can be re-evaluated if the desired engagement isn't obtained.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vetsch agreed. He sees two options: 1) Does the Partnership feel the need to review the scope and timeline, or is everyone comfortable with the current schedule? Does the pandemic require a re-evaluate of the timeline? ● Danielowski was comfortable continuing with this approach. She agreed with Dolan. Now is not the time to pause. Future adaptation is always possible. This is an opportunity to engage in the future. It is a positive thing. ● Vetsch said more virtual community engagement will be needed versus a mix of virtual and in-person contact. Now will be almost entirely virtual. Was the Partnership comfortable with that, or should plans be made for some in-person involvement? ● Bye said virtual communication can be overwhelming and exhausting for some people. She did not think the same volume of data would be obtained. It is important to make sure communications reach those who don't or can't access virtually (seniors and others). ● Carroll agreed. This phase only involves virtual communication. There are two more major engagement phases. There is reason to believe that in-person engagement will resume later in the project. The virtual engagement she is referring to is not live. The Discussion Memo notes that a number of jurisdictions have put a hold on outreach waiting for this direction. The Partnership should use whatever contacts available to encourage people to participate virtually for the survey. ● Vetsch said it sounds like there is agreement to continue with the current path. The Executive Committee and the Liaison Team will provide updated and more detailed information on the project scope, activities, deliverables, and timeline for the next meeting to bring everyone up to date on how the project is addressing issues raised related to the pandemic. ● He asked everyone to participate in surveys. ● Vetsch said he will send out more information at the end of May. 		
<p>7. Future Agenda Items (1 min) <u>Notes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Update on Framework 2030 process, content, and timeline 		
<p>8. Adjourned: Vetsch formally adjourned the meeting as chair at 9:18 am.</p>	Approve	Chair