

NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

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*A Regional Association of Illinois
Municipalities and Townships
Representing a Population of Over One Million*

MEMBERS

- Antioch
- Arlington Heights
- Bannockburn
- Barrington
- Bartlett
- Buffalo Grove
- Deer Park
- Deerfield
- Des Plaines
- Elk Grove Village
- Evanston
- Fox Lake
- Glencoe
- Glenview
- Grayslake
- Hanover Park
- Highland Park
- Hoffman Estates
- Kenilworth
- Lake Bluff
- Lake Forest
- Lake Zurich
- Libertyville
- Lincolnshire
- Lincolnwood
- Morton Grove
- Mount Prospect
- Niles
- Northbrook
- Northfield
- Northfield Township
- Palatine
- Park Ridge
- Prospect Heights
- Rolling Meadows
- Schaumburg
- Skokie
- Streamwood
- Vernon Hills
- West Dundee
- Wheeling
- Wilmette
- Winnetka

- President*
Tom Dailly
Schaumburg

- Vice-President*
Rodney Craig
Hanover Park

- Secretary*
Donna Johnson
Libertyville

- Treasurer*
John Lockerby
Skokie

Executive Director
Mark L. Fowler

**NWMC Board
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 13, 2023
7:00 p.m.
Oakton College
Rooms 1606 & 1608
1600 East Golf Road
Des Plaines, IL**

I. Call to Order

President Dailly called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Craig led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Ms. Durso called the roll.

Members Present:

Arlington Heights, Mayor Tom Hayes
 Barrington, President Karen Darch
 Buffalo Grove, President Eric Smith
 Des Plaines, Mayor Andrew Goczkowski
 Elk Grove Village, Manager Matt Roan
 Evanston, Manager Luke Stowe
 Glencoe, Manager Phil Kiraly
 Hanover Park, Mayor Rod Craig
 Highland Park, Mayor Nancy Rotering
 Hoffman Estates, Mayor Bill McLeod
 Lake Zurich, Manager Ray Keller
 Libertyville, Mayor Donna Johnson
 Morton Grove, Manager Ralph Czerwinski
 Mount Prospect, Mayor Paul Hoefert
 Niles, Trustee John Jekot
 Northfield, Manager Cara Pavlicek
 Rolling Meadows, Manager Rob Sabo
 Schaumburg, Mayor Tom Dailly
 Skokie, Trustee Keith Robinson, Manager John Lockerby
 Streamwood, President Billie Roth, Manager Sharon Caddigan
 Wheeling, Manager Jon Sfondilis

Others in Attendance:

Linda Hoefert
 Leanne Redden, Regional Transportation Authority
 Kendra Johnson, Regional Transportation Authority
 Erin Aleman, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
 Jane Grover, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
 Mark Fowler, NWMC Executive Director

Larry Bury, NWMC Deputy Director
Eric Czarnota, NWMC Program Associate for Transportation
Ellen Dayan, NWMC Purchasing Director
Marina Durso, NWMC Executive Assistant
Brian Larson, NWMC Program Associate for Transportation

IV. Approval of Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes – May 10, 2023

Motion to approve the regular and executive session minutes of the May 10 meeting was made by Mayor Johnson. The motion was seconded by President Darch and unanimously approved.

V. President’s Report – Tom Dailly, NWMC President and Mayor, Village of Schaumburg

A. September NWMC Board Meeting Presentation – RTA Strategic Plan

Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Executive Director Leanne Redden presented the agency’s Transit is the Answer strategic plan. She focused on the plan’s vision of a safe, reliable, accessible public transportation system and the fourteen advocacy and action agenda items designed to improve and better fund the region’s transit system. She discussed the looming \$730 million “fiscal cliff” faced by the region and outlined the necessity for new and stable funding for transit.

Mayor Johnson asked how the RTA was prioritizing their advocacy efforts to build the best case for additional funding. Ms. Redden noted the need to educate lawmakers on the issue, emphasize and communicate the benefits of the system to the region’s/state’s economy and build a coalition of supporters from government and business sectors. To that end, she requested that members add their names and support to the coalition.

B. FY 2022-2023 NWMC Annual Report

Mr. Fowler presented the FY 2022-2023 NWMC Annual Report, which highlights the past year’s accomplishments as well as organizational information including the NWMC leadership, committees, membership and staff. He presented a few of the highlights which included: working with the Invest In Communities Coalition to receive another LGDF increase (from 6.16% to 6.47%); returning to Springfield for NWMC Legislative Days (first time since 2019); creating the NWMC Guide to Transportation Programs and Funding; hosting a regional meeting with IDOT Central Office Staff; quadrupling the products/services offered thru the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative via the SPC’s alliance with Sourcewell; completing 138 membership surveys (now house over 2,600 surveys); and, approving the 2023-2024 budget without a dues increase for the 10th consecutive year.

C. FY 2023-2024 NWMC Work Plan – Q1 Update

Mr. Fowler presented the first quarter update to the FY 2023-2024 NWMC Work Plan. He reviewed the following highlights: the work of the Invest in Communities Coalition; the hiring of Brian Larson, formation of the Paid Leave For All Working Group; Bike/Ped field trip in Hoffman Estates; advertisement of multiple grant opportunities; and, the SPC Vendor Showcase which was held on July 26.

D. Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Executive Committee Appointment

President Dailly noted that, traditionally, the Conference has appointed the organization’s Past President to serve as the delegate with the current President serving as the alternate delegate to the Mayors Caucus. However, he noted that former NWMC President Nancy Rotering is currently the Secretary of the Caucus and is expected to eventually become Caucus chair. Therefore, he reported that the Executive Board recommended the appointment of Mayor Rotering as the NWMC delegate and Deerfield Mayor Dan Shapiro as the alternate delegate to the MMC.

Motion to approve the recommendation was made by Mayor Craig. The motion was seconded by President Darch and unanimously approved.

E. FY 2023-2024 NWMC Board Meeting Dates & Format

President Dailly reviewed the Board meeting dates for FY 2023-2024. Board members discussed the preferred format for meetings going forward. Mr. Sabo expressed the preference to have an earlier

start time to the meetings if the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) moves their meetings to earlier in the day. Mr. Fowler noted that in December, the meeting rooms at Oakton will not be available due to construction and added that most of the NWMC committees preferred to meet via videoconference. A number of members expressed preference for hybrid meetings going forward and an earlier start time if possible. The Board directed Mr. Fowler to confer with SWANCC's Executive Director regarding meeting schedules and report back.

F. FY 2023-2024 NWMC Committee Assignments

Mr. Fowler reviewed the committee assignments and noted that President Smith agreed to co-chair the legislative committee. Motion to approve the FY 2023-2024 NWMC Committee Assignment list was made by Mayor Johnson. The motion was seconded by Mayor Rotering and unanimously approved.

G. October 17 NWMC Surplus Vehicle & Equipment Auction

Ms. Dayan reported that the final live fall NWMC Surplus Vehicle & Equipment Auction will be held on October 17. She thanked Evanston and Skokie for registering to participate and encouraged all members to send vehicles and equipment.

VI. Priority Issues

A. Legislative Committee

Call for Legislative Initiatives

Mr. Bury reported that the call for legislative initiatives for consideration of inclusion in the 2024 NWMC Legislative Program was sent to the membership with responses due by Friday, September 15. He provided information on a possible amendment seeking to exempt local governments from the Paid Leave for All Act. Finally, he discussed House Personnel & Pensions Committee hearings held over the summer regarding Tier 2 pension and other benefit changes for police & fire.

B. Transportation Committee

CMAP's Plan of Action for Regional Transit

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) Executive Director Erin Aleman provided background and an update on the agency's Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART), created to address the fiscal cliff and imagine a new regional transit system. She said CMAP staff presented the draft report earlier in the day to a combined meeting of the CMAP Board and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Policy Committee. She reviewed the various funding and governance proposals contained in the plan and noted that comments are due by September 22. She reviewed the calendar to consider the plan prior to submittal to the General Assembly by January 1, 2024.

President Dailly expressed concern that ongoing and perhaps permanent remote work and lower ridership will impact revenues in the long term. Mr. Fowler asked if any cost savings are identified in the governance reform piece of the report or is the focus on efficiencies. Ms. Aleman responded that the focus is on efficiencies and making the system work better. Mayor Hoefert expressed concern with the tax increase and other revenue proposals contained in the report and suggested consistent fare increases as part of the solution. Mayor Rotering thanked Ms. Aleman and staff for working on a very complex issue and recommended members review the report and send comments to CMAP.

VII. Other Business

No report.

VIII. For the Good of the Order

No report.

IX. Next Meeting

President Dailly said that the next NWMC Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 11 with the time and format to be determined.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mayor Hoefert. The motion was seconded by Mayor Rotering and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.