

Agenda Items 1-12

Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission Staff Report on Projects for the Bimonthly Meeting on 12.12.2018

	Agenda Topic or Project Name	Purpose, Benefit, Project deliverables, and Contract Amount	Project Time Period	Project Status	Contact
1	Roll Call	Confirm a quorum	Today's Meeting	NA	NA
2	Minutes of last MRRPC Bimonthly Meeting	Confirm past meetings decisions and outcomes	Today's Meeting	NA	NA
3	Treasurer's Report	Present all financial transactions occurring in all accounts including the four business Revolving Loan Funds and the Disaster Recovery Microloan Fund.	Today's Meeting	<p>Checking, savings and certificate of deposit transactions are provided. Transaction activity in the four federally funded business revolving loan funds that were awarded to the MRRPC between 1989 and 1995 to assist in overcoming rural economic distress and flooding is also provided. These loan funds cover all nine MRRPC counties.</p> <p>On November 13, 2018 a \$65,000 loan was approved for Bumble Bee Forest Childcare Center in Trempealeau and on November 15, 2018 a \$75,000 loan was approved for Cradle to Crayons Childcare Center in Cashton.</p> <p>A Disaster Recovery Microloan Fund was also capitalized in the amount of \$605,000 through a WEDC grant in October. To date three loans of \$15,000 each have been approved and two disbursed. A loan closing date is being set up on the third.</p>	Greg Flogstad, Director 608.785.9396 greg@mrrpc.com
4	Report on heavy rain and flooding disaster event of August 27-28 and local, state and federal response to date.	Assistance is needed wherever it can come from. Over \$108 million of damages to residences and nearly \$49 million to businesses. Flooding also caused more than \$75 million in damage to public infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and dams, and emergency protective measures. Damage assessments to look at public assistance (infrastructure) will be conducted in Adams, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Iron, Juneau, La Crosse, Marquette, Monroe, Ozaukee, Richland, Sauk, and Vernon Counties. Much of southern Wisconsin was hit with heavy rains, flash flooding, damaging winds and tornadoes during the latter part of August. Source: Wisconsin Emergency Management	Today's Meeting	<p>Local damage assessments from counties finalized by Wisconsin Emergency Management today shows more than \$108 million in damage to residences. This includes 56 homes destroyed, 564 homes with major damage, and nearly 4,000 with minor or affected damage. In addition, 14 businesses were destroyed, 62 sustained major damage and 96 reported minor damage with losses of nearly \$49 million. Approximately 120 businesses in the nine county Mississippi River Region were flooded. Flooding also caused more than \$75 million in damage to public infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and dams, and emergency protective measures</p> <p>A large portion of southwest to central Wisconsin had over 10" of rain, with some areas measuring over 20" of rain causing many major rivers including the Baraboo and Kickapoo Rivers to flood at historic levels. One person was killed in Dane County during flash flooding. On August 28, severe storms spun up 19 tornadoes and 90-100mph winds in the east central region causing widespread damage. A Presidential Disaster declaration was issued in October. Under the</p>	Dave Bonifas, Planner 608.785.9396 dave@mrrpc.com

				<p>declaration, individuals, families, and businesses in Crawford, La Crosse, Monroe and Vernon counties are now eligible to apply for federal disaster assistance. In addition to requesting individual assistance, Governor Walker also requested public assistance for local governments to help recover damage to infrastructure such as roads and bridges. Counties approved for the Public Assistance Program include Crawford, La Crosse, Monroe and Vernon counties. Under the Public Assistance Program, FEMA provides 75 percent reimbursement of eligible costs, while the state and local agencies share the remaining 25 percent. MRRPC along with county and state officials have been to recovery meetings thus far in Viroqua, Readstown, Ontario and La Farge. Other meetings were held in Viola and Coon Valley. MRRPC will be administering a Micro Loan program for businesses affected by this flood. In addition, based on past experience staff will likely be called upon to write FEMA, State HUD-CDBG, USDA Rural Development and US Dept of Commerce-EDA grants for public infrastructure, land acquisition, flood proofing, community facility, housing and relocation assistance projects.</p>	
5	Report on Disaster Recovery Microloan Program.	<p>Due to the increased frequency of natural disasters impacting businesses in Wisconsin the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation started developing a microloan program in early 2018. They were planning to roll it out in 2019. The recent flooding however sped this program up and they would like this program now to be available to businesses impacted by the flooding of August 23-24 and September 3-4, 2018. Since the last meeting they have contract with the MRRPC to administer this program in the MRRPC region.</p> <p>The West Central, Northwest, North Central, and Southwest Regional Planning Commissions also have or will apply to become microloan lenders as well.</p>	Today's Meeting	<p>MRRPC staff submitted an application for the MRRPC to be a microloan lender from funds provided to us from WEDC. This application was approved the initial allocation of \$605,000 has been deposited in the MRRPC bank.</p> <p>The maximum loan amount is \$15,000 to businesses damaged by flooding. The interest rate will be 0% for a four year period with a six month initial payment deferral.</p> <p>The funds that are repaid to us can be used to cover administrative costs and set up an ongoing micro loan fund in the region that will be continually available to businesses. There would be no federal regulations tied to these funds.</p> <p>Seven applications have been received to date. Three loans have been approved, checks have been issued to two in the amount of \$15,000 for each. A closing date is being scheduled for a third loan that will also be receiving \$15,000. The CMV Loan Board needs to meet and decide on the other loan applications two of them are well prepared and have most if not all the documentation and will likely be approved. The remaining two submitted incomplete applications and we are waiting for additional information from them.</p>	<p>Greg Flogstad Director 608.785.9396 greg@mrrpc.com</p>

6	Decision on submission on EDA grant application to fund Economic Recovery Plan for participating communities in the Kickapoo Valley and to provide up to \$25,000 in MRRPC funds as match in conjunction with equal or greater match funding coming from local, state or federal entities.	Economic Recovery Planning is needed by flood impacted communities. Determining future precipitation, hydrologic, hydraulic events in the Kickapoo Valley is needed as well as identifying alternative sites that are not threatened by high precipitation events.		Submission of a grant to EDA and other federal and state agencies needs to take place to jointly fund a study that would accomplish the following: <u>1.Community Project Deliverables:</u> a. Community-level Visioning, asset identification, economic development strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threat analysis b. Ensuring permanent protection of life and property from flooding along the Kickapoo and its tributaries c. Develop relocation strategies and/or areas for land acquisition that maintain economic viability and livability for residents, businesses, industries and tourists. d. Development of site plan alternatives for new or existing community sites for homes, businesses and government buildings <u>2.Flood Mitigation Project Deliverables</u> a. Update hydrologic and hydraulic analysis of Kickapoo Valley to update floodplain maps based on changes in hydrology, land cover change, bridge reconstruction, etc. b. Analysis and recommendations on bridges and culverts and other infrastructure needs to meet current threats c. Analysis and recommendations on land acquisition, land conservancy, or other land management strategies to control run-off in a non-structural and natural manner	
7	Decision on MRRPC's Transportation Planning Annual Work Program for 2019 and Self-Certification of compliance with CFDA 20.205 Federal Funding Requirements	An annual work plan is required to receive WIDOT funding for the Transportation Planning work in the Region. The funding allows the Transportation Planner to provide planning and development assistance to communities in the region. Total Budget \$62,872 – Federal \$50,297, State \$6,287, MRRPC \$6,287	January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019	A draft work plan has been prepared and submitted to the MRRPC and WIDOT for their review and approval. In addition, as part of the work program WIDOT requires planning commission's to self-certify to compliance with CFDA 20.205 federal funding requirements as part of the approval. The self-certification details the administrative responsibilities of receiving state/federal funding. The MRRPC and WIDOT must approve the work plan.	Peter Fletcher, Planner 608.785.9396 peter@mrrpc.com
8	Decision on the MRRPC's Title VI/ Nondiscrimination Agreement & Assurances FFY 2019.	Since the MRRPC receives state and federal transportation funding as a sub-recipient, FHWA and WIDOT require annual approval of the Title VI/Nondiscrimination Agreement and Assurances document.	January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019	The Title VI/Nondiscrimination Agreement and Assurances document has been signed by WIDOT and the MRRPC and needs approval of the Commission.	Peter Fletcher, Planner 608.785.9396 peter@mrrpc.com
9a	Crawford County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update	Update the Crawford County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. \$30,000 federal grant approved requiring a \$10,000 match from MRRPC and Crawford County. The original plan was prepared to reduce costs and losses from natural disasters and some manmade disasters. This is an update to the existing plan. Inventories county's vulnerabilities	2016-2018	A grant has been approved by FEMA and the money has been awarded. The grant cycle ends October 30, 2018. A contract with the Planning Commission for an amount not to exceed \$29,000 has been signed. A public hearing explaining the update process was held on 4/27/16. A hazard risk assessment survey was mailed to all municipalities and first responders with a May 31 st deadline for return. Staff has completed updating the demographic information	Dave Bonifas, Planner 608.785.9396 dave@mrrpc.com

		to various types of disasters. The Plan Inventories and maps critical facilities and all structures in floodplains. The Plan Develops projects and strategies to reduce losses from future disasters. Plans must be approved by DHS-FEMA and Wisconsin Emergency Management. Once the updated plan is approved, the county and other participating local governments are eligible for Federal and State Hazard Mitigation Grant programs.		such as populations, land use, employment and updating the risk assessment portion of the plan, i.e. number of times each hazard has occurred within the county and the amount of damage caused by the hazard. In addition, staff has also compiled the returned surveys. A second survey has been sent out to those municipalities which did not return the first survey. A meeting with the Crawford County Land Information Officer was held to discuss updating the structures located within the FEMA 100-year floodplain. Meetings with the County Highway Commissioner, Land Conservation Department, Zoning, have been held to explain the plan and to get potential mitigation projects from these departments. Meetings with incorporated communities which have not responded to the two surveys are still being held. A draft of the plan has been completed and will be presented to the Land Conservation Planning and Zoning Committee for approval to hold a public hearing on the draft.	
9b	Trempealeau County Hazard Mitigation Plan update	Update the Trempealeau County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. \$30,000 federal planning grant approved requiring a \$10,000 match from MRRPC and Trempealeau County. The original was prepared to reduce costs and losses from natural disasters and some manmade disasters. This is an update to the existing plan. The Plan inventories the county's vulnerabilities to various types of disasters. The Plan inventories and maps critical facilities and all structures in floodplains. The Plan develops projects and strategies to reduce losses from future disasters. Plans must be approved by DHS-FEMA and Wisconsin Energy Management. Once the updated plan is approved, the county and other participating local governments are eligible for Federal and State Hazard Mitigation Grant programs.	2016-2018	A grant has been approved by FEMA and the money has been awarded. The grant cycle ends October 30, 2018. A contract between the Planning Commission and Trempealeau County for an amount not to exceed \$28,000 has been signed. A public hearing explaining the update process was held on April 12 th . A hazard risk assessment survey was mailed to all municipalities and first responders with a May 31 st deadline for return. Staff also made a presentation of the updating process at the April 26 th Trempealeau County Towns Association meeting. The plan contains 5 chapters these are: 1) Planning Process; 2) Planning Area; 3) Risk Assessment; 4) Mitigation Planning Strategies and 5) Plan Maintenance and Adoption. Chapter 1 which explains how the plan was developed and who was involved in preparing the plan is approximately 95% completed. Chapter 2 which contains the economic and demographic data for Trempealeau County has been completed. Chapter 3 which identifies all the hazards and lists the historical occurrences along damages for each hazard is approximately 75% done. Chapter 4 which identifies projects which will reduce the loss of life or structures in the event of a natural hazard is approximately 50% completed. Chapter 5 which identifies how the plan will be monitored and updated is approximately 80% completed. A risk assessment survey was created and mailed out the first week of April. A second survey to those communities which have not responded to the first survey was mailed out. Meetings with municipalities which have not responded to the surveys are being scheduled. Meetings with the	Dave Bonifas, Planner 608.785.9396 dave@mrrpc.com

				Cities of Arcadia and Trempealeau have been held, in addition a phone conversation was held with the Town of Arcadia. Staff made a presentation to the Law Enforcement/Emergency Management Committee to update them on the progress of the plan. Staff will be setting up meetings with county staff from highway, public health, and sheriff departments to obtain mitigation ideas from them. The draft plan is approximately 80% completed.	
9c	Monroe County Hazard Mitigation Planning	A grant to DHS-FEMA was written by staff to update the Monroe County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plans are prepared to reduce costs and losses from natural disasters for counties and municipalities. This is an update to the existing plan. The plan inventories the county's vulnerabilities to various types of disasters. Inventories and maps critical facilities and all structures in floodplains. Develops projects and strategies to reduce losses from future disasters. The Plan must be approved by DHS-FEMA and Wisconsin Emergency Management. Once the updated plan is approved, the county and other participating local governments are eligible for Federal and State Hazard Mitigation Grant programs. The total project is in the amount of \$43,744, of which \$32,808 is the grant award and the remaining \$10,936 is a required match.	2016-2018	A contract has been signed and work has begun on this project. Staff has met with the Monroe County Emergency Management Director and a representative from the sheriff's office to work out how the grant will be administered and who will perform what activities. Staff has completed updating the required social – economic data. In addition, 2 surveys have been sent out to all municipalities, first responders, fire departments, and policing departments. A meeting with Monroe County, MRRPC staff and a representative from Fort Mc Coy was held on June 12 th . Staff met with the Monroe County Land Information Officer and obtained base maps for the county. Updating the structures located within the FEMA 100-year floodplain has begun. Staff made a presentation at the Monroe County Towns Association meeting on August 17 th . Staff has also begun updating the risk assessment chapter of the plan. The number of times each hazard has occurred within the county and how much damage has resulted from these events has been collected. Base maps to be used to in the plan have been created. The plan is approximately 45% completed. Wisconsin Emergency Management has contacted the MRRPC and asked to expedite the completion of the plan because of recent flooding.	Dave Bonifas, Planner 608.785.9396 dave@mrrpc.com
9d	Vernon County Hazard Mitigation Plan	A grant to DHS-FEMA was written by staff to update the Vernon County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan and to complete county parcel mapping. The MRRPC will be preparing the plan update and the county will be responsible for completing the parcel mapping. Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plans are prepared to reduce costs and losses from natural disasters for counties and municipalities. This is an update to the existing plan. The plan inventories the county's vulnerabilities to various types of disasters. Inventories and maps critical facilities and all structures in floodplains. Develops projects and		A contract has been signed and work has begun on this project. Staff has met with the Vernon County Emergency Management Director and the Vernon County Land Information Officer to work out how the grant will be administered. Two surveys have been sent out to all municipalities, first responders, fire chiefs and police chiefs. Staff made a presentation at the Vernon County Towns Association meeting on April 27 th . A second set of surveys have been sent out to those who have not responded to the first set of surveys. Staff met with the Vernon County Land Information Officer to discuss mapping needs. Work on updating the structures located in the FEMA 100-year flood plain has been completed. Staff has made a presentation to the Emergency Management Committee on 5/3/18 to explain the updating	Dave Bonifas, Planner 608.785.9396 dave@mrrpc.com

		strategies to reduce losses from future disasters. The Plan must be approved by DHS-FEMA and Wisconsin Emergency Management. Once the updated plan is approved, the county and other participating local governments are eligible for Federal and State Hazard Mitigation Grant programs. The total project is in the amount of \$259,793.98, of which \$40,000 of that amount is for the plan update.		process to new committee members. A draft plan has been completed and presented to the Emergency Management Committee on 10/3/18. A public hearing on the plan was held on November 7 th . A draft of the plan was submitted to Wisconsin Emergency Management after comments from the public hearing were added to the plan. Wisconsin Emergency Management has approved the plan. The Vernon County Emergency Management Committee has recommended approval of the plan by the Vernon County Board. The plan will go before the Vernon County Board on December 18 th for approval.	
9e	Jackson County Hazard Mitigation Plan	Update the Jackson County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. \$30,000 federal grant approved requiring a \$10,000 match from MRRPC and Jackson County. The original plan was prepared to reduce costs and losses from natural disasters and some manmade disasters. This is an update to the existing plan. Inventories county's vulnerabilities to various types of disasters. The Plan inventories and maps critical facilities and all structures in floodplains. The Plan develops projects and strategies to reduce losses from future disasters. Plans must be approved by DHS-FEMA and Wisconsin Emergency Management. Once the updated plan is approved, the county and other participating local governments are eligible for Federal and State Hazard Mitigation Grant programs.	August 2018 through March 2021	Jackson County received notification from FEMA in August that their grant application to update their existing plan has been approved. The final plan is due in March 2021. MRRPC staff has begun updating demographic information for the plan. Also, staff has begun creating a hazard risk assessment survey which will be mailed out to all municipalities, EMS, Fire Departments, Police Departments and various county departments.	Dave Bonifas, Planner 608.785.9396 dave@mrrpc.com
9f	La Crosse County Hazard Mitigation Plan	Update the La Crosse County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. \$31,331 federal grant approved requiring a \$10,444 match from MRRPC and La Crosse County. The original plan was prepared to reduce costs and losses from natural disasters and some manmade disasters. This is an update to the existing plan. Inventories county's vulnerabilities to various types of disasters. The Plan inventories and maps critical facilities and all structures in floodplains. The Plan develops projects and strategies to reduce losses from future disasters. Plans must be approved by DHS-FEMA and Wisconsin Emergency	August 2018 through March 2021	La Crosse County received notification from FEMA in August that their grant application to update their existing plan has been approved. The final plan is due in March 2021. MRRPC staff has begun updating demographic information for the plan. Also, staff has begun creating a hazard risk assessment survey which will be mailed out to all municipalities, EMS, Fire Departments, Police Departments and various county departments.	Dave Bonifas, Planner 608.785.9396 dave@mrrpc.com

		Management. Once the updated plan is approved, the county and other participating local governments are eligible for Federal and State Hazard Mitigation Grant programs.			
9g	Scenic Mississippi Regional Transit (SMRT) bus serving Crawford, Vernon, Monroe, and La Crosse counties	<p>Develop a fixed route public transportation service for Crawford, La Crosse, Monroe and Vernon Counties. Bus transportation will service commuters, elderly, disabled, medical appointments, and personal travel.</p> <p>Projected operating costs for 2018 are approximately \$350,000. Funding comes from a federal DOT grant, local governments, corporate donations and the fare box.</p>	Service Began on December 3, 2012 - present	<p>The SMRT Bus has been operating for over five years in La Crosse, Vernon and Crawford Counties. In 2017 ridership decreased by about 6%. In the first 9 months of 2018 ridership is up by approximately 11% over 2017 ridership.</p> <p>The City of Prairie du Chien has been the administrator of the SMRT Bus since it began operation in 2012. Since the service has grown and expanded primarily north of the City of Prairie du Chien a change in the local unit of government sponsor (administrator) to a more centrally located sponsor was evaluated. Discussions were held with several local unit of government entities about the administration of the SMRT Bus including Vernon and La Crosse counties. In October, La Crosse County approved becoming the local unit of government sponsor for the SMRT Bus beginning in 2019.</p> <p>In addition, since the SMRT Bus has expanded service and is changing local unit of government sponsorship a requirement of the State/Federal DOT grant is that the bus service must be re-bid. The procurement process and rebid was completed in September and October and Running Inc. was selected as the SMRT Bus service provider for the next several years. An evaluation committee comprised of representatives of the four counties was involved in the procurement and bid selection process.</p> <p>The SMRT Bus system is also evaluating the use of electric buses on selected SMRT routes. Capital funding for the purchase of electric buses is more readily available through a pilot program with the WISDOT.</p>	Peter Fletcher, Planner 608.785.9396 peter@mrrpc.com
9h	The Upper Mississippi River Manufacturing Alliance TUMMA Inc. Industry Cluster Initiative	<p>Manufacturing is a priority economic sector because it is a major economic driver of the region. The MRRPC in the past has served a logistical support role by helping convene manufacturers to network in hopes developing joint workforce development services and ventures on new or better products.</p> <p>On November 24, 2015 the Equipment and Metal Manufacturing Association - EMMA voted to change its name and</p>	Continual	<p>A new business Services Coordinator for the Western Wisconsin Workforce Development Board was hired in November 2018. This person also serves as TUMMA's Executive Director. The Business Services Coordinator works directly with technical colleges, universities, Workforce Boards and manufacturers in the region to raise awareness of manufacturing careers and develop workforce development initiatives. Major emphasis will be to increase K-12 students' interests in manufacturing careers. This position is housed in the new Integrated Technology Center on the WTC campus. The position will continue under the same</p>	

		<p>bylaws to TUMMA to invite all manufacturers in the tristate region to join. Its primary focus will be on improving the skill sets and knowledge of the region's manufacturing work force. A TUMMA steering group was established and met regularly. Officer elections were held in January 2016. A fulltime director was hired in February 2016 and resigned in March 2016. Funding for initial position was provided by the Western Wisconsin Workforce Development Board. In June 2016, a \$80,000 Request for Proposals RFP was issued by the Western Wisconsin Workforce Development Board. The RFP was awarded in July to Western Technical College to hire a Business Services Coordinator to assist TUMMA and other industry sectors.</p>		<p>arrangement and continue to be housed at Western Technical College. The last TUMMA Board meeting was at the Trempealeau Valley Cooperative 2.0 Mobile Skills Lab at Whitehall High School. This is a four school – Whitehall, Blair,-Taylor, Arcadia and Independence initiative. With Ashley Furniture providing over \$3 million on the curriculum with the four school districts that enable students to obtain a high school diploma and associates degree at the same time. The associate degree are in collaboration with Gateway, Western, Chippewa Valley, and Fox Valley technical colleges. The Trempealeau Valley Cooperative is looking to grow their program with more high schools. Part of the curriculum includes the Mobile Skills laboratory which includes but is not limited to: Amatrol Training Modules, drafting, blueprint reading, electronics, PLC controls programming, Solid Works modeling, and Fanuc Programming Certification. The curriculum is fully customizable to the student and includes a full Learning Management System to track and allow students online access to the training modules. https://amatrol.com/ The training and technical degree programs are available to all students with the goal for keeping students in the area. Opportunities for other companies exist in sponsorship of the Mobile training facility, annual license fees, student travel, upkeep, etc. Adult training is still in development and how that will work as part of continuous education. The schools are always looking for manufacturing firms for students to tour. The next TUMMA board meeting will be held on December 13, 2018 at WTC. For more information on TUMMA go to: info@tumma.org.</p>	
9i	Contract to Update Comprehensive Plans for Trempealeau County Towns	<p>Trempealeau County contracted with the MRRPC to update the 13 town comprehensive plans and will provide the MRRPC \$2,200 per town to do so. Trempealeau County will be responsible for the mapping. Total contract calls for \$28,600 in funding to MRRPC and completion of all 13 plans by Fall 2018.</p>	<p>June 2016 – December 2018</p>	<p>MRRPC staff completed draft Comprehensive Plan revisions for 13 Towns in Trempealeau County. The revised plans were forwarded to Trempealeau County and the respective Town's for their review and approval. All the Towns have conducted public hearings on their revised comprehensive plans. Minor plan modifications have been made and almost all the plans have been approved. The County is utilizing the information gathered/prepared for the Town plans and is updating the County Comprehensive Plan. The project is nearly completed, and all plans will be completed in 2018.</p>	<p>Peter Fletcher, Planner 608.785.9396 peter@mrrpc.com</p>
9j	Report on the Wisconsin Department of Administration's proposed Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Close	<p>Due to compliance issues and over \$50 million sitting in bank accounts across the state the WI DOA is proposing to terminate the CDBG RLFs in all communities and counties. As an incentive for RLF</p>	<p>This program will be rolled out by WI DOA in August and September.</p>	<p>The Wisconsin Department of Administration is still waiting to get approval from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to roll out this program. Once approved it will be important to attend public meetings that DOA will be sponsoring. Communities and counties</p>	<p>Greg Flogstad, Director 608.785.9396 greg@mrrpc.com</p>

	<p>Grant program involving terminating all CDBG Revolving Loan Funds across the state. Then allowing communities to apply for a guaranteed CDBG grant for the amount of RLF funds returned. GF</p>	<p>communities and counties to participate it will allow counties and communities to apply for a CDBG grant in an amount that is equal to the amount of CDBG funds that are returned. This CDBG grant is guaranteed to be funded. Grants may be for road, water sewer, other public facilities, housing, planning, job training services and centers, food pantries, senior centers, services to the homeless, crime prevention and public safety, child care, health services: substance abuse services-counseling and treatment (opioid treatment), fair housing counseling, education programs, energy conservation, services for senior citizens, and other similar projects approved by DOA. Projects must also benefit a population area that is at least 51% Low and moderate Income.</p>	<p>Communities and counties will have two years to return the funds and apply for CDBG grant for the amount of RLF funds that they returned to the State.</p>	<p>will have two years to determine and apply for projects that are CDBG eligible and provide service to a population that is at least 51% Low and moderate income. Counties that will need to address this program are: Pierce, Pepin, Buffalo, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe and Vernon Counties. Cities and Villages that will have to address this are Tomah, Sparta, Kendall, Hillsboro and Osseo.</p>	
<p>9k</p>	<p>Report on the successful Coulee Region' Business Center and Western Wisconsin Workforce Development Board's Joint Application of \$45,000 to the U.S. Department of Commerce - Economic Development Administration to fund a feasibility study on development of a fabrication lab, food processing, packaging and distribution center and a transitional jobs program to assist persons with barriers to employment.</p>	<p>This feasibility study was funded by EDA for \$45,000 and is being matched by an additional \$45,000 from the City of La Crosse, the CRBC and the La Crosse Industrial Park Corporation, each providing \$15,000. The funding will be used to hire a consultant(s) to research the development of a fab lab, a food processing, packaging and distribution operation and training opportunities for hard to employ persons as well as look for additional space because the Coulee Region Business Center is always at or near full capacity. The MRRPC Director assisted in writing this grant.</p>	<p>2017-2018</p>	<p>The MRRPC wrote a Request for Proposal (RFP) that was mailed out in late November to consultants. The consultants were required to submit their proposals by December 18, 2018. Consultants were interviewed on January 12. Place Dynamics was selected as the consultant and the contract was signed in early February. A steering committee met with the consultant in May and on June 20, to hear about progress, answer questions and provide suggestions. The project is now in its close out phase. The recommendations include: The Coulee Region Business Center located on Kane Street in La Crosse should focus on manufacturing along with some office spaces. The existing manufacturing spaces should be subdivided into smaller spaces to allow for more manufacturers to move into the CRBC. Improvements in internet speed and communication technology in the CRBC should be undertaken to improve the effectiveness and competitiveness of the businesses in the CRBC and to help attract more tenants. A new shared use commercial kitchen and food business incubator should be constructed in a downtown like area, where more customers will frequent these businesses. This shared use commercial kitchen and food business incubator should also be equipped with packing resources to allow users to package their products for over-the-shelf sales in retail outlets. The study also provided a strategic time line for undertaking these projects. A committee comprised of CRBC board members, La Crosse City Planning staff, WTC, LADCO, LIPCO and</p>	<p>Greg Flogstad, Director 608.785.9396 greg@mrrpc.com</p>

				<p>the UWL- SBDC has met and will continue to meet to work on these initiatives to help the CRBC assist entrepreneurs in the region. MRRPC staff will continue to provide assistance where needed to help undertake projects. The US Department of Commerce – EDA funding will likely be sought to undertake some of the projects identified.</p>	
9l	City of Mondovi Comprehensive Plan	Assist Mondovi in having an up-to-date Comprehensive Plan that meets Wisconsin Statutes. Total contract is for \$12,000.	June 2018 – August 2019	<p>Staff met with the City Administrator in November to gather information for creating Mondovi Comprehensive plan maps. A draft plan updating the goals and statistical/demographic information for all planning elements has been completed and sent to the City of Mondovi for their review.</p> <p>Along with updating the comprehensive plan, the City of Mondovi is also evaluating options to replace the City's wastewater treatment plant. The current plant is in very poor condition and in need of replacement. The comprehensive plan will address the wastewater treatment plant options.</p> <p>In the next month or so a finalized draft plan and maps will be completed and public input meeting(s) will be scheduled on the comprehensive plan update to gain resident feedback. It is anticipated the plan update will be completed next Spring.</p>	Peter Fletcher, Planner 608.785.9396 peter@mrrpc.com
9m	Pierce County Community Development Block Grant Revolving Loan Fund	A contract with Pierce County to administer their Community Development Block Grant Revolving Loan Fund has been executed.	Continual	<p>MRRPC staff, WCWRPC and Pierce County EDC staff had a meeting on June 21, 2018 at which time records were transferred to the MRRPC. There were seven active loans at the time of this transfer and since that time the MRRPC has contacted them all and had them complete new ACH fund transfer forms, so payments could be deposited through the MRRPC authorization on a monthly basis. In July J&S Machine paid \$25,000 this paid off their loan in full. As of September 30, 2018, \$163,746 in principal is owed to the fund from the remaining six borrowers and \$1,230,689 in the bank is available for lending.</p>	Greg Flogstad, Director 608.785.9396 greg@mrrpc.com
9n	Report on Regionally Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plans	The Wisconsin Department of Transportation has requested Regional Planning Commissions to assist counties in updating their "Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plans". Plans were originally prepared with assistance from the RPC's. The plans are required by WIDOT for counties to receive state and federal transportation funding. The	February 2018 – December 2018.	<p>The plan update was completed on a regional basis. County plans with regional initiatives were completed and were sent to county representatives for submittal to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. The MRRPC received an email from the WIDOT on November 29, 2018 stating they have plans from each county in the MRRPC region and the project is complete.</p>	Peter Fletcher, Planner 608.785.9396 peter@mrrpc.com

		plans must be updated by October 15, 2018.			
9o	Report on US Dept. Of Commerce-EDA public facility flood disaster grant assistance projects in the cities of La Crosse, Arcadia and Viroqua. DB	EDA was allocated \$587 million in additional funding nation-wide for communities impacted by 2017 natural disasters. Only 11 counties in the Chicago Region are eligible all of these are in Wisconsin and 7 of them are in the MRRPC Region.	Today's meeting	EDA and MRRPC staff has met with the Cities of Arcadia, La Crosse and Viroqua to discuss possible projects. EDA staff has recommended that these communities submit to EDA applications. On September 28 th The City of La Crosse was notified that they were awarded \$3.6 Million from the EDA for storm water lift and booster pumps at three locations in the North Side. The City of Arcadia is applying for approximately \$6 million for new main storm sewer lift station, upgrades to five other lifts stations, and sewer drainage channels to protect Ashley Furniture and it's 3,000 jobs and the City's downtown from flooding should a breach in a new levy that is also part of the project. Viroqua's Project involves developing a new site for the County Highway Shop in an industrial park that will be developed.	Dave Bonifas, Planner 608.785.9396 dave@mrrpc.com