

CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Thursday, June 12, 2025, Annual Meeting Minutes

In-Person Meeting 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Salem Cross Inn, West Brookfield, MA

Attending Officers:

Wally Baker
Andrew Coles
Howard Drobner

Jared Grigg
Robert Hassinger
Otto Lies

Barur Rajeshkumar
Daniel Schur
Timothy Wheeler

Attending Delegates and Alternates:

Brandon Avery
Robert Ceppi
Steven Chambers
Richard Clark

William Cole
John Eul
Michael Gagan
Meg Haight

Andy Jefferson
Eli Laverdiere
Matthew Urban
Conor McCormick

Attending Guests:

Norman Anderson
Kenneth Bedard
Carol Benoit
Stephen Benoit
Irina Blais
Charles Blanchard
Mary Blanchard
Norman Bourgeois
Tammy Bourgeois
Chrys Bouyssou
Jeff Bridges
Jean Bubon
Heather Butler
Ryan Cadrin
Jennifer Callahan
Chris Chenard
John Daniel
Bruce Devault
Kevin Duffy
William Filsinger
Sue Filsinger
Madeline Fore

Jamie Gilman
Andrew Golas
Stephanie Golas
Michael Hager
Jennifer Hager
Kevin Hart
Brian Hickey
Brenda Howland
John Jovan
Dean Kochanowski
Jenee Lacy
Richard LaFond
Jim Lagomarsino
Laura Laverdiere
Jeanne Lynskey
Paul Lynskey
Gregory Lynskey
Kayla Marinelli
Laurent McDonald
Adam Menard
Heather Munroe
Kristofer Munroe

Chris Nichols
Nancy Nichols
Lyndon Nichols
Vivian Poplawski
Lisa Prince
Cheryl Rawinski
Kristin Raymond
Jasmin Rivas
David Robbins
Jeffrey Saad
Susan Salisbury
Nathan Savoie
Tony Sousa
Robert Toupin
Morgan Tran
Melissa Valois
Caitlin Ward
Jacob Weaver
Dale Wickenheiser
Dick Williams
Faye Zukowski

Attending Staff:

Gloria Agossou
Sandy Amoakohene

Zack Blais
Sam Carter

Dominique DuTremble
Joe Ferguson

Matthew Franz
Emily Glaubitz
Marc Granato
Yahaira Graxirena
Dara Griswold
Sherrie Haber
Carli Harris
Ryan Hurley
Jordan Hollinger
Jeff Howland
Evan Karcasinas
Kevin Krasnecky
Sujatha Krishnan
Nathan Lewis

Andrew Loew
Dani Marini-King
Mike Maughan-Brown
Stephanie McKinney
Ethan Melad
Connie Mellis
Sarah O'Brien
Emma O'Connor
John O'Leary
Janet Pierce
Robert Raymond
Connor Robichaud
Rich Rydant
Kerrie Salwa

Anthony Senesi
Trish Settles
Shannon Sullivan
Joseph Sziabowski
Will Talbot
Taru
Stephanie Toupin
Gabe Trevor
Anna Walker
Daniel Ward
Emily Whittaker-Smith
Leah Withers
Adam Wriggins
Jane Wyrick

1. Business Meeting

Chair Drobner opened the business meeting at 6:10 p.m. noting the presence of a quorum.

- *Approval of Minutes:* Bob Hassinger motioned to approve the minutes from the Quarterly Commission Meeting on March 13, 2025. Richard Clark seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.
- *Announcement of Annual Ballot Results:* Having received 22 ballots (1 being disqualified due to both the delegate and alternate submitting ballots), Clerk Timothy Wheeler read aloud the following results from the FY 2026 CMRPC Ballot:
 - *Question #1:* Do you authorize the Commission Treasurer to pay the following recurring items on a regular weekly, monthly or annual schedule during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026?
 1. Staff Salaries and Associated Payroll Withholdings and Benefit Deductions
 2. Postage Costs
 3. Petty Cash
 4. Telephone
 5. Equipment/Leases/Rentals/Loan Payments
 6. Rent
 7. Worker's Comp. and General Insurance
 8. Service/Maintenance Contracts
 9. Miscellaneous Commission Expenses under \$1,000.00
 - 21 Yes, 0 No, 0 Blank
 - *Question #2:* Do you authorize the Commission Treasurer, under the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 40B, section 8, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025?
 - 20 Yes, 1 No, 0 Blank
 - *Question #3:* Do you agree to transfer the following duties and functions to the Executive Committee, consisting of the Commission's six officers and six sub-regional representatives, during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025?

1. Employment of Staff
 2. Retention of Consultants
 3. Applications for Grants
 4. Salary Schedule
 5. Merit Adjustments
 6. Executive Director’s Employment Contract
 7. Disbursement of Funds based on a Warrant
 8. Personnel Policies and Job Descriptions
 9. Revised Program and Budget
 - 21 Yes, 0 No, 0 Blank
- *Question #4:* CMRPC is a member of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO), the body responsible for this area’s transportation planning process and the programming of federal funds for highway and transit projects. The Commission’s Chairperson represents the agency as a signatory to all actions taken by the CMMPO. Do you agree that each year at its Annual Meeting in June within the Annual Ballot process, the CMRPC vote to assign its review and voting privileges to its standing Transportation Planning Committee (T- Committee) on significant CMMPO business; including endorsements of major documents and other significant matters, and action for which motions are made; and further that the Commission Chairperson or his/her designee shall represent the Commission’s interest at the CMMPO meetings?
 - 21 Yes, 0 No, 0 Blank
 - *Question #5:* On occasion, the CMMPO will be required to take quick action on urgent matters in order to meet state or federal deadlines. These may involve unexpected amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), modifications to the Unified Planning Work Program, or other concerns that are normally first reviewed by the Transportation Committee. In the normal course of events, the T-Committee will review such matters and make a recommendation to the Commission regarding its vote as a CMMPO member. During the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, in the event that the Commission is unable to convene to direct the Chairperson’s actions on CMMPO questions, do you authorize the Chairperson, or his/her designee from the Transportation Planning Committee (T- Committee), to act on the Commission’s behalf on matters requiring a CMMPO vote in a manner consistent with the recommendation(s) of the T- Committee?
 - 21 Yes, 0 No, 0 Blank

SLATE OF OFFICERS AND SUB REGIONAL DELEGATES

Commission Officers

Chairperson: Daniel Schur, Westborough	20 yes, 1 blank
Vice Chairperson: Robert Hassinger, Grafton	20 yes, 1 blank
Treasurer: Andrew Coles, Auburn	19 yes, 2 blank
Clerk: Timothy H. Wheeler, Berlin	20 yes, 1 blank

Assistant Treasurer: Howard Drobner, Boylston 20 yes, 1 blank
Assistant Clerk: Barur Rajeshkumar, West Boylston 19 yes, 2 blank

Sub-regional Representatives

Central City: David Quiroa, Worcester 20 yes, 1 blank
Northeast: Julianne Hirsh, Northborough 20 yes, 1 blank
North: Otto Lies, Holden 19 yes, 2 blank
West: Jared Grigg, Spencer 20 yes, 1 blank
Southeast: Mary Bulso, Blackstone 19 yes, 2 blank
Southwest: William Trifone, Dudley 20 yes, 1 blank

2. Adjournment of the Business Meeting:

- Having completed all business, Chair Drobner adjourned the business meeting at 6:20pm

3. Welcome by Janet Pierce, Executive Director

- Ms. Pierce spoke about the past year at CMRPC.

4. Presentation of Awards

The following awards were presented by CMRPC staff who spoke about each recipient’s accomplishments. Recipients were offered an opportunity to speak upon receiving their award.

- Transportation Planning Award: Jennifer Hager, Planning & Economic Development Director, Town of Sutton
- Regional Collaboration Award: Andrew Golas, Town Administrator, Town of Charlton
- Central Region Homeland Security Planning Award: Gregory Lynskey, Communications Center Director, Southern Worcester County Communications Center
- Community Planning Award: Town of Grafton
- Resiliency Planning Award: Town of Oxford

5. Staff Milestones

Ms. Pierce recognized Gabe Trevor for 5 years of service.

Documents:

FY26 Ballot results
Annual Meeting Agenda
FY25 Annual Report
Quarterly Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2025

Respectfully Submitted by Sherrie Haber, CMRPC