



MEETING MINUTES: RPA 1 Transportation Technical Committee  
Thursday, January 19, 2017, 9:30 a.m. - Upper Explorerland RPC, Postville

Board members in attendance: Nick Rissman, Howard County; Brian Ridenour, Allamakee County; Rafe Koopman, Clayton County; Joel Fantz, Fayette County; Lee Bjerke, Winneshiek County.

Others in attendance: Michelle Barness, UERPC.

1. Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Rissman.
2. A motion to approve the 10-13-16 minutes was made by Koopman, seconded by Ridenour, approved unanimously.
3. Annual appointment of Chair: After some discussion Nick Rissman was nominated as Chair. A motion was made by Bjerke, seconded by Ridenour, to appoint Rissman as Chair, all approved.
4. The current federal fund balances were reviewed. They were adjusted based on most recent quarterly reports received from the DOT (through Quarter 1 of FFY 2017). Targets for 2021 have not yet been received from the DOT.

There was discussion regarding the need to update the county funding spreadsheet prior to the March meeting. Chair Rissman agreed to meet with Planner Barness to review and update the spreadsheet as necessary.

5. The committee had some discussion regarding target projections, the road use tax fund, and what amounts county engineers are permitted to program of projected revenues.
6. Barness explained that at the request of the DOT the Transportation Advisory Group (TAG), regional transit and RPA-1 transportation planners would initiate an update to the region's Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP). Barness reviewed a PTP timeline she had provided for the committee to look at.
7. Planner Barness and Committee Chair Rissman reviewed the following FY 2017 TIP administrative modification with the committee:
  - Howard County (TPMS 29472): INCREASE the total project cost of a bridge project from \$250,000 to \$320,000 and FA from \$200,000 to \$256,000. BRS-Co45(80)—60-45
8. There was discussion by the committee regarding TIP administrative modifications and amendments and the application of re-demonstration of fiscal constraint requirements. Bjerke shared regarding a meeting he attended with the DOT to discuss fiscal constraint.
9. The committee discussed several current issues, including possible changes to the state bridge fund, the use of primary road funds on secondary roads, and the pros and cons of federal aid be managed regionally or by the state.
10. The committee reviewed and discussed the following FY 17 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendments:
  - Winneshiek County: **INCREASE** funding for a bridge project for the rehabilitation of BR# 102 from \$344,000 in federal aid to a total of \$400,000 in federal aid. BHOS-Co96(140)--5N-96
  - Winneshiek County: **INCREASE** funding for a bridge project for the extension BR# 105 from \$132,000 in federal aid to a total of \$192,000 in federal aid. BHOS-Co96(141)--5N-96



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11. A motion was made by Fantz, seconded by Koopman, to recommend approval of the FY2017 TIP amendments to the Policy Board. All agreed.
12. Planner Barness initiated a discussion of the draft STBGP application that was provided for the committee to review at the meeting. Chair Rissman explained revisions to the application prioritizing the use of funds for construction, final design, or engineering costs occurring after the federal aid-dictated consultant selection process. There was general agreement among committee members that federal aid funds not be used to fund studies or early conceptual engineering for projects, and that project sponsors be responsible for fronting the cost for these activities as they develop cost estimates for projects. The committee instructed Planner Barness to communicate these criteria in the final STBGP application.  
Koopman suggested that the planner also forward the application to mayors and clerks, in addition to the counties.
13. DOT Updates – The committee agreed to defer the DOT updates to the Policy Board meeting.
14. Floor items:
  - Committee members discussed winter road conditions and road treatments.
15. Committee members discussed the date of the next meeting, which was tentatively set for March 30th, 2017.
16. Rissman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lee. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.