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## Meeting Minutes

### RPA-1 Technical Committee

Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. – Electronic Meeting

This meeting took place via electronic means pursuant to the provisions of the Iowa Open Meetings Law, Section 21.8, Code of Iowa.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was impractical for the Transportation Technical Committee to meet in person. This meeting was open to the public and those in attendance were able to hear the proceedings and provide comments and questions as appropriate. Public notice of the meeting was issued in accordance with Iowa Code Section 21.4.

**Committee Members in attendance:** Nick Rissman (Chair), Howard County Engineer; Jeremy Bril, Decorah City Engineer; Brian Ridenour, Allamakee County Engineer; Joel Fantz, Fayette County Engineer; Rafe Koopman, Clayton County Engineer.

**Committee Members absent:** Vic Kane, Oelwein Utilities Superintendent.

**Others in attendance:** Aaron Detter, UERPC Transportation Planning Administrator.

1. The meeting was called to order by Rissman at 10:03 a.m.
2. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Fantz, seconded by Ridenour, and passed unanimously.
3. A motion to approve the March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting minutes was made by Koopman, seconded by Fantz, and passed unanimously.
4. Detter discussed the role of the Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) and explained that the Board and Committee members had had the chance to review and provide comments; that the document had been out for public review for longer than the minimum 15-day review period; and that he had received no public comments on the document. He explained that the Policy Board would hold a public hearing and presumably adopt the TPWP at their meeting to follow.

Detter also noted that this TPWP had received positive and complimentary feedback from the Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT), noting that the Iowa DOT called it a best-practice example for other planning organizations in the state.

5. Detter provided RPA-1 staff updates on upcoming RPA work products and deadlines, and timelines for the next RPA meetings. He noted that he will submit the approved TPWP to the Iowa DOT by the June 1 deadline. He also noted that he is currently working on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for RPA-1 and will submit the draft to the Iowa DOT by the June 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. He noted that he is in contact with all project sponsors who have projects in the current federal fiscal year (FFY) as well as projects programmed in FFY 2022-2025.

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Committee members discussed a survey that has been put out by the Iowa Pavement Management Program regarding the Road Use Tax Fund and the asset management needs of entities that oversee the maintenance of roads and bridges. Detter noted that the deadline for completing the survey is June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Detter provided an update on the Highway 150 Coalition efforts, noting that the Iowa DOT had accepted funding in the amount of \$100,000 in regional STBG funding from RPA-7/INRCOG and was matching that same funding amount with state funds to go toward a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study of the corridor from I-380 to the southern border of Oelwein/Fayette County.

6. Detter also provided Iowa DOT updates from Krista Billhorn noting that the draft five-year program is available for public review and comment and the Iowa DOT Commission would adopt that in June.

Detter also provided updates on the IA-9 Lansing bridge project and the environmental assessment that is nearing completion. He noted that there will be a live, online public hearing on June 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30. He added that there will be a PowerPoint presentation followed by a live question and answer session, and that questions and comments can be entered online during the meeting or later, or can be mailed or emailed to Krista Billhorn. He also noted that all comments must be received by June 30<sup>th</sup> to be included into the public hearing documentation.

7. As a floor item, Technical Committee members discussed returning to in-person meetings and were generally in favor of doing so with the next meeting.

Ridenour commented that it is good for group event organizers for things such as marathons, bicycle rides, ATV/UTV rides, etc. to inform the County of the dates and times of their planned activities so that the County has a heads-up to take a look at the roads, address any issues, etc. beforehand.

8. Committee members decided to wait and set the next meeting date for July 2021 based on what the Policy Board does.
9. A motion to adjourn was made by Bjerke, seconded by Ridenour, and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m.