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## Meeting Minutes

### RPA-1 Technical Committee

Wednesday, October 20th, 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.

**Members in attendance:** Nick Rissman, Howard County Engineer (Chair); Brian Ridenour, Allamakee County Engineer; Lee Bjerke, Winneshiek County Engineer; Joel Fantz, Fayette County Engineer; Travis Goedken, Decorah City Manager; Vi Kane, Oelwein Streets Superintendent.

**Others in attendance:** Aaron Detter, UERPC Transportation Planning Administrator; Krista Billhorn, Iowa Department of Transportation, District 2; Rodd Marlatt, Fayette County Conservation Board; Jenna Pollock, Clayton County Conservation Board; Mallory Hanson, Fayette County Economic Development and Tourism / NEI RC&D; Lori Egan, NEICAC EARL Transit Director; Jeff Korsmo, Howard County Conservation Board; Barbara Schroeder, Winneshiek County Conservation Board; Sheryl Struthers, Fayette County resident; Ray Peterson, Clayton County Supervisor.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Rissman at 10:08 a.m.

2. Approval of the agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Bjerke, seconded by Ridenour, and passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 meeting minutes

A motion to approve the July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 meeting minutes was made by Bjerke, seconded by Ridenour, and passed unanimously.

4. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendments

Detter noted the two proposed amendments to the FFY 2022 TIP that the Policy Board would be considering at their meeting directly following the Technical Committee.

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Bjerke asked how old the Prairie Springs Trail and the Prairie Farmer Trail are. Korsmo commented that Prairie Springs Trail was constructed in 1998-1999. Billhorn noted that there are several trail maintenance projects going on around the state as many trails are in the 20–25-year-old time frame.

Rissman noted that being able to do maintenance on the older existing trails is great.

A motion to concur with the Enhancement Committee's recommendation was made by Bjerke, seconded by Ridenour, and passed unanimously.

5. FTA Title VI Program

Detter discussed the role of the FTA Title VI Program and explained the updates that were made. He noted that the Policy Board members and committee members had had the chance to review and provide comments. He noted that an update to the document is required at least every three years by the Iowa Department of Transportation, and that he would be submitting the updated document prior to the November 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

6. RPA-1 Staff Updates

Detter provided updates on current projects including the regional trail economic impact assessment that he is close to wrapping up for the Enhancement Committee, as well as ongoing GIS work with the City of Decorah to collect sidewalk and walkability data for the entire city. He noted that is the type of work that other communities might be interested in doing as well, and that it could be done for any type of infrastructure or other features and assets that a community wants to map or analyze.

7. Iowa DOT Updates

Iowa DOT District 2 Planner Krista Billhorn provided updates on construction and maintenance work in the region as well as several planning and engineering studies that are going on in the region.

8. Floor Items

Fantz noted that he will have a TIP amendment soon and that he would coordinate with Detter as needed.

Bjerke asked what anyone had heard about the federal infrastructure bills. He noted that any additional federal funding could result in more federalized projects because the state Swap money would potentially not be sufficient on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

9. Set next meeting date

Committee members decided to wait and see what the Policy Board does. Detter noted that he will coordinate with everyone as needed.

10. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Bjerke, seconded by Fantz, and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.