
Meeting Minutes

RPA-1 Enhancement Committee

Wednesday, July 21st, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

UERPC offices, 134 West Greene Street, Postville, IA

Members in attendance: Jenna Pollock, Clayton County Conservation; Sheryl Struthers, Fayette County resident; Rod Marlatt (Chair), Fayette County Conservation; Barbara Schroeder, Winneshiek County Conservation; Roger Thomas, Clayton County resident; Valerie Reinke, Allamakee County Economic Development and Tourism; Darla Kelchen, Clayton County Development; James Janett, Allamakee County Conservation; Jeff Korsmo, Howard County Conservation; Joshua Johnson, City of Oelwein Parks Superintendent; Craig Fencil, Howard County Conservation; Andy Kelleher, Main Street Lansing.

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

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Marlatt at 9:03 a.m.

2. Approval of the agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Reinke, seconded by Kelchen, and passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the May 19th meeting minutes

A motion to approve the May 19th, 2021 meeting minutes was made by Struthers, seconded by Pollock, and passed unanimously.

4. RPA-1 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Detter discussed the role of the TIP and explained its development process. He noted that the Policy Board members and committee members had had the chance to review and provide comments and that the document had been out for public review for longer than the minimum 15-day review period. He informed the committee members that he had received no public comments on the document.

5. RPA-1 Staff Updates

Detter provided RPA-1 staff updates on completed RPA work products and deadlines, and timelines for the next RPA meetings. He noted that, once approved, he will submit the final TIP document to the Iowa DOT by the July 23rd deadline.

Detter noted that work has progressed on the regional trail economic impact analysis and that he would be sharing a document with the committee members to review soon.

Detter notified committee members that UERPC will be updating the regional trail map in the coming months, and hopes to include a new feature which is inset maps of some of the other trails in the region that are not part of the Backbone system.

Detter informed committee members of a new funding opportunity which is special CDBG funding specifically for Covid/pandemic-related projects, which is funded through the Cares Act. He explained some of the eligible projects and parameters.

6. Iowa DOT Updates

Detter read Iowa DOT updates that had been provided to him by Iowa DOT District 2 Planner Krista Billhorn.

7. Floor Items

Committee members provided updates on projects.

Pollock noted that RAGBRAI is coming up and discussed the growing popularity of mountain bikes on the ride. She also noted that she gets comments and complaints from the public that road bikes are not using the Motor Mill Trail and are riding on the road. She said it is a matter of educating members of the public that because the Motor Mill Trail is gravel and not paved, it may not be suitable for all types of bicycles and people have the right to ride on the road if they choose.

8. Set next meeting date

Committee members decided to wait and see what the Policy Board does.

9. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Reinke, seconded by Kelchen, and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.