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## MEETING MINUTES

### RPA-1 Technical Committee

Thursday, September 19, 2019, 10:00 a.m. – Upper Explorerland RPC, Postville, Iowa

**Committee members in attendance:** Joel Fantz, Fayette County Engineer; Brian Ridenour, Allamakee County Engineer; Vic Kane, City of Oelwein; Chad Bird, City of Decorah; Nick Rissman, Howard County Engineer; Rafe Koopman, Clayton County Engineer.

**Others in attendance:** Aaron Detter, UERPC Transportation Planning Administrator; Dylan Mulfinger, Oelwein City Administrator; Ray Peterson, Clayton County; Jerry Steven, Howard County; Krista Billhorn, Iowa DOT District 2; Janell Bradley, Fayette County; Rachelle Howe, UERPC Executive Director.

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Rissman.
2. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Fantz, seconded by Bird, and passed unanimously.
3. A motion to approve the July 9, 2019 meeting minutes was made by Kane, seconded by Ridenour, and passed unanimously.
4. Regarding FFY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendments, Detter explained that there are three proposed amendments to the FFY 2020 TIP which has already been adopted by the Policy Board but does not go into effect until October 1, 2019 and that these amendments are to that TIP, not the current TIP. Fantz provided updates on a Fayette County bridge project and a Winneshiek County bridge project and the need to adjust the bidding dates so that those projects can be bid together. Detter added that nothing else would be changed about the projects, the amendments just add them to the FFY 2020 TIP, programmed in that same year. Detter then provided information on the third amendment to the FFY 2020 TIP, a pavement rehabilitation project on Locust Road in the City of Decorah, explaining that the amendment updated the total project cost to reflect engineer's estimates that the City has received, to change the STBG funding to STBG-Swap funding while keeping the amount the same, and to adjust the project limits to reflect different options the City is considering. A motion to recommend approval of the amendments was made by Fantz, seconded by Koopman, and passed unanimously.
5. Regarding the Long-range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Detter explained the year-long plan development process, public engagement activities including public surveys and plan workshops in each of the five counties. He explained that he has coordinated with Iowa DOT to ensure that the plan meets all state and federal requirements for statewide, non-metropolitan planning and that members of the Policy Board and its advisory committees have been involved in reviewing the plan and have reviewed the final draft, and that the draft document has been available for public review for 15 days. Committee members discussed the plan and

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commented that there was some data that was taken from the Iowa DOT verbatim but which featured a few inaccuracies that need to be corrected, as well as noting that Mississippi River bridges ought to be specifically included as regional priorities. Fantz recommended that since members were staying to attend the Policy Board meeting afterward, Committee members could discuss their comments with the Policy Board rather than make a motion.

6. Detter provided additional updates to Committee members including an update on the regional trail economic impact study that UERPC planner Michelle Barness is working on and a reminder of the October 1 due date for Federal Recreational Trails and Statewide TAP funds. He also informed the Committee of the new EARL Transportation Director at NEICAC, Lori Egan, and that Russell Loven has resigned from his involvement with the Enhancement Committee.
7. Billhorn provided updates on Iowa DOT construction and maintenance in the region, noting the US 18 resurfacing project in/near Postville would wrap up this year and that the resurfacing of Iowa 9 from Waukon to Lansing will take place in 2020. She added that the process for identifying the preferred alternative for the Iowa 9 bridge in Lansing is proceeding.
8. Detter initiated a discussion with Committee members on proposed changes to Iowa DOT pavement data collection, going from collecting local road pavement data every two years to collecting every four years and allowing local entities to opt-in and pay for the two-year data collection in the middle of the four-year collection cycle. Committee members discussed and arrived at a consensus that a four-year collection cycle would suffice for how they use the data for our region.
9. As a floor item, Koopman asked if anyone had any agenda items for the Six-County Supervisors and Engineers meeting the next week. Bradley noted that she thought it would be nice if Winneshiek County Supervisor Dean Thompson could give a brief presentation and discussion of their efforts to work with University of Iowa research students on the issue of mining for certain minerals in Winneshiek County. Ridenour discussed the ongoing issues that are raised by ATV/UTV users in Allamakee County and how this affects the Great River Road and other scenic byways. Billhorn discussed the state's involvement with the ATV/UTV issue.
10. Committee members discussed the next meeting date and decided they will defer to what the Policy Board decides.
11. A motion to adjourn was made by Ridenour, seconded by Bird, and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.