



MEETING MINUTES: RPA 1 Transportation Enhancement Committee
Thursday, October 19, 2017, 8:30 a.m.
Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission, Postville

Committee members in attendance: Ray Peterson, Elaine Govern, Craig Fencil, Sheryl Struthers, Barb Schroeder, Mallory Hanson, Joshua Johnson, Bruce Palmborg, Rod Marlatt, Kenny Slocum, Rachelle Howe and Michelle Barness.

1. Meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Chair Marlatt.
2. Motion to approve the agenda was made by Struthers, seconded by Schroeder, all approved.
3. A motion to approve the 8-24-17 minutes was made by Struthers, seconded by Schroeder, all approved.
4. Committee Updates:
 - o Allamakee County:
 - o Driftless Visitor Center – There has been good visitor attendance – up to 60 visitors a day and weekends stay busy. The centers has been incorporated into a larger system of interpretive centers along the Mississippi River.
 - o Clayton County:
 - o Motor Mill Trail – they are working on non-DOT route trail alignments.
 - o Fayette County:
 - o TRRC – There was an October 17th bridge letting for winter work. Taylor was the winning bid at around \$817,000. They will also pursue an Iowa Great Place grant to finish bridge construction.
 - o Howard County:
 - o Wapsi Trail – the Howard County share of the WGWL Trail is complete now. Total cost was approximately 1.1 million for about 7 ½ miles. Howrey construction got the trail project. The trail was part asphalt and part concrete, approximately 5” thick and 8 ft. wide. There was a September 29th ribbon cutting on the trail with the Board of Supervisors from both counties, and conservation board and trail committee members. May 5th will be the official public opening, including activities, entertainment and a marathon. Amenities are still being completed along the trail, and a culvert needs to be fixed.
 - o Winneshiek County:
 - o Trout Run Trail – There is a January letting for work on the trail.
 - o In August Rotary had a successful trail ride for ATVs and the elderly/disabled. 135 people attended.
 - o Oelwein:
 - o Crack sealing is being completed on the city trail. They are adding additional signage as well.
 - o They are getting a DNR street tree inventory completed.
5. Barness reviewed outcomes from the October 18th Transportation Summit with the committee.



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6. Barness discussed the new TAP application process. She shared information from the DOT regarding funding details, project selection, communication requirements, project development, and programming details. The committee asked whether projects for 2021 – 2022 funds should be identified for those years then moved up via modification / amendment later if necessary, or whether projects applying for 2021/2022 funds can identify an earlier date from the start. Barness to follow-up and let the committee know.
7. Barness shared information regarding the Federal Aid Swap shared by Stuart Anderson at the September 19th DOT RPA/MPO quarterly meeting. The committee requested Barness draft a letter to the DOT asking that they support a similar swap for TAP in the future.
8. There was discussion regarding the Backbone Trail Study. The committee decided to do a one season survey in early summer of 2018. Surveys will be done by passing hard copies out at local retail/business and public locations, by having a tablet survey at trail locations on a set date, and by providing the option of an online survey. Barness is to follow-up with the committee regarding whether sub-committees will be formed for the Backbone Trail Study.
9. Floor items: Schroeder invited the committee to attend a REAP meeting the evening of October 19th from 6:30 – 8 pm at the Dairy Center.
10. Barness will follow-up with committee members regarding setting the date for the next meeting.
11. Struthers made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Govern. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.