

MEETING NOTES: RPA 1 Transportation Technical Committee
 Thursday, March 20, 10:30 a.m. - Upper Explorerland RPC, Postville

Committee members in attendance: Nick Rissman, Howard County; Lee Bjerke, Winneshiek County; Brian Ridenour, Allamakee County; Rafe Koopman, Clayton County; Tom Stewart, Oelwein

Others in attendance: Larry Gibbs, Clayton County; Don Arendt, Decorah, Tim Engelhardt, Clayton County Conservation; Rod Marlatt, Fayette County Conservation; Karla Organist, UERPC

1. Meeting called to order at 10:30 a.m.
2. Motion to approve the January 14, 2014 minutes was made by Bjerke, seconded by Rissman, approved unanimously
3. Report on TIP administrative modifications made since last meeting:
 - Winneshiek County BROS-C096(123)—8J-96; moved the project within the four-year scope of the TIP – from FFY15 to FFY14. Did not affect fiscal restraint.
 - Winneshiek County BROS-C096(122)—8J-96 was originally programmed with a total project cost of \$260,000 w/ federal aid of \$208,000. It has now been changed to a total project cost of \$275,000 w/ federal aid of \$220,000. The change in the project cost is less than 30%, allowing the change to be processed as an administrative modification
4. Long Range Transportation Plan:
 - Committee reviewed public comments to date and discussed proposed change (based on public comment) from the Enhancement Committee’s meeting. The Tech committee agreed to the Enhancement Committee’s recommendation to change to one goal and the addition of two objectives under Roads and Bridges:
 - Goal: Roads and bridges bring economic value to the region by providing transportation linkages for the transport of agricultural, commercial and industrial goods, as well as tourists and travelers
 - Added Objectives:
 - Maintain and improve access roads to tourist and recreational destinations
 - Consider efforts to improve and maintain Scenic Byway roadways
 - A motion was made by Koopman, seconded by Bjerke to recommend that the Board Adopt the Long Range Transportation Plan as presented, all approved.
5. STP applications were reviewed and discussed. Each project sponsor presented their project(s) for consideration. Project requests totaled \$15,474,769.60 and included:

Applicant:	STP Request:	Project:
Allamakee County	\$2,400,000.00	STP-C003(X16)--5E-03 (3" asphalt overlay)
Allamakee County	\$2,560,000.00	STP-C003(A26)--5E-03 (6" concrete overlay)
Allamakee County	\$1,680,000.00	STP-C003(A16)--5E-03 (4" asphalt overlay)
City of Oelwein	\$286,769.60	2nd Street SE - milling, HMA, curb & gutter
Clayton County	\$1,760,000.00	Garber Road Grading
Clayton County	\$3,360,000.00	Great River Rd Dowel Bar retrofit and PCC overlay
Howard County	\$1,800,000.00	A46 PCC Overlay
UERPC/RPA 1	\$28,000.00	RPA Planning, Technical Assistance, Administration
Winneshiek County	\$1,600,000.00	BLUFF 114-3 HMA overlay

After thorough discussion of the projects and consideration of the available funding, a motion was made by Koopman, seconded by Ridenour, to recommend the Howard County A46 PCC Overlay project and the Upper Explorerland planning/TA and Admin application to the Policy Board for inclusion in the FFY 15-18 TIP. All but Bjerke voted in favor of the motion, motion passed. The committee spent some time then discussing the potential benefit and/or detriment of carrying a balance forward. Hearing no new motions, committee moved on to the next item.

6. The Enhancement Committee's recommendations for funding were reviewed and discussed. After some discussion, a motion was made by Bjerke, seconded by Rissman, to recommend the Enhancement Committee's project choices to the Policy Board. All approved.
7. DOT Updates:
 - Regional staff waiting for lettings on spring projects – have been working on maintenance issues in the area – pothole filling
 - Reminder of the Federal Aid overview seminar scheduled for May 12 in Ames. This seminar provides a complete overview of the entire Federal-aid project development and construction process – project sponsors are encouraged to attend.
 - DOT Commission will be reviewing state projects in May, then approving in June so that they will be included in our draft TIP due June 15th.
 - Fuel tax increase at state level not looking very promising
 - MAP-21 expires on September 30. Usually backfilled with general funds, but not a certainty given the climate in WA. The Highway Trust Fund is nearly broke, and senior DOT officials say they may have to slow down reimbursements to state and local governments as soon as July.
8. Floor Items:
 - TAP-FLEX split recommendation. After some discussion, the committee decided to recommend that the Policy Board keep the split at 20% TAP and 80% STP.
9. Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.