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MEETING MINUTES: RPA 1 Transportation Policy Board  
Tuesday, March 6, 2012, 2:30 p.m.  
Upper Explorerland RPC, Postville

Board members in attendance: Jan McGovern, Howard County; Don Arendt, City of Decorah; John Logsdon, Winneshiek County alternate; Larry Gibbs, Clayton County; Vicki Rowland, Fayette County; Larry Schellhammer, Allamakee County

Others in attendance: Nick Rissman, Howard County; Lee Bjerke, Winneshiek County; JD King, Fayette County; Brian Ridenour, Allamakee County; Rafe Koopman, Clayton County; Tom Stewart, City of Oelwein; Ron McCartney, Clayton County; Krista Rostad, IDOT; Karla Organist, UERPC

1. Meeting was called to order at 2:55 p.m.
2. After introductions, a motion to approve the agenda was made by Gibbs, seconded by Arendt, approved unanimously
3. Motion to approve the 10-25-11 minutes was made by Arendt, seconded by Rowland, approved unanimously
4. Election of officers for Policy Board:
  - Jan McGovern was nominated for the position of Chair. A motion to elect Jan McGovern as Policy Board Chair was made by Gibbs, seconded by Rowland, and approved unanimously.
  - Larry Gibbs was nominated for the position of Vice Chair. A motion to elect Larry Gibbs as Policy Board Vice Chair was made by Schellhammer, seconded by Arendt, and approved unanimously.
  - Vicki Rowland was nominated for the position of Secretary. A motion to elect Vicki Rowland as Policy Board Secretary was made by Arendt, seconded by Schellhammer, and approved unanimously.
5. Motion to open the Public Hearing to consider the amendment of the 2012 TIP was made by Arendt and seconded by Rowland at 2:59 p.m. Motion approved unanimously.
6. The Board and public held discussion regarding the following Allamakee projects and were provided with an overview of the projects and an explanation of why a TIP amendment was required by Allamakee County Engineer, Brian Ridenour.
  - Allamakee CRD: MRT Trail: X-42 to Clayton County Line (EDP-C003(046)--7Y-03)
  - Allamakee CRD: X-52: B-25 Intersection to IA 76 South (STP-S-C003(52)--5E-03)Hearing no further public comment, and having received no written public comments, a motion to close the public hearing was made by Arendt, seconded by Schellhammer, and was approved unanimously.
7. A motion to approve and adopt the aforementioned 2012 TIP project amendments was made by Gibbs, seconded by Rowland, and approved unanimously.
8. In additional TPMS changes, a motion was made by Gibbs to approve an administrative modification to move Fayette County project, initially approved last year, into the 2012 TIP (BROS-CO33(107)-5F-33). Motion was seconded by Schellhammer and approved unanimously.

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9. State and federal policy update (Krista Rostad)
    - There will be a public hearing in Mason City on March 8<sup>th</sup> to gather comment on the state's Long Range Transportation Plan. Comments are also being accepted online.
    - Both the house and senate have been struggling with federal transportation bills. It is unknown if there will be anything passed by March 31<sup>st</sup>, the date that the current extension expires, so we may be looking at another extension.
    - The IDOT is currently seeking efficiencies in RUTF and is looking at ways to swap out federal dollars (STP monies) for state dollars so that counties can have some relief from onerous and more costly federal requirements that come with federal funds. This would take a change in administrative code, so the DOT is seeking this change to allow them the flexibility to explore this option further. There would be many details to be worked out prior to this swap becoming a reality.
    - Also a reminder to trail groups not to begin negotiations on right-of-way if they are planning on using any federal funds – there is a specific process that must be adhered to.
  10. After some discussion regarding the Enhancement and Tech committees' recommendation that Winneshiek County Conservation be awarded \$167,000 for a regional ENH project in 2016, plus a portion of the funds returned by the City of Postville for a total of \$191,000, a motion was made by Arendt to accept the recommendations of the committees to include this project in the 2016 TIP. Motion was seconded by Rowland and approved unanimously.
  11. After some discussion regarding the Tech committee recommendations that 3 regional STP projects be included in the TIP: City of Garnavillo, \$400,000; City of Decorah, \$900,000; and Clayton County, \$1,964,000 (for FY 2014), a motion was made by Schellhammer to accept the recommendations of the Tech committee. Motion was seconded by Arendt and approved unanimously.
  12. Transportation planning update was provided by Karla:
    - The Passenger Transportation Plan was submitted Feb 1 and word has been received that the plan was accepted. The final plan with updated TPMS information will be submitted by April 1. The PTP draft was provided to the Policy Board, along with an updated committee roster. It was shared that NEICAC would be seeking funds (and putting in the match) to hire a Mobility Manager for our region.
    - Other plan due dates: TPWP, first draft due April 1 and final due June 1; DOT/RPA contract follows; TIP, first draft due June 15 and final due July 15; LRTP will be picked up again this summer, hopefully completed (or nearly) this fall.
  13. Floor Items – An update was provided on the Enhancement Committee's interest in seeking one big disbursement from the federal government to complete what it is being called the "backbone" of the trail system in Northeast Iowa.
  14. Next meeting – Karla will send out a Doodle Poll – expect a couple of meetings prior to July 15<sup>th</sup>.
  15. Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Arendt, seconded by Gibbs, and approved unanimously, meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.
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