

---

## Meeting Minutes

### RPA-1 Transportation Policy Board

Thursday, January 20th, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. – Electronic Meeting

This meeting took place via electronic means pursuant to the provisions of the Iowa Open Meetings Law, Section 21.8, Code of Iowa.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was impractical for the Transportation Policy Board to meet in person. This meeting was open to the public and those in attendance were able to hear the proceedings and provide comments and questions as appropriate. Public notice of the meeting was issued in accordance with Iowa Code Section 21.4.

**Members in attendance:** Janell Bradley, Fayette County (Chair, incoming); Lorraine Borowski, City of Decorah; Mark Vick (Chair, appointed), Winneshiek County; Ray Peterson, Clayton County; Larry Schellhammer, Allamakee County.

**Members Absent:** Dean Eastman, Howard County; Brett DeVore/Dylan Mulfinger, City of Oelwein.

**Others in attendance:** Aaron Detter, UERPC Transportation Planning Administrator; Krista Billhorn, Iowa Department of Transportation, District 2; Jenna Pollock, Clayton County Conservation Board; Lori Egan, NEICAC EARL Transit Director; Joel Fantz, Fayette County Engineer.

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Bradley.

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

A motion to nominate Vick as Chair and Borowski as Vice Chair was made by Schellhammer, seconded by Peterson, and passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Borowski, seconded by Schellhammer, and passed unanimously.

4. Approval of the October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting minutes

A motion to approve the October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting minutes was made by Schellhammer, seconded by Bradley, and passed unanimously

5. Public Hearing: Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment (details below)

The public hearing was opened by Vick.

Detter provided a summary of the proposed TIP amendment, making funding changes to Project# BROS-C033(77)--8J-33, 240th Street Bridge Replacement, sponsored by Fayette County.

Hearing no comments from members of the public, the hearing was closed by Vick.

6. Consideration and possible board action: Approval of TIP amendment

A motion to approve the amendment was made by Bradley, seconded by Schellhammer, and passed unanimously

7. STBG and Iowa's TAP application cycle (FFY 2026 funding)

Detter explained the application process for the current call for STBG and Iowa's TAP funding for programming in federal fiscal year 2026. He noted that approximately \$2.2 million in STBG funding and \$133,000 in Iowa's TAP funding is expected to be available, and applications are due February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

8. RPA-1 Staff Updates

Detter provided RPA and general transportation updates including:

- Trails economic impact assessment in the news
- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)
- Decorah Sidewalk GIS work
- Processing the TIP amendment (Fayette County 240th Street Bridge Replacement)
- UERPC office consolidation at Decorah building

9. NEICAC/EARL Transit Updates

Egan provided NEICA/EARL Transit updates including:

- Continuing staffing and driver shortage; impacting services, especially related to medical transpots; just yesterday had to turn away 19 trips.
- Federal mask mandate for transit remains in place.
- Working with Fayette County public health to address access to mental health services; have a similar program in Allamakee County.
- Working to provide Covid vaccination trips in Fayette County at no cost.

10. Iowa DOT Updates

Billhorn provided Iowa DOT updates including:

- Commission Tours and Input meetings proposed, to be final in February:
  - i. April - Council Bluffs
  - ii. June - Iowa City
  - iii. August – Sioux City

---

iv. October – Des Moines

- \$50.9M Amendment to the 5yr Program includes project in Clayton County:
  - i. IA 13 Resurfacing, intermittent over dowel bar retrofit, from IA 56 in Elkader south to Strawberry Point. Rural sections only, full pavement width, including the existing 4 foot shoulders and rumble strips.
- Iowa's TAP statewide funds awarded to INRCOG and Upper Explorerland – Safe Routes Partnership \$221,050
- State Long Range Transportation Plan to be release in late February with a 45-day comment period
  - i. Emphasis areas: asset management and “right-sizing”; emphasis on super twos; PEL studies
- IJIA – Discussion of implications for Swap funding

Borowski voiced thanks for SRTS funding and the SRTS work that UERPC does.

Fantz asked Billhorn a question about the letting schedule of a couple of projects. Billhorn noted that the lettings would probably be in March for the upcoming construction season.

11. Floor Items

Schellhammer asked if any other communities applied to host RAGBRAI. Vick noted that there have been talks of Calmar, but nothing official yet. Borowski noted that Decorah was considered but it was the same weekend as Nordic Fest so not practical this time around. Bradley said that Fayette County did a letter of support for West Union.

12. Set next meeting date

Detter noted that the next meeting would be in mid- to late March to accommodate the STBG and Iowa's TAP application cycle, and as usual he will contact everyone about amonth in advance to schedule the meeting.

13. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Borowski, seconded by Schellhammer, and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.