
Meeting Minutes

RPA-1 Transportation Policy Board

Wednesday, October 20th, 2021 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); Lorraine Borowski, City of Decorah; Mark Vick, Winneshiek County; Dean Eastman, Howard County; Larry Schellhammer, Allamakee County.

Members Absent: Ray Peterson, Clayton 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; Rodd Marlatt, Fayette County Conservation Board; Jenna Pollock, Clayton County Conservation Board; Mallory Hanson, Fayette County Economic Development and Tourism / NEI RC&D; Lori Egan, NEICAC EARL Transit Director; Jeff Korsmo, Howard County Conservation Board; Barbara Schroeder, Winneshiek County Conservation Board; Lee Bjerke, Winneshiek County Engineer; Nick Rissman, Howard County Engineer; .

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Bradley at 11:05 a.m.

2. Approval of the agenda

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

3. Approval of the July 21st, 2021 meeting minutes

A motion to approve the July 21st, 2021 meeting minutes was made by Eastman, seconded by Vick, and passed unanimously.

4. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendments

Bradley opened the public hearing for the TIP amendments.

Detter outlined the two proposed amendments to the FFY 2022 TIP. (Project details are included at the end of these minutes).

Hearing no comments or questions from those present, Bradley closed the public hearing.

5. Board action: Approval of Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendments

A motion to approve both amendments to the FFY 2022 TIP was made by Vick, seconded by Schellhammer, and passed unanimously.

6. FTA Title VI Program

Detter discussed the role of the FTA Title VI Program and explained the updates that were made. He noted that board and committee members had had the chance to review and provide comments. He explained that an update to the document is required at least every three years by the Iowa Department of Transportation, and that he would be submitting the updated document prior to the November 1st deadline.

A motion to approve Resolution 2021 – 04, a resolution to approve the RPA-1 Title VI Program, was made by Eastman and seconded by Borowski. A rollcall vote was taken by Detter with all members present voting aye. The resolution passed unanimously.

7. RPA-1 Staff Updates

Detter provided updates on current projects including the regional trail economic impact assessment that he is close to wrapping up for the Enhancement Committee, as well as ongoing GIS work with the City of Decorah to collect and analyze sidewalk and walkability data for the entire city. He noted that the GIS project with Decorah is the type of work that other communities might be interested in doing as well, and that it could be done for any type of infrastructure or other assets that a community wants to map or analyze.

8. NEICAC/EARL Transit Updates

NEICAC/EARL Transit Director Lori Egan provided updates on the ongoing driver transit driver shortage, which is a state and national issue, as well as an upcoming driver safety training. She noted that they are looking at possibly decreasing some of the in-town service and that they would have public hearings if any changes are to be made.

9. Iowa DOT Updates

Iowa DOT District 2 Planner Krista Billhorn provided updates on construction and maintenance work in the region as well as several planning and engineering studies that are going on in the region.

10. Floor Items

Board members did not raise any floor items.

11. Set next meeting date

Board members decided to wait and let Detter coordinate with everyone as needed.

12. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Borowski, seconded by Schellhammer, and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

The approved amendments to the FFY 2022-2025 TIP are as follows:

- **Amendment 1: Adding current/programmed project to the FFY 2022-2025 TIP**
 - Project# TAP-R-C096(--8T-96, Dry Run Trail Bridge #1, sponsored by Winneshiek County Conservation Board, is programmed in FFY 2021 of the RPA-1 FFY 2021-2024 TIP.
 - Project funding: STBG-TAP (federal) funding of \$423,000; local funding of \$377,000; total project cost is \$800,000.
 - The amendment will add the project, exactly as currently programmed, to the FFY 2022-2025 TIP in FFY 2022.
 - Amendment is proposed to accommodate project development schedule.
- **Amendment 2: Adding new project to the FFY 2022-2025 TIP**
 - The Prairie Springs and Prairie Farmer Recreational Trails Resurfacing and Culvert Replacement Project, sponsored by Howard County Conservation Board, is a new project recently awarded special COVID-19 federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funding in FFY 2022.
 - Project funding: RTP (federal) funding of \$1,061,832; local funding of \$276,638; total project cost is \$1,338,470
 - The amendment will add this new project to the FFY 2022-2025 TIP in FFY 2022.

APPROVED