
Meeting Minutes

RPA-1 Transportation Enhancement Committee

Wednesday, July 13th, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

UERPC, 325 Washington St., Decorah

Members in attendance: Rod Marlatt, Fayette County Conservation Board (Chair); Val Reinke, Allamakee County Economic Development; Roger Thomas, Clayton County; Jenna Pollock, Clayton County Conservation Board; Sheryl Struthers, Fayette County; Joshua Johnson, City of Oelwein; Andy Kelleher, Lansing Main Street; Darla Kelchen, Clayton County Development Group; Elaine Govern, Howard County; Jarred Olson, Allamakee County Conservation Board (alternate).

Members absent: James Janett, Allamakee County Conservation Board; Barbara Schroeder, Winneshiek County Conservation Board; Jeff Korsmo, Howard County Conservation Board; Craig Fencil, Howard County Conservation Board; Brian Fuhrmann, City of Decorah; Stephanie Fromm, Winneshiek County Development, Inc.

Others in attendance: Aaron Detter, UERPC Transportation Planning Administrator; Mallory Hanson, Northeast Iowa RC&D.

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Marlatt

2. Approval of the agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Struthers, seconded by Reinke, and passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the May 25th, 2022 meeting minutes

A motion to approve the May 25th, 2022 meeting minutes, with noted corrections, was made by Struthers, seconded by Thomas, and passed unanimously.

4. FFY 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Detter explained that the TIP would be up for consideration for adoption at the Policy Board meeting to follow at 11:00 a.m. He noted that he had coordinated with project sponsors to verify information and that the document had been reviewed by Iowa DOT and had been out for public comment for the required 15-day review period. Pending approval by the Policy Board, he said he would be submitting the final TIP to Iowa DOT ahead of the July 15th deadline.

A motion to recommend approval of the RPA-1 FFY 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to the Policy Board was made by Pollock, seconded by Struthers, and passed unanimously.

5. SFY 2023 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) amendment

RPA-1 Policy Board

Lorraine Borowski, City of Decorah; Brett DeVore, City of Oelwein; Larry Schellhammer, Allamakee County; Ray Peterson, Clayton County; Janell Bradley, Fayette County; Dean Eastman, Howard County; Mark Vick, Winneshiek County

Detter explained the proposed amendment to the TPWP to add \$20,000 in regional Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds and \$5,000 local matching funds to the approved SFY 2023 TPWP. He noted that the funds were awarded to the City of Lansing by the Transportation Policy Board to complete a Highway 9/Main Street Vision Plan and that, because the City of Lansing desires to work with UERPC on the project, Iowa DOT's recommendation was to add the project to the TPWP and budget.

Detter noted that the proposed amendment had been reviewed and approved by Iowa DOT and appropriate federal agencies, had been out for public comment for the required 15-day review period, and would be up for consideration for approval at the Policy Board meeting to follow at 11:00 a.m.

No action taken.

6. Destination Iowa Grant Opportunity

Several members discussed the possibility of submitting a group application in partnership for the Destination Iowa grant program, noting that the potential application would include multiple shovel-ready projects in the region. Members discussed the possibility of UERPC being the "umbrella" applicant/grantee. Detter noted that he'd need to discuss internally and do a bit more research on the grant requirements.

A motion to support the group application for a multi-trail Destination Iowa grant was made by Kelchen, seconded by Govern, and passed unanimously.

7. Floor Items

Pollock noted that Clayton County's engineer had announced his resignation and the County would be looking to hire a new engineer.

Members discussed having a work session to discuss the TAP application scoring process and procedures sometime before the next meeting in October.

8. Set next meeting date

Detter noted the timeline of mid-to-late October for the next meetings and that he will coordinate as usual with the Board and committees.

9. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Kelchen, seconded by Olson, and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.