
Meeting Minutes

RPA-1 Transportation Policy Board

Wednesday, July 13th, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.

UERPC, 325 Washington St., Decorah

Members in attendance: Janell Bradley, Fayette County (remote); Ray Peterson, Clayton County (remote); Mark Vick (Chair), Winneshiek County; Larry Schellhammer, Allamakee County; Dean Eastman, Howard County.

Members Absent: Lorraine Borowski, City of Decorah; Dylan Mulfinger, City of Oelwein.

Others in attendance: Aaron Detter, UERPC Transportation Planning Administrator; Krista Billhorn, Iowa DOT District 2 Planner (remote); Jenna Pollock, Clayton County Conservation Board; Rod Marlatt, Fayette County Conservation Board; Barbara Schroeder, Winneshiek County Conservation Board; Mallory Hanson, Northeast Iowa RC&D; Lori Egan, NEICAC/EARL Transit; Jeremy Bril, Decorah City Engineer.

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of the agenda

Detter noted that EARL Transit and Iowa DOT did not have stand-alone items this time, but their updates and any questions for them could be included under floor items.

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

3. Approval of the June 14th, 2022 meeting minutes

A motion to approve the June 14th, 2022 meeting minutes was made by Eastman, seconded by Bradley, and passed unanimously.

4. Public Hearing: FFY 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Vick opened the public hearing.

Detter explained that he had coordinated with project sponsors to verify information and that the TIP 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.

Hearing no public comments, Vick closed the public hearing.

A motion to approve the RPA-1 FFY 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was made by Eastman, seconded by Schellhammer, and passed unanimously.

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

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 via amendment.

Detter noted that the proposed amendment had been reviewed and approved by Iowa DOT and appropriate federal agencies, had been out for public review for the required 15-day review period. He told members that he did not receive any comments from the public.

A motion to approve the amendment to the SFY 2023 TPWP was made by Bradley, seconded by Peterson, and passed unanimously.

6. Floor Items

Egan provided NEICAC/EARL Transit updates. She noted a continuing emphasis on EV (electric vehicle) preparedness for EARL and the need for new training.

Enhancement Committee Chair Marlatt updated members on 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 trail projects in the region. He noted that the Enhancement Committee had voted unanimously to support proceeding with the group application.

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

7. 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.

8. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Schellhammer, seconded by Eastman, and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.