

**ISOTHERMAL RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE-Minutes**

Wednesday, August 20th at 1:00 PM
IPDC Conference Room
111 W. Court St., Rutherfordton, NC 28139

Ethics Reminder

In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every Board member to avoid conflicts of interest. Does any Board member have any known conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the Board today? If so, please identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.

*Members Present (**bold** represents a TAC Member):* Karyl Fuller, Pam Cook, Jessica Trotman, **Bill Eckler, Lloyd Cuthbertson, David Eaker, Tom Pack**, Bob Boyette, Shannon Baldwin, John Condrey, Cathy Ruth, Marche Pittman, Kristina Solberg, Steve Cannon, Ron Harmon, Jim Edwards and Blake Bostic.

- **Call to Order- at 1:04 PM**
- **Agenda Adjustment**
 - **<Action Requested: Approval of changes, if needed>-Not Needed**
- **Approval of Minutes**
 - Minutes from the May 28th meeting
 - **Minutes were accepted as written with Lloyd presenting the motion. David Eaker seconded. All were in favor.**
- **Public Hearing on Local Input Points Assignments**
 - **Public Hearing was opened by David Eaker.**
 - Comments Received: Tom Pack from Polk County spoke on Polk County's support for the runway extension at the Rutherford County Airport. That project is of particular interest to the Tryon Equestrian Facility.
 - **Lloyd offered a motion to close the public hearing. David seconded. All were in favor.**
- **Old Business**
 - **PWP for FY 2015**
 - Review of current work items. Discussion.
 - **FYI. It was approved. Unsure if Columbus' pedestrian will be done, considering the change in managers. IRPO typically amends PWP in the second or third quarter.**
 - **North Carolina Transportation Network**
 - Brief Summary of staff's analysis and an update.
 - **FYI. Received emails saying the process would be extended because of comments received. Karyl thanked members for their letters and said that she would keep the members updated.**
- **New Business**
 - **Ethics Changes**
 - Legislature made changes to Ethics Law, which is effective on October 1, 2014.
 - **Legislature changed a few things about enforcement of the TAC ethics requirements. As of October 1, 2014, there is no discretion by the NC Ethics Commission, if a TAC member does not respond and complete the paperwork within 60 days of April 15th, they will be fined \$250 for each form and will be turned over to the DAs for possible charges.**

All RPO Coordinators should have access to the website but that is not available. Karyl asked for emails to be sent if a member is appointed or resigns.

○ **SPOT Process: Final Point Assignments**

- Review of Projects Selected and Comments

- **Written Public Comment Review:** Lake Lure commented on their proposed Lake Lure Parkway. It scored low. Stacy Leil commented on US 221 in Rutherford County and the property owners that are left in limbo as this project does not seem to be moving forward. The final comments came from City of Marion, NC 226, from US 221 and 40, should not receive points and their interest in putting points on rail, to show their interest in that project, but no points for the depots, as they do not need improvements. All comments were published on www.regionc.org and included in the agenda packet.

○ **Regional Points Assignments:**

Regional List

SPOT Number	Description	Change	Point Change	Reason
H090504	NC 226-Widen to 4 Lanes	Deleted	-100	Technical Change--Project is not within IRPO's boundaries
R141903	NS line from Salisbury-Track Improvements	Deleted	-100	Though Rail is important to IRPO, without support along the entire corridor, the project is not feasible
H111024	US 221 Business-Widen to 3 Lanes	Added	100	Next Highest Scoring Project, per IRPO methodology
H090166-C	US 221 -Construct Multi-lanes	Added	100	US 221 project was deemed more significant to the IRPO over H090846, given public comments and the fact that NC-226 is not addressed in McDowell County CTP.
H090164-C	US221-Widen to Multi-Lanes	Adjusted	-32	Maximum Allowed is 68. Project crosses into Avery County
H141517	NC9-Construct Paved Shoulders, turn lanes, rumble strips and guard rail.	Added	32	Next Highest Scoring Project, per IRPO methodology. Given 32 points not used by H090164-C

Lloyd made the motion to move 200 points from H090504 and R141903 to H111024 and H090166-C. The Board also stated that if the maximum number of points that the RPO could give was less than 100 points, those excess points would be put on the next highest-scoring project, according to IRPO's methodology. David Eaker seconded and all were in favor.

Division Points Assignments:

Division List

SPOT Number	Description	Change	Point Change	Reason
R141903	NS line from Salisbury-Track Improvements	Deleted	-100	Though Rail is important to IRPO, without support along the entire corridor, the project is not feasible
R142238	NS line from Salisbury-Depot Improvements	Deleted	-100	All Depots in IRPO area have been improved
B142005	US 176-Construct Paved Shoulder	Deleted	-100	No Commitment Letter from Municipality
H090842	SR-2241 Oak Street-Widen to Three Lanes	Added	100	IRPO decided to match Division 13's priority
B142020	SR 1703 Baldwin Ave.-Curb, gutter and sidewalk	Added	100	Next Highest Scoring Project, per IRPO methodology
A130291	Runway Extension	Added	100	Next Highest Scoring Project, per IRPO methodology

Lloyd made the motion to move 200 points from R141903 and R142238 to H090842 and B142020. If The Board also stated that if the maximum number of points that the RPO could give was less than 100 points, those excess points would be put on the next highest-scoring project, according to IRPO’s methodology. David Eaker seconded and all were in favor. At the meeting, Karyl did not have a Commitment letter from Saluda for their project. If no commitment letter was received by the deadline, the 100 points would go to A130291. If they did send the commitment letter, then 100 points would be shifted from A130290 to A130291. Tom seconded and all were in favor.

- **Open for Discussion-** This section is reserved for any new items, and open for discussion by the attendees
- **None were noted.**
- **Updates**
 - RPO Staff-Biofuels (see flyer), STI resolution
 - Biofuels at IPDC on September 10, 2014
 - STI Resolution—Karyl would prefer to write a resolution for January 7, 2014. Press release for draft STIP.
 - Transportation Planning Branch-Pam Cook mentioned Marion CTP and is developing a draft right now. Rutherford CTP will begin in December or January.
 - Division 13 / Division 14—Kristina had project updates. The bridge was delayed because of barn swallows. Sidewalk along Oak Street will be complete by August 2014. 17 sections of secondary roads will be paved in McDowell County. Division 14—Culvert project almost complete. Resurfacing.
- **Meeting Schedule**
 - Our next meeting is currently October 1st at 10 AM. The remaining meetings for FY 15 would be January 7, 2015 and April 1, 2015.
 - NA
 - Adjourn—Tom adjourned.