



North Carolina Association of Rural Planning Organizations

## NCARPO Business Meeting Minutes

October 29, 2015, 4:30 pm, Columbus, NC

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<b>Attendees</b>	Patrick Norman	Earlene Thomas
Matt Day	Ann Stroobant	Travis Marshall
Jesse Day	Angela Welsh	Justin Oakes
Janet Robertson	Elizabeth Jernigan	Bryant Buck
Dana Stoogenke	Allen Serkin	Michael Rutan
Patrick Flanagan	Vicki Eastland	Dan Thomas
Karyl Fuller	James Salmons	Pam Cook
David Graham	Lauren Tuttle	Rose Bauguess

### Committee Updates

In order to accommodate the presentation schedule on October 30<sup>th</sup>, the committee update portion of the Business Meeting was moved from October 30<sup>th</sup> to October 29<sup>th</sup>.

- Freight Committee – Allen Serkin noted that the freight plan committee had not yet met, so he had no update. Dan Thomas noted that NCDOT was still working with Cambridge Systematics on the scope of the contract.
- Legislative Committee – Dana Stoogenke discussed the fact sheet that had been sent out prior to the meeting on additional STI funding that was made available in the state budget. She also noted that the MPO/RPO study bill was dead for the current year, but would need to be tracked since it would be eligible for consideration in next year's short session. Allen Serkin noted that the budget bill included a provision allowing municipalities to raise their vehicle taxes by up to \$30 to be used for street construction and maintenance. Karyl Fuller added that the budget bill also includes a provision changing the municipal cost share requirements for utility relocations.
- NCAMPO – Elizabeth Jernigan noted that the MPO Conference would be held in Greensboro at the downtown Marriott on May 10-13, 2016. She noted that the conference registration fee was expected to be higher this year than last year. There was discussion about whether the RPO business meeting should be held on Tuesday May 10 (when the MPO business meeting is scheduled) or on Wednesday May 11 (when we have typically met in the past) – the general consensus was a preference to meet on Wednesday.
- GIS Committee – Karyl Fuller and Allen Serkin presented a powerpoint covering the following: updated commuter flow data from the 09-13 ACS; available sources of data such as LINC, Access NC, D4 (from NC Commerce Dept), Department of Public Instruction, NC SCHS Interactive Health Statistics, Office of State Budget & Management, Carolina Demography blog, and the CDC Social Vulnerability Index.

Following the committee updates, the meeting was recessed until the morning of October 30<sup>th</sup>.

**October 30, 2015, 10:00 am, Columbus, NC**

#### **Minutes from July 2015**

A motion was made by Patrick Flanagan to accept the minutes as written. Justin Oakes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### **Transportation Planning Branch Update**

Patrick Norman discussed the NCDOT Reduction In Force (RIF) that had been mandated as part of the state budget. He noted that four positions had been eliminated in TPB, and that there will be changes in the way TPB is organized as a result. These changes will be rolled out TPB staff next week, then will be sent to us. He noted that the bill also requires NCDOT to study a further 10% staffing reduction, and that a study would be completed in the spring with recommendations on these further cuts.

#### **RPO Update**

Earlene Thomas stated that the new invoice submittal system would open up for use around the beginning of December. She also noted that the State Ethics Commission had a new MPO/RPO liaison named Peggy Malpass. She provided additional reminders that PWP drafts are due to TPB by the end of February and that CTP needs lists are due December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Travis Marshall reminded everyone to communicate with their TPB coordinator about their PWP. He noted that RPO evaluations have been completed for this year, and that we should receive the information from our evaluations in advance of our meetings with TPB. He requested that the administrative documents committee examine the evaluation process once again to see if any changes are needed. He also reminded everyone that Q1 invoices are due on November 10<sup>th</sup>.

Elizabeth Jernigan volunteered to serve on the administrative documents committee.

#### **Transit Update**

Karyl Fuller reminded everyone that Locally Coordinated Plan (LCP) updates are required every four years, and are necessary for transit agencies to apply for Section 5310 funds. She noted that the NADO Rural Transit Conference would be held in Asheville in October 2016, and that PTD was considering holding its annual conference in coordination with this national conference – there was general discussion about whether it would be a good idea to also combine our RPO quarterly meeting with this. Karyl stated that PTD was in the process of filling its vacant positions. She also noted that the AASHTO GIS-T Conference would be held in Raleigh in April 2016.

#### **Future Meetings**

Jan 28-29, 2016 – Durham

May 11-13, 2016 – MPO Conference in Greensboro

July 28-29, 2016 – maybe hosted by Down East RPO?

Oct 2016 – maybe combine with transit conferences in Asheville? (if we choose this, we would need to have this decided by the January meeting in order to coordinate)

**CTP 2.0 Committee Update**

Allen Serkin provided a powerpoint presentation and discussed the items being considered by the committee. He asked for feedback on the ideas the committee was considering, and there was general agreement that the committee should move forward with those concepts.

**Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee Update**

Justin Oakes discussed the results of the bike/ped survey that was sent out to each RPO, noting that the ability of local communities to raise the required 20% matching funds was consistently noted as the top priority issue to address. Lauren Tuttle was appointed to the Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee to replace Brandie Crawford.

**Transportation Asset Management Plan Committee**

Ann Stroobant noted that the committee for this project had met three times back in the summer, and that work continued with a planned meeting in January, but that she had no new information to report since the summer NCARPO meeting.

**Other Business**

No other business was noted.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

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