



North Carolina Association of Rural Planning Organizations

NCARPO Business Meeting Minutes

July 31, 2015, 9:15 am, Kinston, NC

Attendees

Matt Day	Ann Stroobant	James Salmons
Jesse Day	Heather Hildebrandt	Lauren Tuttle
Janet Robertson	Angela Welsh	David Keilson
Dana Stoogenke	Darius Sturdivant	Joel Setzer
Patrick Flanagan	Elizabeth Jernigan	Joe Bailey
Karyl Fuller	Allen Serkin	Diane Hampton
Stuart Basham	Vicki Eastland	Earlene Thomas
Dean Ledbetter	Gretchen Byrum	Travis Marshall
David Graham	Jeff Cabiness	Brandie Crawford
Kristina Solberg	Jimmy Eatmon	Justin Oakes
Patrick Norman	James Upchurch	Bryant Buck
	Chris Rountree	

Minutes from April 2015

Jesse Day noted that Elizabeth Jernigan should be added to the list of attendees at the April meeting.

A motion was made by Dana Stoogenke to accept the minutes with the addition of Elizabeth Jernigan to the attendee list. Patrick Flanagan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

FHWA Update

George Hoops was unable to attend and will be invited to speak again at a future NCARPO quarterly meeting.

Transportation Planning Branch Update

Patrick Norman asked what type of technical information/presentations the NCARPO would like to see at future meetings. Members requested a presentation on the basics of modeling/forecasting, such as how it is done (model, hand allocation, trendline, etc.), why, the necessary inputs and outputs of each, the connection to land use planning, and other related topics.

Patrick Norman noted that work was beginning on the development of STC Corridor Management Plans. These were being ranked in order to determine which corridors to study first, and would include implementation plans showing short-term, mid-term, and long-term needs. Kerry Morrow will lead this project, and consultants are being hired to do the individual corridor plans.

Patrick Norman also discussed a Non-DOT-let Projects Work Group that is working to address issues with timely/successful delivery of these locally-administered projects. He will reach out to the RPOs for input and volunteers.

There was a brief discussion of the CTP 2.0 Committee, which would be using the results of the “sticky note” exercise from earlier in the morning to inform its deliberations.

Patrick Norman provided several personnel updates: (1) He hoped to post Elena’s old position for hiring soon, but in the interim we should contact Travis Marshall or Earlene Thomas with any issues; (2) Secretary Tata has resigned and Nick Tennyson will be the new Secretary of Transportation; (3) Susan Pulliam has taken a new position at the Turnpike Authority; and (4) TPB has been moved back under Programming (Calvin Leggett) in the NCDOT organization chart.

RPO Update

Travis Marshall noted that 4th quarter invoices would be due August 10th and should include final deliverables for the year and the required annual report. He noted that NCDOT was trying to make improvements to the Connect site we use to post invoices and that the changes should come online within the next few months. He noted that there have been some issues with the Connect site, and it is a good idea to also send an email to your coordinator anytime you post things to the site.

Patrick Flanagan asked about the evaluations the RPOs fill-out on their TPB coordinators, noting that only the RPOs in the east had received the forms this year, and not the RPOs in the west. He also noted that the way the form is currently set up may not be the best format. Karyl Fuller also asked if the RPOs could complete these forms for their CTP engineers as well, since the coordinator and the CTP engineer may not be the same person.

Janet Robertson asked if the Unifour RPO was now officially disbanded, and Earlene Thomas replied that it is.

NCAMPO Update

Jesse Day noted that the next three MPO conferences were slated for Greensboro (2016), New Bern (2017), and Charlotte (2018). The dates of May 10-13, 2016 were currently being considered but were not yet official.

Future Meetings

Oct 29-30 – Meeting in Polk County, with hotel in Hendersonville. Will include tour of Tryon Equestrian Center.

Jan 28-29 – Meeting in Raleigh or Durham

May – MPO Conference in Greensboro

GIS Committee Update

Karyl Fuller and Allen Serkin did a presentation on various data sources, including InfoUSA, Title VI data from PDEA, county commuting flows, LEHD/On The Map, CTPP, Access NC, and others. Karyl sent an email with information on how to access some of the data through the Isothermal RPO website.

It was suggested that we invite someone from NCDOT GIS to the next meeting in order to discuss the NC GO website.

Legislative Committee Update

Dana Stoogenke provided a handout with information on a number of proposed bills that are working their way through the General Assembly – SB 20 (gas tax changes), SB 617 (BOT supermajority to approve road diet projects), SB 654 (changes to corridor map act) SB 396 (limit MPO & RPO studies), HB 232 (study of bicycle laws), HB 672 (STI changes), HB 74 (study of MPOs & RPOs), HB 940 (Governor's budget, with bond proposal), HB 183 (Official Corridor map act repeal), HB 927 (gas tax changes), and HB 44 (restrictions on road diets). She also noted that a continuing resolution was expected for the Federal transportation bill.

Freight Update

Allen Serkin noted that the freight plan committee had met to approve the RFP for hiring a consultant, but that there was nothing else to report yet.

Bicycle/Pedestrian Update

Jesse Day noted that the committee was working on a fact sheet regarding bicycle and pedestrian funding opportunities, as well as looking at ways to improve project delivery (such as having standard design guidelines for use in local planning, or restoring state match funding).

Jesse Day nominated Vicki Eastland to serve on the Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee. Allen Serkin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Ann Stroobant provided an overview on the ITRE bike/ped data collection project, noting that the count collection program would be expanding into Divisions 4, 5, 8, and 10.

Executive Committee Update

Dana Stoogenke noted that the Executive Committee had sent a letter to the Board of Transportation in response to comments made at a Board meeting about the qualifications of RPO directors. Janet Robertson noted that she had forwarded this letter to the RPO directors, and would follow-up by sending out an infographic that had been attached to the letter.

Committee Assignments

Brandie Crawford was added to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee (in addition to Vicki Eastland, who was appointed earlier in the meeting).

David Graham and Janet Robertson were added to the Administrative Documents Committee. TPB noted that Earlene Thomas would be added to the TPB portion of the committee.

Karyl Fuller was appointed as the Transit Liaison.

MAP-21 Performance Measure Work Groups

Patrick Norman described several work groups, including two work groups for the Asset Management Plan (pavement group and structures group). He also noted that a Performance Measure group would begin meeting, but was currently on hold, as well as a related research project committee that is on hold while the project is rescope – he noted that he had previously reached out for volunteers on this performance measure committee, but was holding off for now.

Other Business

Dana Stoogenke noted that she had a contact who could speak at a future meeting regarding electric vehicle charging stations.

Patrick Flanagan asked for feedback on whether other RPOs had received letters from NADO requesting funds to support RPO America.

Adjournment

Dana Stoogenke made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Jesse Day. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.