

**Minutes of the Rural Technical Coordinating Committee (RTCC) Meeting
January 25, 2017
11:00 a.m.**

Call to Order

The January 25, 2017 RTCC meeting was held at the Dare County Administration Building, Room 238 in Manteo, NC was opened and called to order by RTCC Chairman Rhett White at 11:05 a.m.

Roll Call

It was determined a quorum was present with the following TCC members in attendance: Chairman Rhett White, Town of Columbia; Dan Porter, Camden County; Dan Scanlon, Currituck County; Shelley Cox, Pasquotank County; Donna Creef, Dare County; Bill Rich, Hyde County; David Clegg, County of Tyrrell; Kermit Skinner, Town of Manteo; Frank Heath, Perquimans County; Kaitlen Alcock, City of Elizabeth City; Meredith Gunns, Town of Kill Devil Hills; Wes Haskett, Town of Southern Shores; J.D. Melton, Town of Creswell; Curtis Potter, Washington County; Jerry Jennings, NCDOT Division 1 and Gretchen Byrum, NCDOT Division 1

Agenda Approval

Chairman White called for a motion to approve the agenda. RPO Planner Angela Welsh requested that the item of Mini-Grants be added to the agenda. A motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Mini-Grants was made by Wes Haskett and seconded by Kermit Skinner, and unanimously carried.

Approval of September 28, 2016 RTCC Minutes

Chairman White called for a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Wes Haskett stated that his name was not included in the Roll Call of the September 28, 2016 minutes. A motion to approve the minutes to include the name of Wes Haskett in the Roll Call was made by David Clegg; his motion was seconded by Bill Rich, and unanimously carried.

Election of Chairs

Chairman White asked Wally Overman, Dare County RTAC Alternate to conduct the nomination and election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the RTCC. All were in favor of the re-election of Rhett White, Town of Columbia as Chair of the RTCC and Dan Porter, Camden County as Vice-Chair of the RTCC.

Planning Work Program

The Planning Work Program lists planning priorities anticipated by the ARPO during the next Fiscal year and outlines expenses needs for certain work tasks. The ARPO Director stated that in order to continue to receive funding the 2017-2018 Planning Work Program must be adopted. Chairman White asked for any questions or comments. A motion was made by Dan Porter to adopt the 2017-2018 Planning Work Program, his motion was seconded by J.D. Melton, and carried unanimously.

STI Discussion

The ARPO Director provided the Board draft copies of the ARPO Projects funded report. Concerns were expressed regarding rural money allotments as compared to allotment amounts designated to urban area. Chairman White called for discussion. It was noted that the state does not seem to be addressing the real issue regarding funding for 'Statewide' and 'Regional' tiers of funding. There was discussion around the benefits of a two-tiered system rather than the current three-tiered system. The Findings and Recommendations of the House Select Committee on Strategic Transportation Planning and Long-Term Funding Solutions were reviewed by the RTCC. The RTCC addressed concerns with Recommendation #2 "Transportation Megaprojects Funding". The concern was expressed with Megaproject funding not be taken from the current STIP funding. After discussion a motion was made by Curtis Potter that the letter include a provision that rural counties be adequately represented in workgroup planning, his motion was seconded by J.D. Melton and carried unanimously. There were no concerns expressed with recommendation #3. The Team discussed recommendation #4 "STI/Regional & Divisional Weighting". The RTCC committee agreed to create a Resolution requesting legislation changing the Strategic Transportation investments funding formula to include a funding and prioritization process exclusive to geographic areas of North Carolina. The ARPO Director will work with Jerry Jennings on the correct wording of a resolution, as well as, a draft letter regarding the concerns expressed on the Findings and Recommendations of the House Select Committee on Strategic Transportation Planning and Long-Term Funding Solutions. A motion was made by Dan Porter regarding the development of a resolution and a letter; his motion was seconded by Bill Rich and unanimously carried.

Legislative Agenda

The ARPO Director provided the Board with 2016 Legislative Priorities. After discussion the RTCC agreed to the following wording/changes to three of the five items:

- Ensure funding for future interstate along I-87 from the Hampton Roads region in Virginia to Raleigh, NC.
- Continue to support additional permanent sources of funding for new and replacement ferry vessels and support vessels.
- Continue to support the rotation of Key RPO and NCDOT Division staff, throughout the state, on the SPOT workgroup to ensure all RPO's and NCDOT Divisions are represented equitably.

A motion was made by Dan Porter proposing that the changes be presented to the legislature. his motion was seconded by J. D. Melton and unanimously carried.

ADDITION to AGENDA

The RTCC discussed mini-grant funding to communities for area bike and pedestrian path maps. All were in favor of providing ARPO mini-grant awards, again, in April of 2017.

Public Comments

Chairman White opened the floor for public comments and there being no public comments closed the floor.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Chairman White adjourned the meeting at 12:06 pm.

Lunch and Presentations

NCDOT Update – Discussion/Presentation

Malcom Fearing – Presentation

Ferry Update

TPB Update

ARPO Update

Minutes of the Rural Technical Coordinating Committee (RTAC) Meeting January 25, 2017 1:00 pm

Call to Order

The January 25, 2017 RTAC meeting was held at the Dare County Administration Building, Room 238 in Manteo, NC was opened and called to order by RTAC Chairman Lloyd Griffin at 1:18 pm.

Roll Call

It was determined a quorum was present with the following RTAC members in attendance: Chairman Lloyd Griffin, Pasquotank County; Jack Shea, Dare County; Jeff Smith, Chowan County; Edward Muzzulin, Perquimans County; Vice-Chairman Leroy Spivey, Tyrrell County; Bill Sexton, Washington County; Mike Payment, Currituck County; Malcolm Fearing, NCDOT BOT.

RTAC Non-Voting members in attendance: John Ratzenberger, Town of Nags Head; Tom Bennett, Town of Southern Shores; Lynne McClean, Town of Kitty Hawk.

Alternates in attendance: Wally Overman, Dare County; Patti Kersey, Chowan County;

Agenda Approval

Chairman Griffin called for a motion to approve the agenda. RPO Planner Angela Welsh requested that the item of Mini-Grants be added to the agenda. A motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Mini-Grants was made by Jack Shea and seconded by Leroy Spivey, and unanimously carried.

Approval of September 28, 2016 RTCC Minutes

Chairman Griffin called for a motion to accept the minutes as presented. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Jack Shea; his motion was seconded by Edward Muzzulin, and unanimously carried.

Election of Chairs

Chairman Griffin asked Rhett White, RTCC Chairman to conduct the nomination and election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the RTCC. All were in favor of the re-election of Lloyd Griffin, Pasquotank County as Chair of the RTAC and Leroy Spivey, Tyrrell County as Vice-Chair of the RTAC.

Planning Work Program

Mr. White shared an update from the RTCC meeting. The RTAC discussed the Planning Work Program list and the planning priorities anticipated by the ARPO during the next Fiscal year. The Plan outlines expenses needs for certain work tasks. The ARPO Director stated that in order to continue to receive funding the 2017-2018 Planning Work Program must be adopted. Chairman Griffin asked for any questions or comments. A motion was made by Jack Shea to adopt the 2017-2018 Planning Work Program, his motion was seconded by Bill Sexton, and carried unanimously.

STI Discussion

The ARPO Director provided the Board draft copies of the ARPO Projects funded report. The RTAC discussed concerns expressed by the RTCC regarding rural money allotments as compared to allotment amounts designated to urban area and the legislative recommendations. Chairman Griffin called for discussion. The Findings and Recommendations of the House Select Committee on Strategic Transportation Planning and Long-Term Funding Solutions were reviewed by the RTAC. After discussion it was agreed that concerns would be expressed through a resolution and letter. A motion was made by Jeff Smith to proceed with the drafting of a written resolution and letter, his motion was seconded by Leroy Spivey and unanimously carried.

Legislative Agenda

The ARPO Director provided the Board with 2016 Legislative Priorities. After discussion the RTAC agreed with the suggestions and additions to the Legislative Initiatives that were discussed by the RTCC with the addition of one initiative:

- Ensure funding for future interstate along I-87 from the Hampton Roads region in Virginia to Raleigh, NC.
- Continue to support additional permanent sources of funding for new and replacement ferry vessels and support vessels.
- Seek methods to increase the current level of NCDOT Division 1 maintenance funds.
- Seek methods to increase current state dredging funds to maintain free and clear navigational channels.
- Ensure funding for widening of highways, and needed bridge replacements, along hurricane evacuation routes.
- Continue to support the rotation of Key RPO and NCDOT Division staff, throughout the state, on the SPOT workgroup to ensure all RPO's and NCDOT Divisions are represented equitably.

A motion was made by Jack Shea to submit the amended Legislative Initiatives; his motion was seconded by Leroy Spivey and unanimously carried.

ADDITION to AGENDA

The RTAC discussed mini-grant funding to communities for area bike and pedestrian path maps. All were in favor of providing ARPO mini-grant awards, again, in April of 2017.

Public Comments

Vice-Chairman Spivey thanked Mr. Fearing for all of his hard work. Mr. Griffin opened the floor for public comments and there being none, closed the floor.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Griffin adjourned the meeting at 1:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Powers
Albemarle Commission
Program Administrative Coordinator

For

Angela Welsh, Secretary
ARPO Director