

**Rocky River Transportation Coordinating Committee
Meeting Notes**

August 14, 2006

Stanly County Manager's Conference Room, Albemarle, NC

Voting Members Present: Raymond Allen (Albemarle- TCC Chairman), Scott Rowell (Anson County- TCC Vice-Chairman), Katherine English (NCDOT), Calvin Gaddy (New London), Carl Webber (Marshville), Amy Helms (Union County), Gwen Hinson (Stanly County), Dwight Smith (Norwood).

Others Present: Terry Arellano (NCDOT), Bryan Steen (Stanly County / RPO Staff).

Welcome and Introductions- Scott Rowell, TCC Vice-Chairman, convened the meeting at 2PM and welcomed all in attendance.

Amendment to / Adoption of Agenda- A motion was made to approve the agenda without modifications by Ray Allen, seconded by Carl Webber and unanimously passed.

Approval of Minutes for Feb. 13, 2006 TCC Meeting- A motion was made to approve the minutes for February 13, 2006 by Carl Webber, seconded by Calvin Gaddy and unanimously approved as submitted.

Old Business

Discussion of New Lead Planning Agency / Status of Planner Position- Bryan Steen briefly discussed the change from Centralina Council of Governments to Stanly County Government as the Lead Planning Agency for the Rocky River Rural Planning Organization and establishment of an office for the RPO in the Stanly Commons. Bryan also indicated that steps had been taken to advertise the position, twelve applications had been received and three applicants had been interviewed by the panel established for this by the Transportation Advisory Committee. Bryan also indicated that a fourth applicant was to be interviewed in the near future. If the interview committee found an acceptable applicant, they would make a recommendation to offer employment to that applicant during the next TAC meeting and if authorized, Bryan would contact the applicant and make the employment offer.

Approval of RRRPO TCC Bylaws- Katherine English briefly discussed the TCC Bylaws and fact that the Bylaws had been on the agenda for the last TCC Meeting, but the meeting could not be held due to a lack of a quorum. Amy Helms indicated a few text changes needed to be made prior to adoption. A motion was made by Calvin Gaddy to approve the TCC Bylaws as amended, second by Carl Webber and the motion passed unanimously.

Side Note, Bryan Steen gave an update on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) adoption progress. Bryan wanted everyone to know that the membership dues will be

discussed at the next TAC meeting since it is mentioned in the MOU. There were also discussions regarding the web site. The web site needed to be updated to include the changes in the MOU, bylaws, and membership roster.

Bryan Steen informed the committee of the RPO's equipment and how NCDOT may be able to help purchase equipment.

New Business

Acceptance of RRRPO TCC Chairman Ray Allen's Letter of Resignation and Election of new Chairman- A motion to accept the Letter of Resignation was made by Calvin Gaddy and seconded by Carl Webber. The motion passed unanimously. Scott Rowell asked if everyone had read the letter and then opened the floor for nominations. Carl Webber nominated Scott Rowell as Chairman, the floor was closed to further nominations, and Scott Rowell was unanimously elected as Chairman. Scott Rowell then opened the floor for nomination of a Vice-Chairman. Calvin Gaddy nominated Carl Webber as Vice-Chairman, no additional nominations were made and the floor, and Carl Webber was unanimously elected as Vice-Chairman.

Report of Recent RPO Meetings-

Katherine English briefly discussed the Charlotte Regional Alliance for Transportation (CRAFT) Meeting regarding status of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission corridor decision and Charlotte Area Transit (CATS). A photo was shown of the new Commuter Rail Service / Light Rail Service to Pineville that should be completed sometime next year. There was also a discussion of CMAQ Funds and whether the region as a whole should set aside 5% of their funds for completion of a regional studies. No conclusion was reached on this matter at the meeting. Development of Bicycle Project Linking Criteria for choosing projects to include in the TIP was also discussed, but additional research would need to be completed. Right-of-Way Protection and Preservation was the final item discussed and Katherine indicated that preservation, once declared, had a three year time limit and upon reaching the limit, the corridor had to be purchased or relinquished to developers. Additional contact details regarding additional information will be emailed by Katherine to TCC Members.

Bryan Steen briefly discussed his attendance at the NC Association of Rural Planning Organizations (NCARPO) meeting. Bryan provided handouts with information related to the NCDOT Enhancement Program, Community Impact Assessment (CIA), a proposal to establish and fund a NCARPO Transportation Website and Marketing and Outreach item. Bryan also discussed the Strategic Highway Safety Plan and High Risk Rural Roads: Safe Routes to Schools, Provisions for Older Drivers & Pedestrians, Work Zone Safety, Increase Usage of Seatbelts and Improvement of Traffic Data.

Roles and Responsibilities of a RPO- Katherine English provided a handout to everyone for the presentation, see attachment to minutes. The presentation addressed: Four Core Duties, Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC), Transportation Advisory

Committee (TAC), Lead Planning Agency (LPA), RPO Staff, NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch, Deadline for Task and Yearly Deliverables.

Ideal Comprehensive Transportation Plan- Katherine English provided a short presentation regarding the “Ideal” Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) and indicated that the plan would consist of five maps (Highway, Rail, Public Transportation, Bicycle and Pedestrian) that are mutually adopted by both NC DOT Board and the Local Area with the RPO endorsing the submitted plan. She also indicated that the Board of Transportation will only adopt the series of five maps, but would not adopt the report of defined cross sections: detailed documents that provide the bases for all recommended improvements shown on the maps for a twenty to thirty year time frame. Katherine indicated that the RPO is required to submit an adopted CTP Priority List to the Transportation Planning Branch by December 31st of each year.

Tour of New RRRPO Office- Several of the attendees left the meeting room for a brief tour of the new office and returned prior to establishment of the next meeting date and adjournment of the meeting.

Other Business

Next TCC Meeting Date- The next TCC meeting date was scheduled for October 9, 2006 in Marshville from 2pm to 4pm. This meeting is a special meeting to discuss the PWP.

Public Comment- There were no public comments.

Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4pm.