



May 28, 2015

10:00 AM

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, O'Marks Building  
233 Middle Street, New Bern, NC 28560

**Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Minutes**

**TAC Members in Attendance:**

Paul Buchanan	Joe Wiggins	Mark Mansfield	Christine Mele
Joshua Potter	Hugh Overholt	Sandra Fountain	

**TCC Members in Attendance:**

Franky Howard	Jeff Cabaniss	Patrick Riddle	Nazia Sarder
Lee Cowhig	Marc Finlayson		

**Staff in Attendance:**

Patrick Flanagan	Leighann Morgan
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**1. Call to Order**

Christine Mele called the meeting to order and read the Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder

**2. Public Comment Period**

There was no public comments

**3. March 26, 2015 Minutes**

Minutes of the March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting are attached and presented for approval.

*Motion was made by Hugh Overholt to approve the minutes as submitted for March 26, 2015 DERPO TAC Meeting; seconded by Josh Potter and unanimously approved.*

**4. Meeting Schedule**

The group was reminded of the upcoming meeting dates and informed the November date would be moved to October since that is Thanksgiving Day

b. 2015 Meeting Schedule 10:00–11:30 a.m.

- i. July 30, 2015
- ii. September 24, 2015
- iii. November 26, 2015

Christine Mele asked if these dates were attentive. Patrick Flanagan responded that there will be a discussion of meeting schedule on the agenda.

## DERPO Staff Report

### 5. Standing Committee, Commission, and Association Reports

Marc gave a handout of the US 17 Corridor Status Report and highlighted various projects. In June the Jones County project will begin. Connecting New Bern to Jacksonville by four lanes with bypasses around Pollocksville and Maysville. Patrick Riddle stated that the different projects could be bid on all three together or separately with B&C combined. Summit Engineering will be doing the Division 2 oversight of the project. Christine Mele asked what the anticipated completion date the Jones County Improvements. Hugh Overholt responded with 3 years; Marc continued his report stating there has been a draft for new improvement projects associated with Highway 17 and some of the larger connector projects have been dropped off reason being not scoring well enough. The Association is trying to encourage the GA to find long term funding for transportation getting away from Gas Tax and finding more sustainable revenues and increasing the amount of money going to transportation. Also the support from governor's bond package which include a US 17 project. Other than that they are continuing work in Brunswick and New Hanover counties.

Christine Mel asked of a consistent reliable form of funding?

Marc responded with there are multiple ways to fund projects. The easiest way is to eliminate the transfers from the highway funds to the general funds for things like drivers-ed and highway patrol. Getting away from the Gas tax decreases revenues which may increase sales tax on the sale of automobiles, putting a fee on auto insurance premiums, and thinking more broadly with NC GO; fees for electric powered vehicles. The fairest would be the Vehicle Miles Traveled tax which would be more user pays.

Patrick Flanagan reported Meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup> in Kinston main topic in making HWY 70 into an interstate. NC congressmen are pushing a bill to designate HWY 70 as a future interstate. That designation lasts for 25 years, if road was not upgraded then designation is lost. At this point future interstate designation is not a large factor in the SPOT process so it remains to be seen how this will affect projects on HWY 70. Because HWY 70 & 17 are busy military designated roads there is potential in other Federal money to make those upgrades. The James City project planning process is being prepared and doing more public involvement.

MPO/RPO Coalition meet together to discuss alternate criteria for SPOT evaluations, and discussing benefit on scores on SPOT 3 and able to tailor the formula to our interests.

No further questions was asked.

## NCDOT Staff Reports

**Division 2:** Jeff Cabaniss gave handouts on Carteret, Craven, Jones and Pamlico counties and highlighted the progress of the various projects in those counties

**Division 3:** Patrick Riddle presented a handout of the TIP & Division projects and highlighted some of the issues and progress of the projects

**Transportation Planning Branch:** Nazia Sarder stated: Craven County CTIP update – new projects are being run in the model in the next few months; Onslow County CTP update – model is complete; Jones County CTP update next meeting will be June 24. Nazia introduced Lee Cowig as the NCDOT TPB staff who will be coordinating with the DERPO on all administrative documents for the foreseeable future. The official coordinator position remains vacant.

### 6. DERPO Planning Work Program Amendment

Patrick presented an amendment to the budget due to neither the Craven County nor the Onslow County CTPs have begun at this time. Comprehensive Transportation Plan Development is reduced by \$15,000; Prioritization and Program Development is increased by \$9,000; and General Transportation planning is increased by \$6,000. The overall budget has not changed.

*Joe Wiggins motioned to approve the Planning Work Program amendment, seconded by Hugh Overholt, and unanimously approved.*

**7. DERPO FY '15-'16 Planning Work Program**

Patrick Flanagan stated the Planning Work Program has not changed since the draft was shown at the March meeting. This is the budget for our RPO in the upcoming year. This document outlines the projects we will work on and the products we will produce for NCDOT. The majority of this year's budget is focused on SPOT and the multiple CTPs we will be helping with in 2015 and 2016.

*Hugh Overholt moved to approve the Planning Work Program, seconded by Josh Potter, and unanimously approved.*

**8. DERPO FY '15-'16 Five Year Calendar**

Patrick presented an outline of the future work the RPO hopes to accomplish in the next couple of years. The idea is that projects funnel from the Five Year Calendar into the PWP.

*Joe Wiggins moved to approve the Five Year Calendar, seconded by Sandra Fountain and unanimously approved.*

**9. DERPO SPOT 4.0 Subcommittee**

Patrick stated that one TCC member from each county will create a SPOT 4.0 subcommittee which will then review methodology, new projects to submit and old projects to remove. The subcommittee will consist of Scott Sherill, Don Baumgarder, Beth Bucksot, Tim Richards, Kyle Gardner and someone from Jones County.

**10. DERPO Meeting Schedule**

Patrick suggested to set meeting dates of the Down East RPO TCC and TAC to the last Tuesday of the month and TCC to the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the last or 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday considering the current schedule may present a problem with the Draft SPOT 4.0 schedule. Patrick also suggested to move the November to October due to Thanksgiving. He will also send out an updated schedule.

**11. Other Business**

Christine Mele stated she was pleased to representation from Jones & Onslow Counties present at the meeting.

Patrick Flanagan presented a Legislative Update that pertains to transportation and present actions.

Christine Mele asked if the Division of Engineering does not give points to SPOT who does.

Patrick answered the points would be divided between MPO and RPO

**12. Adjournment**

*Joe Wiggins motioned to adjourn meeting, seconded by Hugh Overholt, meeting adjourned.*

Respectfully Submitted,



Christine Mele, DERPO TAC Chair



Patrick Flanagan, DERPO Secretary

