

Southwestern Rural Planning Organization

TAC Meeting 9/22/2008

Holiday Inn – Cherokee, NC

Present

TAC (Transportation Advisory Committee)

- Chairman Glenn Jones – Swain County
- Tom Massie (Alt for Brian McMahan) – Jackson County
- Harrell Moore – Town of Hayesville
- Lynn Cody – Graham County
- Brenda Oliver – Town of Sylva
- Kate Welch – Town of Bryson City
- Steve Gray – Town of Webster
- Bobby Cagle – Town of Robbinsville
- Harry Jarrett – Clay County
- Ronnie Beale (Alt for Charles Leatherman) – Macon County
- Jonathon Dickey – Cherokee County
- Bill Hughes – Town of Murphy
- Conrad Burrell – Division 14 Board of Transportation

Non-voting Attendees

- Ryan Sherby, RPO Planner of Southwestern Commission, Secretary TCC/TAC
- Jim Davis – Macon County Commissioner
- Billy Cable – Graham County Commissioner
- Bill Gibson – ED Southwestern Commission
- Vicki Greene – Assoc Dir. Southwestern Commission
- Jack Horton – Macon County Manager
- Joel Setzer – Division 14 District Engineer
- Damon Lambert – EBCI DOT Transportation Planner

Chairman Glenn Jones called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. Ryan Sherby reported that a quorum was present.

Introductions were made.

Agenda Items

Chairman Jones offered for approval the minutes of the March 24, 2008 meeting.

MOTION BY MAYOR BILL HUGHES, SECOND BY MAYOR HARRELL MOORE, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 24, 2008 BUSINESS MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Jones presented the prioritized list of County Transportation Plans (CTPs) to the TAC. Recommendation came from the TCC to adopt the list as presented. Sherby explained that the list has to be submitted annually at calendar year end. Sherby also explained that in order for NCDOT to initiate a CTP, the county must have a land use plan in place, or at minimum an adopted vision for the county.

MOTION MADE BY MAYOR STEVE GRAY TO ADOPT THE PRIORITIZED LIST OF COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLANS AS RECCOMENDED BY THE TCC, SECOND BY MAYOR BRENDA OLIVER. MOTION CARRIED

Chairman Jones offered a draft Priority Needs List (PNL) for the Region to be considered in the draft 2011-2017 STIP (State Transportation Improvement Plan). Sherby explained upon adoption of the presented draft, a 30-day public comment period will commence from October 6th 2008 to November 7th 2008. A public hearing will then precede the next TAC meeting on November 24th 2008 at 5:30 p.m. Chairman Jones then addressed each county and the needs that were ranked from the TCC at the September 18th meeting. Harry Jarrett amended Clay County's priorities by advancing Tusquittee Rd above Settawig Rd citing Tusquittee Rd served more county residents.

MOTION MADE BY MAYOR HARRELL MOORE, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TOM MASSIE, TO ADOPT THE PRIORITIZED NEEDS LIST AS PRESENTED FROM THE TCC WITH THE INCLUDED AMENDMENT BY COMMISSIONER HARRY JARRETT. MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Jones then asked for letters of support for two NCDOT sponsored planning grants: Town of Franklin NCDOT Pedestrian Planning Grant and the Town of Sylva NCDOT Pedestrian Planning Grant. Both planning grant applications were supported by the RPO unanimously.

Sherby then gave an update on an initiative that was recommended as a next step from the Mountain Landscapes Initiative Cowee Charrette. Sherby stated the NC Hwy 28 scenic byway designation was unanimously supported by the Macon County Commissioners at their September 8th 2008 meeting. Sherby asked for the RPOs endorsement of this project contingent upon Swain County Commission approval at their September 22nd meeting. The NC Hwy 28 scenic byway designation was supported by the RPO unanimously contingent upon Swain County Commissioner's approval.

Sherby then introduced Damon Lambert, a planner with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indian DOT. Lambert explained the need for intersection upgrades as a result of the construction of a new K thru 12 school on Big Cove Road. The project is in close proximity to the non-attainment area making it eligible for Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funding. The project ranked second in the EBCI priority list of projects produced

from their recently updated Long Range Transportation Plan. Sherby asked for the RPO to endorse this project.

**MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER TOM MASSIE, SECOND BY
COMMISSIONER JONATHON DICKEY, TO ENDORSE THE PROJECT
AS DEFINED BY EBCI DOT PLANNER DAMON LAMBERT.
MOTION CARRIED.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ryan Sherby
SW RPO TAC Secretary