

Southwestern Rural Planning Organization (RPO) Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting

09/23/2013 Minutes

Chestnut Tree Inn
37 Tsalagi Road, Cherokee, NC 28719

Present:

David Wilkes ☐ Highlands	Ronnie Beale ☐ Macon County	Phil Carson ☐ Swain County
Jacky Ayers ☐ Robbinsville	Tim Gamble ☐ Fontana Dam	Mike Fitzgerald ☐ Dillsboro
Harrell Moore ☐ Hayesville	Maurice Moody ☐ Sylva	Mike Edwards ☐ Graham County

None-Voting:

C.B. McKinnon ☐ Cherokee Co. Commissioner	Joel Setzer ☐ NCDOT Division 14
Pam Cook ☐ NCDOT Planning Branch (TPB)	Matt Quesenberry ☐ NCDOT TPB
Randy Wiggins ☐ Cherokee County Manager	Greg Cable ☐ Graham County Manager
Paul Leek ☐ Clay County Manager	Ryan Sherby ☐ SWC Executive Director
Philip Moore ☐ Secretary, Southwestern RPO	Becca Duley ☐ SWC Community Planner

Agenda Items

1. Chairman Edwards called meeting to order at 5:08 PM, read the ethics statement, and established that a quorum was present.
2. Edwards called for approval of minutes from 5/09/2013 TAC business meeting

Motion by Maurice Moody, seconded by Harrell Moore, to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2013 business meeting. Motion was carried.

3. There was no update from the TCC meeting.
4. TAC membership change update was given by Chairman Edwards. Some mayors will be retiring at the end of this year. Also, Clay County does not currently have a member; a plan for this situation will be decided in the future. It was emphasized that the TAC would not neglect Clay County's interests in transportation planning.

No action necessary.

5. A transportation planning update was given by Philip Moore on the following projects:
 - a. Public Transit Locally Coordinated Plan
 - b. Regional Trails Inventory
 - c. Blue Ridge Bike Plan (Swain & Jackson Counties)
 - Possibility of remaining counties getting bike plan has been postponed until next year.
 - d. Freight Assessment
 - e. Graham County CTP
 - f. Prioritization 3.0
 - Several concerns were raised over this new model, including the potential change in local input percentages. McKinnon noted that he would not have been in favor of

Southwestern Rural Planning Organization (RPO) Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting

his county's CTP had he known that the county would not be doing the ranking. Philip suggested that the TAC proceed under the impression that the RPO will keep control because they have to be prepared, and several others voiced agreement.

- Another concern is that these projects will be ranked using data that is correlated with population, which could leave this region at a disadvantage.
- Philip will send a list of projects that are already in the system to TAC members for their review.

No action necessary.

6. State ethics act update was given by Chairman Edwards. The ethics statement that was read is the official ethics statement as of the date of this meeting² September 23, 2013. Real Estate Disclosure Form and SEI are due on April 15, 2014 for existing members, and prior to being seated for new members.

No action necessary.

7. An update on Opt-In was given by Ryan Sherby. Edwards encouraged members to look at the Opt-In website.

McKinnon noted that he is disappointed in the marketing and advertisement for the Opt-In public meetings. Ryan will relay this concern to the Opt-In consulting team.

No action necessary.

8. A Division 14 update was given by Joel Setzer.

No action necessary.

9. No public comment was received.
10. Next meeting is scheduled for November 25, 2013.
11. Meeting was adjourned at 6:20 PM.

Motion to adjourn made by Ronnie Beale and seconded by Harrell Moore. Motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Philip W. Moore, RPO Secretary

With assistance from Becca Duley, Community Planner