

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

2/10/2014 Minutes

Southwestern Commission Office
125 Bonnie Lane Sylva, NC 28779

Present:

Mike Edwards- Graham County Tim Gamble- Fontana Dam Harry Baughn- Hayesville*
Jack Debnam- Jackson County Bob Scott- Franklin Nick Breedlove- Webster
David Wood- Cherokee County Dan Perlmutter- Forest Hills Phil Carson- Swain County*
Kate Welch- Bryson City

Non-Voting:

Pam Cook- NCDOT* Paige Roberson- Sylva Town Manager
Catherine Bryant- NCDOT* Rebecca Duley- Southwestern Commission Planner
Eric Rysdon- WK Dickson rep Philip Moore- Southwestern RPO Secretary

*-via phone

Agenda Items

1. Chairman Edwards called meeting to order at 11:00 AM, read the ethics statement, and established that a quorum was present.

2. Eric Rysdon was present from the public to make comments regarding aviation projects in other counties in the region. He offered his services as a resource to the committee should they have any questions.

3. Philip provided updates for those in attendance, including an announcement that the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners had voted to delete aviation projects in their county (Western Carolina Regional Airport capital projects) from the prioritization process. The decision to delete Cherokee County aviation projects from the prioritization process was placed before the board.

Further discussion followed regarding whether or not the committee was authorized to do so, and it was established that everything was in order.

Motion by Tim Gamble, seconded by Nick Breedlove, to approve the decision to delete Cherokee County / Western Carolina Regional Airport aviation projects from Prioritization 3.0 and move forward by sending this request to NCDOT Division 14 Engineer Ed Green for his concurrence. Motion was carried.

4. Philip asked the committee if anyone had any updates or changes, and Commissioner Debnam asked for clarification on the following issue: If a county elects to amend their CTP do they have to get approval from municipalities? Pam Cook was able to answer the question for the DOT. Counties are only required to seek approval from municipalities if they are directly affected by the proposed changes. She noted that it might be beneficial to receive approval from unaffected municipalities in the county,

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but this is not required. However, the amendment must receive endorsement from the DOT Board of Transportation and the RPO.

5. Chairman Edwards reminded the committee that a vote to elect the new committee chair will be at the next meeting in Cherokee on March 24, 2014.
6. Chairman Edwards reminded the committee that all new members must complete the SEI as soon as possible, and returning members must complete this by 4/15/2014.
7. Next meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2013.
8. Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Motion to adjourn made by Kate Welch, seconded by David Wood. Motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Philip W. Moore, RPO Secretary

With assistance from Becca Duley, Community Planner