

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

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## 3/24/2014 Minutes

The Boiler Room

1024 Georgia Road, Franklin, NC

### Present:

Mike Edwards- Graham County	Tim Gamble- Fontana Dam	Maurice Moody- Sylva
Jack Debnam- Jackson County	Dan Perlmutter - Forest Hills	Mike Fitzgerald- Dillsboro
David Wood- Cherokee County	Ronnie Beale- Macon County	Kate Welch- Bryson City
Harry Baughn- Hayesville	Nick Breedlove- Webster	Nancy Curtis- Andrews
Bob Scott- Franklin	Jacky Ayers- Robbinsville	

### Non-Voting:

Philip Moore- Southwestern RPO Secretary	Rebecca Duley- Southwestern Commission Planner
Pam Cook- NCDOT	Catherine Bryant- NCDOT
Edward Green- NCDOT	CB McKinnon- Cherokee County Commissioner

### Agenda Items

1. Chairman Edwards called meeting to order at 5:00 PM, read the ethics statement, and established that a quorum was present.

2. Edwards called for approval of minutes from 11/25/2013 TAC business meeting.

- A change is needed in the minutes where Commissioner Wood's name was misspelled.

***Motion by Dan Perlmutter, seconded by Jack Debnam, to approve the minutes from the November 25, 2013 business meeting. Motion was carried.***

3. No public comment was received regarding the Prioritization 3.0 Local Methodology.

4. Philip provided updates from TCC meeting, noting that all action items were passed as recommendations to the TAC.

***No action necessary.***

5. Approval of the Blue Ridge Bike Plan

- TCC recommended approval

***Motion by Michael Fitzgerald, second by David Wood, to approve the Blue Ridge Bike Plan. Motion was carried.***

6. Approval of the Final Local Methodology for Prioritization 3.0

- TCC recommended approval
- Questions were raised from the board regarding whether or not this process keeps up with development in communities and also how much influence the RPO has on DOT decisions. Pam Cook noted that if a significant change in traffic or development happens, counties can request an update to the CTP, then send it to the DOT to approve.

***Motion by Jack Debnam, seconded by David Wood to approve the Final Local Methodology for Prioritization 3.0. Motion was carried.***

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7. Approval of change in Prioritization 3.0 projects<sup>2</sup> delete Locust Street sidewalk project in Andrews from the Prioritization 3.0 list, since this project is already programmed, funded, and expected to be let to contract in summer 2014; replace this project with another Andrews project, to extend the existing sidewalk on US 19 Business from Junaluska Rd to Andrews Middle School.

- TCC recommended approval.

***Motion by David Wood, seconded by Maurice Moody, to make the change in projects to include the project for Andrews. Motion was carried.***

8. Approval of draft letter to Secretary Tata regarding RPO funding increase

***Motion by Jack Debnam, seconded by Ronnie Beale, to approve the draft letter to Secretary Tata. Motion was carried.***

9. Philip provided updates on the Graham CTP progress with additional comments from Greg Cable.

***No action necessary.***

10. Philip provided updates on the freight assessment and his recent field trip to Greer, SC.

***No action necessary.***

11. A Division 14 update was given by Edward Green.

***No action necessary.***

12. Chairman Edwards led the Board in the nomination and election of a new TAC chair.

- Commissioner Debnam nominated Mike Fitzgerald as the new Chair of the Board.

***Ronnie Beale made the motion to elect Mike Fitzgerald as the new Chair and the vote to elect Commissioner Fitzgerald was unanimous.***

13. No public comment was received.

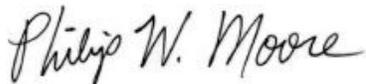
***No action necessary.***

14. Next meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2014, although it was noted that the newly elected Chairman Fitzgerald might have a conflict on this date.

15. Meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.

***Motion to adjourn made by Jack Debnam. Motion was carried.***

Respectfully submitted,



Philip W. Moore, RPO Secretary  
With assistance from Becca Duley, Community Planner