



## TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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**Full Commission/Executive Board (in lieu of Lack of Quorum): April 2, 2025, 9:00 a.m.**

### MINUTES

#### 1. Call to Order, Welcome, Recognition of Audience

Chairman Greg Menold called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

#### 2. Roll Call

Commissioner	Present	Absent	Commissioner	Present	Absent
<b>Amanda Beadles</b> Chillicothe	X		<b>Leon Ricca</b> Bartonville	X	
<b>Rita Ali</b> City of Peoria		X	<b>Nate Parrott</b> Morton	X	
<b>Patrick Urich</b> City of Peoria		X	<b>Autum Jones</b> Woodford Co.	X	
<b>Rick Powers</b> City of Peoria	X		<b>Chuck Nagel</b> Woodford Co.		X
<b>Terry Keogel</b> Creve Coeur		X	<b>Camille Coates</b> Peoria Co.	X	
<b>John Kahl</b> East Peoria	X		<b>Danny Phelan</b> Peoria Co.	X	
<b>Karl Figg</b> Germantown Hills	X		<b>Russ Crawford</b> Tazewell Co.	X	
<b>Mike Phelan</b> Peoria Heights		X	<b>Greg Menold</b> Tazewell Co.	X	
<b>Mary Burress</b> City of Pekin		X	<b>Don Knox</b> CityLink	~X	
<b>Gary Manier</b> Washington		X	<b>Karen Dvorsky</b> IDOT		X
<b>James Dillon</b> West Peoria	X				

~ = Virtual participant

Also Present: Ray Lees, Rebecca Eisele, Eric Miller, Michael Bruner, Debbi La Rue, Reema Abi-Akar, Isaiah Hageman, Logan Chapman, Adam Crutcher, and Lori Reynolds, TCRPC; Doug DeLille, IDOT; Irene Pritzker, League of Women Voters; Don Knox, CityLink, attended virtually.

#### 3. Public Comment

Eric Miller welcomed Irene Pritzker from the League of Women Voters, and introduced Kathie Brown from Greater Peoria Economic Development Council.

#### 4. Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes of March 5, 2025

Autum Jones moved to approve the March 5, 2025 meeting minutes, seconded by John Kahl.  
Motion carried.

#### 5. Chairman Report

None

## 6. Executive Director report

a. Eric Miller reported on the following:

- Tri-County will have a presentation of the completed LRTP later in the meeting, but he wanted to publicly thank staff for all their hard work on this huge project.
- There is a new HSIP grant that Tri-County is planning to utilize for guardrails, though costs from the locations identified in the previous grant are coming in high due to inflation.
  - Michael Bruner stated that the plan is to submit another HSIP grant to fund the guardrails that were designated with Tri-County's existing grant but will not be constructed due to funding constraints.
  - Michael also stated that Tri-County will submit a second application if additional jurisdictions with a guardrail inventory want to submit guardrails for improvement.
  - Rick Powers stated that to have to wait five years on a safety project is unconscionable; he is dismayed at the time required. Where is the urgency? Once the issue is reported, it needs to be addressed. Peoria went ahead and started on their list without a grant because of the importance of the issues.
- Tri-County will be taking over CDBG administration. Give Tri-County a call if you need CDBG assistance, as Jim Cummings at GPEDC is retiring.
- Tri-County is meeting with CityLink regarding a planning services contract.

## 7. Ways and Means Report

a. **Motion to approve the February 2025 Financial Statements and Billings (Resolution 25-45)**

Camille Coates moved to approve the February 2025 Financial Statements and Billings (Resolution 25-45); Nate Parrott seconded the motion. Rebecca Eisele reported on the February 2025 financial statements:

Rebecca Eisele reported the following:

- Total Operating Cash at the end of the month was approximately \$982k. Operating cash increased by \$136k in February, compared to January.
- Total Accounts Receivable balance at the end of the month was \$297k. Of the A/R balance, \$235k was federal funds, \$45k was state funds, and \$16k was local funds.
- Accounts Payable balance at the end of the month was \$100k, and of that amount there was \$90k in unpaid pass-through expenses as of the end of February. The remaining \$10k Accounts Payable balance at the end of February was for regular bills.
- February had 19 regular working days, 1 paid holiday, and 52.5 hours of PTO were used by staff.
- Total Revenue for February was \$136k.
- Total Expenses for February were \$122k.
- February ended with a surplus of approximately \$14.5k.
- Approximately \$40k of local TCRPC funds have been used in FY25 for local matching funds for grants.
- Fiscal Year 2025 has a surplus of approximately \$182k.

Motion carried.

b. **Motion to approve the recommendation of selected firm to complete the financial and compliance audit for the fiscal year 2025 (Resolution 25-47)**

Autum Jones motioned to approve recommendation of selected firm to complete the financial and compliance audit for the fiscal year 2025 (Resolution 25-47), seconded by Camille Coates.

Camille Coates reported that Ways and Means discussed this earlier. There were three respondents, narrowed down to two, MH and Sikich. One issue that was discussed was whether the Commission would have excessive eyes on it due to using the same auditor for so many years, but the comfort level is with MH because they are able to use a different set of auditors, rather than starting with a different firm that would have to learn this organization, and at an added expense. Eric stated that there was a third applicant that was not as qualified. This is for a one-year engagement for \$26,950 with the opportunity to renew for up to five years, with the understanding that there would be a different team of auditors than last year.

Motion carried.

## 8. Administration

- a. ~~Motion to approve IMRF Resolution allowing buy back of out-of-state time (Resolution 25-48)~~  
Stricken due to more research being required.

## 9. Transportation

- a. **Motion to adopt the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) 2050 (Resolution 25-49)**  
[https://tricountyrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/LRTP-2050-Plan\\_Final-Draft-reduced.pdf](https://tricountyrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/LRTP-2050-Plan_Final-Draft-reduced.pdf)  
John Kahl motioned to adopt the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) 2050 (Resolution 25-49), and James Dillon seconded the motion.

Reema Abi-Akar reported the following:

- An LRTP is a 25-year snapshot of the state of the regional transportation system. The Plan includes a fiscally constrained project list for the 25-year planning horizon and illustrative list for projects unable to make the fiscally constrained list.
- A 30-day public comment period was held from March 3, 2025, to April 1, 2025. During this time, two public meetings were held during existing MPO meetings.
  - Full Commission, March 5, 2025
  - MPO Technical Committee, March 19, 2025
- During the public comment period, staff received a few clarification comments from member jurisdictions ensuring projects are included in the LRTP.
  - From these comments, only one project needed to be added to the LRTP: Hickory Point Road Pavement Preservation. The project limits are from IL-116 to Santa Fe Trail in Woodford County. Due to the Plan already being fiscally constrained, this project was added to the Illustrative List with an anticipated cost of \$500,000.
- The LRTP 2050 was reviewed and recommended by the Technical Committee at their meeting on March 19, 2025.

Motion carried.

- b. **Motion to approve the FY 2026 United Planning Work Program (UPWP) (Resolution 25-50)**  
<https://tricountyrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/DRAFT-FY2026-UPWP-TCRPC.pdf>  
Leon Ricca motioned to approve the FY 2026 United Planning Work Program (UPWP) (Resolution 25-50), seconded by Danny Phelan.

Michael Bruner reported the following:

- Like the LRTP, the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is one of the core MPO planning documents and serves as the budget for the metropolitan transportation planning process.

- The document directs the day-to-day work of the MPO and all transportation planning activities with a corresponding budget Tri-County proposes to undertake during FY 2026 (July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026).
- At the MPO Technical Committee meeting on March 19, 2025, the Committee recommended that the Commission approve and adopt the FY 2026 UPWP.

Motion carried.

c. **Motion to approve the FY 2026 Joint Funding Agreement (Resolution 25-51)**

John Kahl motioned to approve the FY 2026 Joint Funding Agreement (Resolution 25-51), seconded by Leon Ricca.

Michael Bruner reported the following:

- At the MPO Technical Committee meeting on March 19, 2025, the Committee recommended that the Commission approve the FY 2026 Joint Funding Agreement.
- The MPO's PL marks for FY 2026 are almost identical to this year's allotment.
- The Commission's PL Marks are as follows:
  - \$974,105.55 in Federal funding and \$243,526.39 in non-Federal match funding, amounting to a total project budget of \$1,217,631.94.
- For FY 2026, the Commission will be utilizing the State Metropolitan Planning Funds for the non-federal match. Therefore, the FY 2026 membership dues will be utilized as local dollars and programmed by this body (Full Commission) in a separate work program. Some examples of previous years' uses are matching grants, such as the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) and Statewide Planning and Research (SPR) grants.
- For determining each jurisdiction membership fee, each agency's previous calendar year's MFT allotment is summed to gather the total MFT allotment for the region. Each jurisdiction's MFT allotment is divided by the total MFT allotment for the region and multiplied by 100. This determines each agency's percentage of the regional MFT allotment. That percentage is used in determining their required contribution for the FY 2026 membership fee.

Motion carried.

d. **Motion to approve the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments (Resolution 25-52)**

Danny Phelan motioned to approve the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments (Resolution 25-52), seconded by John Kahl.

Michael Bruner reported the following:

i. **Project S-27-08 IL-40 Miscellaneous Improvements**

- The project is installing a traffic signal on the IL-6 Northbound ramp terminal.
- The HSIP funding source is being added, and adjustments to the NHPP and State funding sources are being made accordingly.
- The project is being moved from the FY 2027 Program to the FY 2026 Program with the planned letting date of June 13, 2025.

ii. **Project PC-27-01 Radnor Road Phase II Engineering**

- The project will provide Phase II Engineering for Radnor Rd from 950 feet north of Ridgeview Drive to Willow Knolls Rd.
- The project is being added to the FY 2027 Program.

Motion carried.

## **10. Updates**

### **a. IDOT**

Doug DeLille reported that Anna Musial and Jon Paul Diipila have returned to work. He received an email from the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations that was a directive again from executives to transfer money from TIFIA (Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act) and redistribute it through the STBG formula program to the MPOs. He received no further guidance other than it was going to happen.

### **b. FHWA**

No updates.

## **11. Other**

### **a. Report back from Building Resilient Economies in Coal Communities (BRECC) Conference**

Debbi La Rue shared handouts and gave a synopsis of her trip to the BRECC Conference in February with Kathie Brown from Greater Peoria Economic Development Council. At the conference, they gave a brief presentation of diversification strategies for communities that are transitioning from a coal economy. Some of the strategies have a natural alignment with Tri-County's mission, having to do with transportation and microtransit, and some regional housing strategies. Tri-County will share this potential alignment with the Executive Committee, then GPEDC will begin using some of these implementation strategies.

### **b. Next meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.**

## **12. Adjournment**

Leon Ricca moved to adjourn the meeting, and Autum Jones seconded. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 9:42 a.m.

Submitted by: Eric Miller, Executive Director

Recorded by: Michael Brunner

Transcribed by: Lori Reynolds