



# TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EST. 1958

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

456 Fulton St. Suite 401

Peoria, IL 61602

**CHUCK NAGEL, CHAIRMAN**

**(Danny Phelan, John Kahl, Camille Coates, Russ Crawford,  
Patrick Urich, Autum Jones, Cathryn Stump)**

***Monday, May 18, 2026 9:00 a.m.***

### MINUTES

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Chuck Nagel called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Present: Chuck Nagel, John Kahl, Patrick Urich, Danny Phelan, Autum Jones, Russ Crawford, Cathryn Stump.

Also present were Eric Miller, Reema Abi-Akar, and Lori Reynolds from TCRPC.

Absent: Camille Coates.

**3. Public Input**

None.

**4. Motion to approve April 18, 2026 minutes**

Autum Jones made a motion to approve the minutes from April 18, 2026, and Danny Phelan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**5. Executive Director report**

Eric Miller reported the following:

- Excellent response to job ads for both the Planner and Planning Program Manager positions. Spent much of last week interviewing very well-qualified candidates for both positions.
- Continued discussion with Greater Peoria Economic Development Council (GPECD) on Regional Housing Program. Board spoke about this over a year ago and housing is still an issue in all three counties. GPECD is interested in pursuing funding assistance in coordination with TCRPC as well as some direction in finding a consultant. TCRPC will not staff the project but will assist in locating a proper consultant and funding. Could be 8-10 before anything happens.
- Our partner organization in Rockford feels the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) suballocation formula needs to be revisited. After a discussion with our Technical Committee, it appears as though TCRPC is not in favor of examining the formula, as it would upset the way funds are currently distributed. Eric will let Rockford know TCRPC is willing to attend a meeting and give input. Engineers from

the three counties report that a change in formula will affect funding for roads, bridges, and more.

- Federal transportation bill expires on September 30, 2026. The resolution will probably continue and will remain status quo for another year, the formula may change after that.
- Brownfield assessment needs final approval for amendment to get reimbursed so staff can be paid for that work.
- Eric stated that he has approval to sign contracts for comp plans for Elmwood and Mackinaw and staff will get started on those as time allows.
- In FY23 staff started a program using state planning research funds for six comp plans in the region, and all six have been adopted by the communities. Thanks to Else for the commitment to getting that done.

**6. Recommendation to Commission the approval of Final FY 2027 Budget (Resolution 26-58)**

Russ Crawford made a motion to approve recommending to the Commission the Final FY 2027 Budget. Danny Phelan seconded the motion.

Eric Miller reported that there were no real changes. The budget is in a surplus state of \$305,000, projecting to be down in salary, healthcare and other benefits due to changes in staffing.

Motion carried.

**7. Recommendation to Commission the approval of Cost of Living Increase (Resolution 26-57)**

Danny Phelan made a motion to approve recommending to the Commission a Cost of Living Increase. Autumn Jones seconded the motion.

Eric Miller reported that the Consumer Price Index is at 3.8% so that is the figure that will be used to give all current staff a pay increase at the same rate. This applies to all staff who have been with the Commission for at least six months.

Motion carried.

**8. Recommendation to the Commission the approval of FY Slate of Officers, Executive Board, Committee Chairpersons and Members for a Period from July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027 (Resolution 26-59)**

Russ Crawford made a motion to approve recommending to the Commission the approval of FY 2027 Slate of Officers, Executive Board, Committee Chairpersons and Members for a Period from July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027. Autumn Jones seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

9. **Recommendation to the Commission the approval of Cathryn Stump being appointed to the Executive Board and the Personnel Committee (Resolution 26-60)**

Russ Crawford made a motion to approve recommending to the Commission the approval of Cathryn Stump being appointed to the Executive Committee and the Personnel Committee. Autum Jones seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

10. **Executive Session not needed.**

11. **Other**

- a. Danny Phelan recommended making a resolution to recognize Greg Menold for his years of service as he exits. The board agreed to invite Greg to the next Executive Board meeting.
- b. Next Meeting will be June 15, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

12. **Adjournment**

Autum Jones made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by John Kahl, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

Submitted by: Eric Miller, Executive Director  
Recorded and transcribed by: Lori Reynolds