



TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EST. 1958

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

456 Fulton St. Suite 401

Peoria, IL 61602

Don White, CHAIRMAN

(Chuck Nagel, Rita Ali, Russ Crawford, Greg Menold, Autum Jones, Andrew Rand, John Kahl

Monday, April 17, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chairman White called the meeting to order at 9:01 am

2. Roll Call

Present: Don White, Russ Crawford, Greg Menold, Autum Jones, and John Kahl. Absent: Chuck Nagel, Rita Ali, and Andrew Rand. Virtual- Eric Miller. Also present: Debbie Ulrich, Camille Coates, Danny Phelan, Rebecca Eisele, and Michael Bruner.

3. Public Input-none

4. Motion to approve February 13, 2023, minutes.

John Kahl moved to approve February 13, 2023, minutes and Greg Menold seconded. Motion carried.

5. Executive Director report

Eric Miller reported on the following:

- Working with Regional stakeholder group led by the City of Peoria regarding EV charging stations.
- Working on several Comprehensive Plans
- Working on UPWP budget
- Strategic Planning timeline cycle

6. Discussion of amending the Commission Employee Handbook- Memo attached.

Commission Retirement Plans- Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund

<https://www.imrf.org/cmsmedia/files/multi-site-files/employer/units-of-government-considering-participation-in-imrf.pdf?la=en>

Eric Miller reported on the following:

- IMRF would be an attraction and retention benefit for our staff.
- Had HR Fit do a compensation study on benefits and retirement.

Rebecca Eisele explained the handout.

- 457B our current retirement contributes 5% to 7% savings. With IMRF the Commission rate will be 12.93%

- Once a unit of government IMRF, it cannot withdraw. The Commission would not have the right to terminate participation in IMRF, ever.
- If TCRPC ever dissolved, the member counties would be required to take on the IMRF obligation.
- Funds previously contributed to IMRF by TCROC would be reallocated to the IMRF fund(s) of the unit(s) of government that absorbed the IMRF liability.
She then explained the Retirement Pension Tier 2 Regular Plan
- Russ Crawford asked if we could use IDOT rate and if this is all or nothing and she said it would be all.
- Eric Miller it is not a consensus at this time. This is a tool to help staff plan for there future and is a retention and attraction tool for employees. We are at fact findings at this time.
- Autum Jones mentioned this needs to be addressed at the 3 county board levels.
- Eric Miller added that July 2024 is our rate lock. We are generating a list of questions.
- Russ Crawford added we do not want to be a training ground. We need to keep good employees.
- Eric Miller added in order to adopt we need 2/3 majority vote from Commissioners.
Almost unanimous consensus.

7. Discussion and action to have Terracon Consultants, Inc. prepare a FY2024 EPA Brownfield Grant Application at no cost to the Commission- Memo attached.

Russ Crawford moved to have Terracon Consultants; Inc. prepare a FY2024 EPA Brownfield Grant Application at no cost to the Commission and John Kahl seconded. Motion carried.

Eric Miller updated on the following:

- This was prompted by conversations with brownfield site investigation consultant, Terracon, the Greater Peoria Economic Development Council (GPEDC) approached TCRPC about the referenced grant application development work determining that, as a public body, Tri-County would be a more appropriate organization to lead the referenced investigation and planning effort. TRCPC staff wishes to inform you that it intends to approve a Work Authorization with St. Louis-based Terracon Consultants, Inc. (Terracon) to carry out Professional Brownfields Services, including: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Grant Writing at no cost to the Commission TCRPC staff will keep the Executive Committee and Commission informed of progress in this regard.

8. Discussion of Transportation Alternatives Program Call for projects

Michael Bruner updated on the following:

FY 2021 allotment is \$293,959; FY 2022 allotment is \$576,352; and FY 2023 allotment is \$ 588, 254. The total available funds are \$1,458,565. TCRPC announced the availability of TA set-aside funding on February 15, 2023. Applications were due March 31, 2023. The Commission received 2 applications; however, we extended the due date to May 4 due to bad weather.

Village of Germantown Hills submitted project:

- Germantown Hills to Metamora Trail

- Phase I & II Engineering for design of an off-road multi-use trail along IL Route 116. Improvements will be a 10 ft wide hot-mix asphalt path separated from roadway by vegetated buffer.
- Limits: Woodland Knolls Rd (Germantown Hills) to Douglas (Metamora)
- Length: 5.4 miles
- Project Funding-Phase 1/Phase 2- Engineering--TA Funds is \$240,000, Local Funds- \$60,000 Total funds- \$300,000.
- 20% local match to be funded by the Village of Germantown Hills, and Village of Metamora.

Peoria County

- Maxwell Road & Middle Road
 - Presented existing and proposed cross section.
 - Proposed sidewalk and multi-use path. Will complete connection to over 400 homes.
 - 4 miles of connected sidewalk & path upon completion
 - Project Funding- TA funds \$486,188, Local funds- \$192,761- Total project- \$678,949

TCRPC received a total TA set-aside funding request of \$726,188 (49.8%) of the \$1,458,565 available in funding. This would leave \$732,377 in leftover TA funding.

Staff recommends funding Germantown Hills at their requested 80% funding level and funding Peoria County at 80% of their total project cost, leaving \$675,406 in leftover TA funding.

Consensus was to go out for another Call for Projects for the remaining \$675, 406 in leftover TA funding.

9. Other

Don White mentioned that he is going to write a letter to Mayor Hughes to continue being the representative of Tri County Regional Planning Commission.

10. Adjournment

Autum Jones moved to adjourn at 10:13 am and John Kahl seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by:

Eric Miller, Executive Director

Transcribed by:

Debbie Ulrich, Office Administrator