



**TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

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**Ways & Means Committee: 8:30 a.m., September 4, 2024 - canceled**

**Full Commission/Executive Board (in lieu of Lack of Quorum): 9:00 a.m., September 4, 2024**

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

Chairman Greg Menold called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Commissioner	Present	Absent	Commissioner	Present	Absent
<b>Don White</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>Ron Talbot</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>Ann Doubet</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				

Also Present: Ray Lees, Rebecca Eisele, Eric Miller, Debbi La Rue, Gabriel Guevara, Reema Abi-Akar, Michael Bruner, Else Hayes, Isaiah Hageman, Logan Chapman, and Lori Reynolds, TCRPC; and Doug DeLille, IDOT

**3. Public Comment**

None

**4. Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2024**

Chuck Nagel moved to approve the August 7, 2024 meeting minutes, seconded by Danny Phelan. Motion carried.

**5. Chairman Report**

None

**6. Executive Director report**

Eric Miller reported on the following:

- a. Staff is saying goodbye to Planner Gabriel Guevara, who is taking a job in Chicago.
- b. Auditors were in the office last week, and the results will be available in November or December.
- c. In the past, the Commission approved a resolution that authorized Eric Miller to develop a federal grant for Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure. The City of Peoria’s application was not

chosen in this round of funding, so Tri-County will continue the education process and see if there is an option to resubmit next year.

Ray Lees reported the following:

- a. The Army Corps of Engineers assisting with Peoria Lake's watershed problems, specifically, excessive sediment being deposited in the Illinois River. They will look at a smaller area that impinges on navigation of barges – Blue Creek receives 32,000 tons of sediment with heavy rainfall.
- b. A survey will begin tomorrow with the Corps of Engineers and two ecologists to look at stream bed erosion. The group hopes to use this as a model for other Illinois River tributaries.

## 7. Ways and Means Report

Camille Coates moved to approve the July 2024 Financial Statements and Billings (Resolution 25-09), seconded by Russ Crawford.

Rebecca Eisele reported on the July 2024 Financial Statements.

Motion carried.

## 8. Administration

### a. Motion to approve the Commission Dissolution Policy (Resolution 25-10)

Chuck Nagel moved to approve the Commission Dissolution Policy (Resolution 25-10), seconded by Russ Crawford.

Eric Miller stated that what began as a discussion of joining IMRF turned to the larger picture of what happens if the Commission dissolves. Attorneys at Heyl Royster detailed directions to divide assets and liabilities in equitable, proportionate shares per the EDAL method, using Motor Fuel tax receipts percentages to simulate population of counties.

Russ Crawford commented that the majority of the Executive Board thought this was the best of four possibilities. He would like to know how much was spent on legal fees for this resolution.

Motion carried.

### b. Motion to approve out of state travel 2024 Thriving Communities Program Convening on October 10 through 11, 2024, at the USDOT Headquarters in Washington, DC (Resolution 25-11)

Danny Phelan moved to approve out of state travel 2024 Thriving Communities Program Convening on October 10 through 11, 2024, at the USDOT Headquarters in Washington, DC (Resolution 25-11), seconded by Camille Coates.

Debbi La Rue reported the following:

As background, in November of 2023, Tri-County partnered with the City of Peoria and Peoria County to apply for the FY 2023 USDOT Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Program.

- i. The Thriving Communities Program provides three years of no-cost, intensive technical assistance to under-resourced and disadvantaged communities with a goal of facilitating the planning and development of transportation infrastructure and associated community revitalization activities.
- ii. This award has no direct funding and allocates federal funding for the USDOT-selected consulting team, led by Abt Global, Inc., to provide technical assistance and capacity building for the above project.
- iii. The geographic scope of the project extends through the historic communities under the bluff, from the McCluggage Bridge through the unincorporated areas of the Southside to Kickapoo Creek.
- iv. In this first six months of the program, Tri-County staff is working with Abt Global, Inc. and many community partners to collaboratively develop the consultant's scope of

work. The draft scope of work is due to the USDOT in October, and staff expects work to begin at the start of 2025.

- v. The Tri-County staff member will be accompanied by Assistant City Manager Kimberly Richardson and Assistant City Engineer Paola Mendez-Silvagnoli, both from the City of Peoria.
- vi. The consultant team is arranging travel for the participants. Travel, lodging, and expenses will be reimbursed by USDOT through the consultant team.

Motion carried.

c. **Motion to approve the purchase of a Large Format Plotter for an amount not to exceed \$5,000 (Resolution 25-12)**

Russ Crawford moved to approve the purchase of a Large Format Plotter for an amount not to exceed \$5,000 (Resolution 25-12), seconded by Danny Phelan.

Eric Miller stated that this is an unbudgeted expense and will be taken out of local funds, where there are adequate funds to make the purchase. He gave the floor to Isaiah Hageman to report on the plotter. Isaiah Hageman reported the following:

- i. The Commission's current large-format plotter has unexpectedly reached its end of life.
- ii. Staff have evaluated the Commission's printing needs and determined the purchase of a new large-format plotter would be beneficial and align with the Commission's goals.
- iii. GIS staff assist in the development and printing of large-format maps for various projects and Commission members upon request.
- iv. Recently, the Commission's primary large-format plotting needs have been for maps and displays for comprehensive plans and long-range transportation plan public engagement
- v. Staff recommends that the Full Commission approve the purchase of a new plotter for an amount not to exceed \$5,000. With this being an unexpected equipment failure, funding for a new plotter was not allocated in the FY 2025 MPO budget.

Motion carried.

d. **Motion to approve the purchase of Workstation and IT Upgrades for an amount not to exceed \$6,500 (Resolution 25-13)**

Camille Coates moved to approve the purchase of Workstation and IT Upgrades for an amount not to exceed \$6,500 (Resolution 25-13), seconded by Autum Jones.

Michael Bruner reported the following:

- i. During the MPO budgeting process earlier this year in late winter/early spring, Staff identified the need for some technology upgrades:
  - 1. Replacement of a workstation that is reaching the end of its useful life
  - 2. Server upgrades for increased storage capacity
  - 3. Upgrade of monitors and associated stands for GIS staff
- ii. A total of \$6,500 of FY25 PL funding has been budgeted for these improvements.

Motion carried.

## 9. Transportation

a. **Motion to approve reappointment of Jodi Scott to the Human Service Transportation Plan (HSTP) Urban Subcommittee for another three-year term (Resolution 25-14)**

Autum Jones moved to approve reappointment of Jodi Scott to the Human Service Transportation Plan (HSTP) Urban Subcommittee for another three-year term (Resolution 25-14), Russ Crawford seconded the motion.

Reema Abi-Akar reported that:

- i. Tri-County convenes the Human Service Transportation Plan (HSTP) Committee meetings every two months.
- ii. The HSTP Committee covers the Peoria-Pekin Urban Area and the seven surrounding rural counties.
  1. The HSTP Committee is comprised of two subcommittees:
    - a. Urban Subcommittee
    - b. Rural Subcommittee
  2. Members of the Urban Subcommittee are appointed by the Commission for three-year terms.
    - a. Staff recommends Jodi Scott of Advocates for Access to be reappointed to the Urban Subcommittee for another three-year term.

Motion carried.

**b. Motion to approve the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation and selected consultant for the FY 2025 Statewide Planning and Research (SPR) Award (Resolution 25-15)**

Camille Coates moved to approve the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation and selected consultant for the FY 2025 Statewide Planning and Research (SPR) Award (Resolution 25-15), seconded by Russ Crawford.

Michael Bruner reported:

- i. IDOT released a Call for Projects for FY 2025 Statewide Planning and Research (SPR) funds on February 29, 2024, with applications due by April 14, 2024.
- ii. SPR funds are used to support planning and research activities, such as planning studies, data purchase, collection, or analysis, research activities, program development activities, performance management activities, and coordination/outreach activities.
- iii. The Commission submitted two applications:
  1. Peoria County Comprehensive and Multi-Modal Plan
    - a. This submission was a two-part application, and included funding for:
      - i. The development of the Peoria County Comprehensive Plan, and
      - ii. Illinois Route 29 (IL-29) Multimodal Corridor Plan
        1. Aimed to identify bicycle, pedestrian, and transit infrastructure from downtown Peoria to the City of Chillicothe
    2. Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive and Multi-Modal Plan
      - a. This submission was a four-part application, and included funding for:
        - i. The development of comprehensive plans for:
          1. City of Pekin,
          2. Tazewell County, and
          3. Woodford County
        - ii. IL-29 Multimodal Corridor Plan
          1. Aimed to identify bicycle, pedestrian, and transit infrastructure from the City of East Peoria to the City of Pekin
  - iv. Commission staff received a Notice of State Award for a portion of the Peoria County Comprehensive and Multi-Modal Plan.
    1. The funded portion of the application is the IL-29 Multimodal Corridor Plan.
    2. The award is for \$240,000 in federal funds and \$60,000 in State funds, for a total project cost of \$300,000
    3. The IL-29 Multimodal Corridor Study will include:
      - a. Inventorying existing conditions
      - b. Conducting community engagement
      - c. Analyzing multimodal options

- d. Providing bicycle, pedestrian, and transit accommodation recommendations
- e. Streetscaping and design recommendations

Motion carried.

c. **Long-Range Transportation Plan**

- i. **Overview** – Michael Bruner shared a PowerPoint presentation, explaining what an MPO’s functions are, focus areas, present and future goals, and the planning process.
- ii. **Interactive Input Activity** – Reema Abi-Akar ran an interactive input activity with three questions:
  - 1. What are the highest transportation priorities in our region?  
Options: Multimodal roadways, driving culture, and safety.
  - 2. What are the region’s challenges related to transportation?  
Options: Connectivity, safety, and funding.
  - 3. What projects/types are most important to you?  
Options: Sidewalks, connectivity, disability accessibility to public transit, maintained bridges, and bus stop improvements.

**10. Updates**

- a. **IDOT** – Doug DeLille, IDOT representative, introduced himself.
- b. **FHWA** – no updates.

**11. Other**

- a. Next meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

**12. Adjournment**

Autum Jones motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Camille Coates seconded. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

Submitted by: Eric Miller, Executive Director

Recorded by: Michael Bruner, Planner

Transcribed by: Lori Reynolds, Office Administrator