



TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EST. 1958

TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
456 FULTON STREET, SUITE 420
PEORIA, IL 61602
Phone: 309-673-9330
www.tricountyrpc.org

Full Commission/Executive Board (in lieu of Lack of Quorum): June 4, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order, Welcome, Recognition of Audience

Chairman Greg Menold called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

2. Roll Call

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

~ = Virtual participant

Also Present: Ray Lees, Rebecca Eisele, Eric Miller, Michael Bruner, Reema Abi-Akar, Isaiah Hageman, Else Hayes and Lori Reynolds, TCRPC; Doug DeLille, IDOT; Cheryl Budzinski, League of Women Voters; Gary Manier, City of Washington; ~Heidi Thomas, Lochmueller Group.

3. Public Comment

Chairman Greg Menold welcomed new Peoria Heights Mayor Matthew Wigginton and new Washington Mayor Lilija Stevens. Both stated they were happy to be a part of the Commission.

4. Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes of May 7, 2025

John Kahl moved to approve the May 7, 2025 meeting minutes, seconded by Russ Crawford.
Motion carried.

5. Chairman Report

Chairman Greg Menold stated his heartfelt thanks to the commissioners and staff for the help and support, and his appreciation for all their hard work and preparedness during his time as chairman.

6. Executive Director report

Eric Miller reported the following:

- He attended the MPO meeting in Springfield the previous day, discussed ADA transition planning. Reach out if your community needs assistance.
- Executive orders seemed to have calmed down for now.
- IAJA reauthorization is coming up, communicate with your legislators to have your voice heard.
- IDOT spend-down
- Peoria County Comp Plan and IL 29 Study submissions are being approved.
- Presented at Morton EDC collaboration, have extended invitation to other communities and EDCs to let them know TCRPC is available.

7. Ways and Means Report

a. Motion to approve the April 2025 Financial Statements and Billings (Resolution 25-65)

Camille Coates motioned to approve the April 2025 Financial Statements and Billings. Autumn Jones seconded the motion.

Rebecca Eisele reported the following:

- Total Operating Cash at the end of the month was approximately \$978k. Operating cash increased by \$48k in April, compared to March.
- Total Accounts Receivable balance at the end of the month was \$305k. Of the A/R balance, \$252k was federal funds, \$44k was state funds, and \$9k was local funds.
- Accounts Payable balance at the end of the month was \$98k, and of that amount there was \$95k in unpaid pass-through expenses as of the end of April. The remaining \$3k Accounts Payable balance at the end of April was for regular bills.
- Total Revenue for April was \$156k.
- Total Expenses for April were (\$164k).
- April ended with a deficit of approximately (\$7k).
- Approximately (\$60k) of local TCRPC funds have been used in FY25 for local matching funds for grants.
- Fiscal Year 2025 has a surplus of approximately \$155k.

Rick Powers asked if the Commission sees any problems with funding cuts. Eric Miller said at this point he doesn't see any direct impact, and it would have been brought up at the MPO meeting in Springfield if a problem was anticipated. Everyone seems to have a 'wait and see' attitude.

Motion carried.

b. Motion to approve the FY26 Budget (Resolution 25-62)

Camille Coates motioned to approve the FY26 Budget. John Kahl seconded the motion.

- Eric stated this the same budget that was handed out as a draft last month. No change at all. Executive board reviewed and Ways & Means has recommended it. Positive, healthy budget, \$151,000 surplus.

Motion carried

8. Administration

a. Motion to approve an amendment to the Employee Handbook, Parental Leave policy (Resolution 25-64)

Terry Keogel motioned to approve an amendment to the Employee Handbook, Parental Leave policy. Matt Wigginton seconded the motion.

Eric Miller reported that shortly after the approval of this policy last month, a conflict was discovered in the language that would prevent an employee from applying for short term disability until they used all their PTO. The employee should be able to apply anytime during their leave. Executive committee has reviewed and recommended the change, retroactive to May 7 when the original resolution was signed. Motion carried, with John Kahl and Russ Crawford voting nay.

b. Motion to approve IMRF Resolution allowing buy-back of out-of-state time (Resolution 25-48)

John Kahl motioned to approve IMRF Resolution allowing buy-back of out-of-state time. Danny Phelan seconded the motion.

- Eric Miller stated that IMRF requires a separate resolution for each situation, and this does not set a precedent. There is a fractional cost to the Commission for this particular individual's request.
- Rick Powers asked if a policy could be developed that is litigation-proof.
- Russ Crawford stated that we don't know what's going to happen in the future, each case is handled individually.
- Matt Wigginton suggested that it be a consideration during the hiring process.

Motion carried.

9. Transportation

a. Motion to approve programming of redistributed TIFIA funds to Transportation Alternative Set-Aside funds (Resolution 25-69)

Reema Abi-Akar presented the following:

- Tri-County received a letter from IDOT (included in the packet) allocating \$75,455 in TIFIA redistribution funds for the Transportation Alternatives (TA) program, specifically for Transportation Management Areas (TMAs).
 - TMAs are urbanized areas with populations over 200,000, as designated by the U.S. Census Bureau.
- During the recent Combined Call for Projects, TA funding was awarded to:
 - City of Peoria's Pioneer Parkway Multiuse Path
 - Village of Peoria Heights' Glen Avenue ADA Improvements
 - Of these projects, the Peoria Heights project was underfunded by \$115,756 (requested \$876,305; received \$760,549).
- The Technical Committee previously recommended partial funding for the Peoria Heights project and stated that any future TA funds would be considered for programming this project.
- Now that we have additional funding to use, applying the \$75,455 in TIFIA redistribution funds to the Peoria Heights project would reduce the funding shortfall to \$40,301.
- At the last technical meeting on May 21st, the Committee recommended this allocation to the Village of Peoria Heights Glen Ave ADA project, and in the next agenda item, we will vote to amend the TIP to reflect additional federal funding for Project PH-26-01.

Motion carried.

b. Motion to approve the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments (Resolution 25-70)

Autum Jones motioned to adopt the Human Service Transportation Plan (HSTP) Region 5 Update. Danny Phelan seconded the motion.

Michael Bruner presented the following:

- i. Project S-26-10 Traffic Signal Upgrades
 - The project is to install new traffic signal controllers, battery backup systems, and CCTV cameras at various locations in IDOT District 4.
 - The Carbon Reduction Program is being utilized by the State to fund this project at 80%.
 - The project is being added to the FY 2026 program and is currently scheduled for the 8/1/2025 letting.
- ii. Project S-26-11 Highway Lighting Upgrades
 - The project is making upgrades to lighting from HPS to LED luminaries on existing light towers, poles, and underpass luminaries along I-74 from Sterling Ave to the Illinois River.
 - The Carbon Reduction Program is being utilized by the State to fund this project at 80%.
 - The project is being added to the FY 2026 program and is currently scheduled for the 9/19/2025 letting.
- iii. Project S-26-12 Highway Lighting Upgrades
 - The project is making upgrades to lighting from HPS to LED luminaries on existing light towers, poles, and underpass luminaries along I-74 from Knoxville Ave to Washington St. in East Peoria.
 - The Carbon Reduction Program is being utilized by the State to fund this project at 80%.
 - The project is being added to the FY 2026 program and is currently scheduled for the 9/19/2025 letting.
- iv. Project PH-26-01 Glen Ave ADA Ramps
 - This amendment involves increasing the federal allotment by \$75,455 for a total of \$836,004.
 - The previous funding shortfall was \$115,756, and with this amendment, it would be \$40,301.
 - The updated funding split increased the total federal funding from 67% to 74% and reduced the local contribution from 33% to 26%
 - The Federal funds are as follows:
 - 58% Transportation Alternatives,
 - 9% STBG, and
 - 7% TIFIA-TA.
 - The total project cost is \$1,132,881.04.

Motion carried.

b. Motion to adopt the Tri-County Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (Resolution 25-71)

Russ Crawford motioned to approve the Tri-County Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. John Kahl seconded the motion.

Reema Abi-Akar introduced Heidi Thomas from Lochmueller Group, who virtually presented the following:

- 8 Step Process funded by Safe Streets 4 All program to reduce the number of fatal and serious injuries within the region – combined crash data and other analysis. Ultimate goal is to make all streets in the tri-county region safer for all users
 - Steering Committee – FHWA, IDOT, law enforcement, city/village reps, safety advocates, TCRPC staff, business and educational institutions.

- Safety Analysis – uses historical data of fatal and serious injury crashes, and vulnerable road users – pedestrians, cyclists, wheelchairs, scooters – without the armor of a vehicle. This analysis results in the High Injury Network per county – strategic locations where the most impact can be made.
- Equity Impact Analysis – users can't afford a car, vulnerable road users, where can the most impact be made
- Engaging the Community with open houses, surveys
- Best Management Practice - review policies to identify gaps
- Identify safety projects and strategies – Safety Toolkit - strategic, low-cost countermeasures
- Project Prioritization for the region, and a list for each county
- Progress reporting and commitment to Vision Zero – eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2050.
- When questions come up like 'are rural areas more risky than urban areas,' the communities will decide what they want to apply for.
- Matt Wigginton asked what is the lifespan of a Safety Action Plan
 - Doug DeLille explained that if the plan is five years old, it's considered outdated.
 - Michael Bruner stated the data is updated every year.
- https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/2ztnvow24l5i5uq0ufq59/Tri-County-Safety-Action-Plan-2025_DRAFT.pdf?rlkey=0am1f5tcvia7nofbp8lsx8err&e=1&st=87598oib&dl=0

c. Discussion of the formation of a Special Transportation Safety Committee

Michael Bruner presented the following:

- This committee is a result of the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan that we just approved.
- This would solidify our commitment to an ongoing consideration for traffic safety.
- We anticipate quarterly meetings, and the members would include:
 - Law enforcement
 - First responders
 - Insurance companies
 - Other related safety personnel
- We are working on creating bylaws for this group.
- At this point, this is just a discussion, as we have not formalized this group
 - We will most likely suggest using our existing Project Steering Committee and will ultimately bring a formal recommendation to this body for approval.
- Because of this we have not begun reaching out to current Steering Committee members or new potential members yet.
 - Let us know if you have further comments or questions.

10. Updates

a. FY 2026 Special Transportation Studies

Michael Bruner presented the following:

- Tri-County released a Call for Projects for member jurisdictions to apply for consultant-led special transportation studies.
 - The Call was released on April 16, 2025, and projects were due to staff by May 16, 2025
 - For FY 2026, the Commission set-aside \$135,000 of its PL funding for these projects.
- Staff received a total of four applications
 - City of Chillicothe - \$65,000 – Sidewalk Inventory and Priority Development for Repairs and Expansion
 - City of East Peoria - \$40,000 – Stormwater Management System Phase 3
 - Village of Germantown Hills - \$50,000 – Active Transportation Plan
 - City of Peoria - \$100,000 – Pavement Condition Index (PCI) Rating Update

- A project selection committee has been compiled, and next Monday, these volunteers will review the four applications and help provide a recommendation for Technical to consider at their June meeting.

b. **IDOT** – Doug DeLille stated the HSIP submission for projects is due on the 20th, SS4A due at the end of June. It will possibly be August for the call for projects for the Safe Routes to Schools program at the state level this year. You'll probably see a bump in what your STBG amounts are because of the TIFIA redistribution. The Fall Planning Conference is Oct 22-24 at the Wyndham in Moline.

c. **FHWA** – no report

11. Other

a. **Motion to approve Recognition of Outgoing Commissioners (Resolutions 25-66 and 25-67)**

Matt Wigginton motioned to approve Recognition of Outgoing Commissioners. James Dillon seconded the motion.

Eric Miller stated that the staff and Commissioners wanted to recognize the great work and participation put in by Gary Manier and Mike Phelan during their time on the Commission.

Motion carried.

b. **Motion to approve Recognition of Outgoing Chairman (Resolution 25-68)**

Autum Jones motioned to approve the Recognition of Outgoing Chairman. Danny Phelan seconded the motion.

Eric Miller stated that Greg Menold is not leaving us, he will still be serving as a representative for Tazewell County, but we wanted to let him know we appreciate his service, guidance, and leadership over the last two years.

Motion carried

c. Next meeting is scheduled for July 2, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

12. Adjournment

Autum Jones motioned to adjourn. James Dillon seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Submitted by Eric Miller, Executive Director

Recorded and transcribed by Lori Reynolds, Office Administrator