

SIouxLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ASSOCIATION (SRTPA)
Policy Board

Minutes of the Thursday, November 12, 2009 Meeting

10:00 a.m.

SIMPCO, 1122 Pierce Street, Sioux City, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeff Simonsen, Chair	Cherokee County
John Rexwinkel, Vice Chair	City of Le Mars
Allen Hilker	Ida County
Jim Peck	City of Cherokee
Mark Monson	Woodbury County

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Don Kass	Plymouth County
John McCall	Monona County

STAFF:

Michelle Bostinelos, Transportation Planning Director	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
Sharon Burton, Secretary	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
Dwight Lang, Co-Executive Director	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
Kellee Van Bruggen, Transportation Planner	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council

The Policy Board met at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 12, 2009 at SIMPCO, 1122 Pierce Street, Sioux City, Iowa. Jeff Simonsen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

- I. Approval of the Agenda – Chair Jeff Simonsen asked if there were corrections to the agenda. ***Allen Hilker moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Mark Monson. No further discussion. Motion carried.***
- II. Approval of the Minutes – Chair Jeff Simonsen asked if there were corrections to the minutes of the September 17, 2009 Policy Board regular meeting. ***John Rexwinkel moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Mark Monson. No further discussion. Motion carried.***
- III. Review Monthly Correspondence – Michelle Bostinelos provided an overview of the director's report included in the meeting packet. She reported staff attended Iowa DOT's I-RIDES meeting held on September 15th at the Sioux City Public Library. Staff continues to attend Lewis & Clark Multi-Use Trail public meetings. She noted the consultant for this project has put together a proposal for three different trails (hills, river and valley). Discussion followed on future public meetings, obtaining maps illustrating the proposal and possibly having the consultant provide a presentation. Ms. Bostinelos and Kellee Van Bruggen traveled to Chicago, Illinois for the Midwest Transportation Planning Conference October 13th through 16th. Staff attended a Low Cost Safety Improvement / Roads Safety workshop session in Storm Lake on October 27th. As requested by the Iowa DOT, staff requested members of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) provide a list of additional economic stimulus projects for submission to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). Discussion followed.
- IV. Transportation Improvement Progress Report – Dakin Schultz with Iowa DOT reported the contractor plans to finish work on I-29 in Monona County and have all lanes open to traffic by the end of the year. He provided an update on the progress of U.S. Highway 20: All grading projects to Early should be let by the end of 2010, and by the end of next year the new section of U.S. Highway 20 from Iowa 4 over to Moorland should be the first 20 plus miles to open. He reported repairs on the Port Neal Bridge are scheduled for next week's letting. The bridge was struck by an oversized truck and the Port Neal interchange has been closed. Discussion followed.

V. Surface Transportation Program (STP), and Transportation Enhancement (TE) Guidelines – Kellee Van Bruggen reported the proposed written guidelines for the STP/TE Application Process and the Request for Proposals forms were presented for review and comments to the TAC and Policy Board at the September meetings. As requested by TAC members the following items have been addressed in the application process:

- Applications must be received by the application deadline to allow an appropriate amount of time for project evaluation.
- TE applications will be sent to every incorporated city within the SRTPA area.
- Cities between 500 and 5,000 will also receive an STP application since they may have eligible road projects within their community.
- Cities need to be made aware that the county is their sponsor, and therefore, they will need to contact the county engineer about projects.
- In order to not mislead applicants, they should know historically the SRTPA has only funded construction costs for TE projects, not costs associated with land acquisition, engineering, relocation or allow in-kind.

A final draft of the written STP/TE Application Process and Request for Proposals forms were sent to TAC members for additional comments before presentation to the Policy Board for approval. Ms. Van Bruggen reported only one comment was received, and this was to include under qualifying criteria on the STP Request for Proposals form: **3. Projects must be submitted through/by member counties and cities.**

Staff is requesting approval of the written guidelines and applications forms so they can be implemented into the FY 2010 application cycle. Michelle Bostinelos noted the FY 2010 application cycle will be for FY 2014 funds. Approximately \$1.6 million STP and \$143,000 TE funds were projected last year for FY 2013. Discussion followed on last year's funding allocations and the status of projects.

Allen Hilker moved to approve the written STP/TE Application Process and the STP/TE Request for Proposal forms as presented, seconded by John Rexwinkel. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Ms. Bostinelos noted the approved written STP/TE Application Process will be sent with the STP and TE Request for Proposals on December 11, 2009.

VI. Amendments to the Public Participation Plan – Kellee Van Bruggen reported the proposed amendments were presented for review and comments to the TAC and Policy Board at the September meetings.

Staff held a forty-five (45) day public comment period and a public input meeting on October 20, 2009 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the SIMPCO office. Copies of the plan with the proposed amendments were available for public comment at the SIMPCO office and on SIMPCO's website (www.simpco.org). There were no significant comments received; therefore, staff is requesting approval of the amendments to the Public Participation Plan as presented.

1. Include the amendment/administrative modification process for the TIP and the Long Range Transportation Plan.
2. Modify the Long Range Transportation Plan public comment period to state thirty (30) days instead of forty-five (45) days.
3. The Passenger Transportation Development Plan (PTDP) now referred to as the Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP) is a document updated every five (5) years and includes a yearly review.

Allen Hilker moved to approve the amendments to the Public Participation Plan as presented, seconded by Jim Peck. No further discussion. Motion carried.

VII. FY 2010 – 2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment – Michelle Bostinelos reported the proposed amendment was requested by the Iowa DOT. Dakin Schultz with Iowa DOT explained because the project had not been able to move forward it was no longer being shown in the TIP. The project is now ready to move forward so the amendment requests reprogramming for FY 2010. Discussion followed. Mr. Schultz noted TE funds for this project were not awarded through the SRTPA, they are statewide funds awarded through the Commission. Discussion followed.

1. Lewis and Clark Keel Boat: Interpretive Center Project in Monona County needs to be programmed at a total estimated cost of \$1,460,000 with \$400,000 Federal participation (Statewide TE) in FY 2010.

Mark Monson moved to approve the amendment to FY 2010 – 2013 Transportation Improvement Program as presented, seconded by Allen Hilker. No further discussion. Motion carried.

VIII. Additional Comments – The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 21, 2010. Ms. Bostinelos noted the TAC is tentatively scheduled to meet in February but this is contingent on when Iowa DOT releases STP and TE targets. A Policy Board meeting will have to be held after the TAC meets so recommendations for STP and TE funding allocations can be reviewed and approved. Discussion followed on whether a meeting should be held in January or wait until after the TAC has met.

Mr. Schultz volunteered to provide an overview of projects scheduled in 2010 for each county at the January meeting.

IX. Adjournment – Chair Jeff Simonsen adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.