

SIOUXLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION
PLANNING ASSOCIATION
Policy Board

Minutes of the Thursday, September 18, 2008 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
Don Kass	Plymouth County
Mark Monson	Woodbury County
Lester Nordaker	Monona County
Jim Peck	City of Cherokee

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dakin Schultz	Iowa DOT
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STAFF:

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

The Policy Board met on Wednesday, September 18, 2008 at 10:00 a.m., in the Meisner Conference Room, SIMPCO, 1122 Pierce Street, Sioux City, Iowa. Jeff Simonson, Chair, called the meeting to order 10:00 a.m.

- I. Approval of the Agenda – Chair Jeff Simonsen asked if there were additions, deletions, or corrections to the agenda. **Allen Hilker moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Mark Monson. Motion carried.**
- II. Approval of the Minutes – Chair Jeff Simonsen asked if there were additions, deletions, or corrections to the minutes of the June 19, 2008 Policy Board regular meeting. **Mark Monson moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Don Kass. Motion carried.**
- III. Officer Elections – Chair Jeff Simonsen opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chair. **Mark Monson moved for the continuance of Jeff Simonsen as Chair and John Rexwinkel as Vice Chair, seconded by Don Kass. Motion carried.**
- IV. Review Monthly Correspondence– Michelle Bostinelos gave a brief overview of the director's report included in the meeting packet. The final FY 2009 Transportation Planning Work Program and FY 2009–2012 Transportation Improvement Program has been approved by Iowa DOT. Staff continues to attend U.S. Highway 20 Corridor Association meetings and public hearings. In August, Ms. Bostinelos attended an Iowa DOT passenger rail committee meeting in Ames. She explained this is a newly formed committee that will provide assistance in the development a long-range passenger rail plan in Iowa. Discussions included connecting Chicago, Dubuque, Iowa City, Des Moines and Cedar Rapids. Planning may eventually include connections to Sioux City. Discussion followed.
- V. Transportation Improvement Progress Report – Dakin Schultz with Iowa DOT reported the public hearing held on August 26, 2008 in Correctionville for the U.S. Highway 20 environmental assessment was well attended. The route through Correctionville was shown as being the preferred alternative. Due to environmental issues with the Army Corps of Engineers and DNR regarding the amount of channel changes, it was determined the expansion from Correctionville to Merville should be switched from the southside to the northside.
In June the Commission approved the allocation of additional funding for U.S. Highway 20. Construction plans include four-lane paving between Iowa Highway 4 and Sac County road N-14. Also, additional monies have been programmed for the right-away purchase over to U.S. 71.

In October the Commission will decide on approval of four-laning 12 miles of U.S. Highway 20 from two miles east of Sac City to Early. Discussion followed.

Resurfacing on Highway 75 from Onawa to Turin is finished. Spot resurfacing from Turin to Mapleton will start next week.

Rehabilitation work consisting of 9" PCC overlay is currently underway on I-29 in Monona County.

- VI. SRTPA Long Range Transportation Plan Discussion – Michelle Bostinelos explained Chapter 7 of the Long Range Transportation Plan will provide details of proposed transportation projects in the region during the next five years, and Chapter 8 will show potential projects for next six to twenty years. The transportation bill, SAFETEA-LU, requires projects receiving federal dollars be shown in the Long Range Transportation Plan. She handed out and reviewed long range transportation plan guidelines received from Iowa DOT, noting staff will follow their recommendation of updating the plan every five years. The Transportation Advisory Committee has been uncertain of how future projects should be identified and shown in the document. She reported this was discussed and clarified at their meeting on September 10; and a deadline of October 1 was set for submittal of information. Discussion followed. The final document is due to Iowa DOT by June 2009, a 45-day public comment period and open public house is required.
- VII. Surface Transportation Program (STP), Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program (HBRRP) and Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program Deadlines for Applications – Michelle Bostinelos reported the Transportation Advisory Committee recommended to the Policy Board staff send out applications on December 12, 2008 with a due date of January 23, 2009. A tentative date of February 24, 2009 was set by the Transportation Advisory Committee to review applications. If targets are not received from Iowa DOT by that date, they set an alternative date of March 4, 2009. Discussion followed. **Mark Monson moved to approve the Transportation Advisory Committee recommendation of sending the STP, HBRRP, and TE applications on December 12, 2008 with a due date to SIMPCO of January 23, 2009, Allen Hilker seconded. Motion carried.**
- VIII. SRTPA Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) FY 2009 – 2012 Revisions and Amendments – Michelle Bostinelos reported the Transportation Advisory Committee did not submit any requests for revisions or amendments to the FY 2009 – 2012 TIP. Discussion followed.
- IX. Addendum to the Public Participation Plan – Kellee Van Bruggen reported the FY 2008 Public Participation Plan was adopted on June 19, 2008. A new SAFETEA-LU component has since been introduced by the Federal Highway Administration which recommends contacting environmental and cultural agencies and other interested parties during the transportation planning process. To meet this new requirement, staff sent out surveys to 49 agencies and other interested parties listed under the Individuals and Organizations section of the Public Participation Plan. The survey asked these agencies how they would like to be notified about transportation activities in the SRTPA area. Nineteen responses were received from the initial survey. Staff then made three attempts with follow-up phone calls in which only twelve organizations did not respond. Ms. Van Bruggen referred to the addendum included in the packet, reviewing the responses received. The Transportation Advisory Committee did recommend to the Policy Board approval of the addendum to the Public Participation Plan as presented. Discussion followed. **Mark Monson moved to accept the recommendation of the Transportation Advisory Committee and approve the addendum to the Public Participation Plan as presented, seconded by Don Kass. Motion carried.**
- X. Additional Comments – The next meeting will be held on November 20, 2008. Jeff Simonsen noted he has a conflict with that date due to an Iowa State Association of Counties meeting in Coralville. Discussion followed. Since no other members had a conflict with this date, the meeting will continue to be held on this date.

The Transportation Advisory Committee elected officers at the September 10th meeting. Tom Rohe was elected Chair and John Meis Vice Chair.

- XI. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.