

**IOWA NORTHLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
MEETING NOTICE**

**INRCOG BOARD ROOM
229 EAST PARK AVENUE
WATERLOO, IA**

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023, 1:00 PM

AGENDA

Actionable Items

1. Approval of the agenda.
2. Review and consider approval of the minutes for the June 15, 2023 meeting.
3. Hold a Public Hearing and consider approval of the final FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) www.bhcmpo.org.
4. Review the Iowa RPA planning funding distribution process proposals and consider approval of a recommendation to forward to the Iowa DOT.

Discussion Items

1. Project updates.
 - a. City and county project updates (TAP and STBG)
 - b. FY 2024-2027 TIP – STBG and TAP
2. General discussion.
3. Adjournment.

IOWA NORTHLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023

MINUTES

Chair Barnett called the meeting of the Iowa Northland Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) to order at 1:03 PM.

Meeting Attendees:

Name	Title	Representing	Role
Greg Barnett	Supervisor (Chair)	Butler County	Policy Board Member
Clayton Ohrt	Supervisor	Buchanan County	Policy Board Member
Matthew Kuhn	Supervisor	Chickasaw County	Policy Board Member
Mark Schildroth	Supervisor	Grundy County	Policy Board Member
Joel Wikner	Councilmember	City of Denver	Policy Board Member
Brad Bleichner	Mayor	City of Independence	Policy Board Member
Mike Cherry	City Engineer	City of Waverly	Policy Board Member
Landon Moore	County Engineer	Bremer County	TTC Member
Brian Keierleber	County Engineer	Buchanan County	TTC Member
John Riherd	County Engineer	Butler County	TTC Member
Roman Lensing	County Engineer	Chickasaw County	TTC Member
Gay Mauer	County Engineer	Grundy County	TTC Member
Matthew Schmitz	City Manager	City of Independence	TTC Member
David Nuss	Public Works Director	City of Sumner	Attendee
Aldina Dautović	Transportation Planner	INRCOG	MPO Staff (MPO Secretary)
Kyle Durant	Transportation Planner	INRCOG	MPO Staff
Nick Fratzke	Director of Transportation	INRCOG	MPO Staff

The first item on the agenda was approval of the agenda. It was moved by Schildroth, seconded by Kuhn to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Next was to review and consider approval of the minutes for the June 15, 2023 meeting. It was moved by Bleichner, seconded by Schildroth to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Next was to hold a Public Hearing and consider approval of the final FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). It was moved by Schildroth, seconded by Barnett to open the Public Hearing. Motion carried unanimously. The Public Hearing was opened at 1:06 PM. Durant said the document was sent to the DOT for review and comment. No comments were received, and the only changes made were updates to the section regarding Policy Board, TTC, and BPAC members. Two public input meetings were held with sparse attendance. No public comments were received pertaining to projects, and proof of publication is on file. It was moved by Bleichner, seconded by Schildroth to close the Public Hearing. Motion carried unanimously. The Public Hearing was closed at 1:07 PM. It was then moved by Cherry, seconded by Schildroth to approve the final FY 2024 TIP as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Next was to review the Iowa RPA planning funding distribution process proposals and consider approval of a recommendation to forward to the Iowa DOT. Durant said the state is required to review the planning fund distribution process every decennial census. A proposal was made by a Regional Planning Affiliation (RPA) in which 25% of funds would be distributed based on the ratio of total non-MPO land area of RPAs out of the statewide total non-MPO land area. The current formula uses the ratio of the number of counties in the RPA out of the statewide total

of counties. The logic behind the proposal is that total land area would be a better quantifier for regional planning needs. Staff recommendation is to use the proposed methodology. It was moved by Schildroth, seconded by Bleichner to approve the proposed funding distribution process, and forward the recommendation to the DOT. Motion carried unanimously.

Next was Discussion Items:

1. Project updates

a. City and county project updates (TAP and STBG)

Buchanan County

Keierleber said the project on V62 is complete. The County is looking into various funds for other projects. The paving project in Jesup has started widening, drainage, and overlay.

Grundy County

Mauer said the project on D67 is planned for an August 15th letting and has a late start date of June of next year.

Waverly

Cherry said the Rolling Prairie Trail extension project paving is complete and open to the public.

Butler County

Riherd said construction on the T55 project is ongoing. A pre-construction conference is taking place this week for a 15-mile detour.

Chickasaw County

Lensing said two bridge projects are ongoing. A slab pour is scheduled for next week. Plans for V18 are ongoing. Chickasaw was selected by a committee, along with six other counties, for consideration of a multimillion-dollar multi-county RAISE application. Awards will be announced in winter.

Bremer County

Moore said the STBG project on C50 between Denver and Janesville will be starting in mid-August.

Sumner

Nuss said the South Division Street project has started.

b. FY 2024-2027 TIP – STBG and TAP

Durant said TAP projects are still on hold as the Iowa DOT finalizes program guidelines. There will not be a TAP cycle this year. Funds will be rolled over to next year's programming session for FY 2025-2028.

In general discussion, Cherry provided an update on the Bremer Avenue Bridge replacement project, stating that it is on schedule for a mid-May letting. Core samples are being taken because the bedrock is fractured, requiring deeper drilling. Construction is expected to begin next fall. Keierleber said project costs have increased significantly. Keierleber also noted that the All-Systems Permit now allows heavier trucks on county roads, resulting in more damage to roads and bridges that are not structured to accommodate the excess weight. Fratzke asked the group if they would be interested in drafting a letter to legislators to mitigate the impacts of the All-Systems Permit. The group agreed to put together a letter for consideration at a future meeting. Fratzke noted that the MPO Policy Board drafted a letter of support to Iowa State Legislators urging to push forward passenger rail efforts in Iowa. The letter also

encourages Iowa to rejoin the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission to have representation and involvement in future regional, multi-state passenger rail efforts.

There being no further business, it was moved by Kuhn, seconded by Bleichner to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Aldina Dautović
Secretary