

UPPER COASTAL PLAIN RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

January 8, 2013

RPO Transportation Coordinating Committee Minutes

Attendance

TCC

Berry Gray, Johnston County
Ola Pittman, Edgecombe County
Troy Lewis, Tarboro
Mark Johnson, Wilson County
Nancy Nixon, Nash County

NCDOT

Ronnie Keeter – Division 4
Jimmy Eaton – Division 4
Scott Walston - TPB

UCPRPO

James M. Salmons

Upper Coastal Plain COG

John Morck

TCC meeting

1. Welcome & Introductions – Berry Gray – TCC Vice-Chair

TCC Vice-Chair Mr. Berry Gray welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. He reported the Fleta Byrd was no longer a member of the RPO and that he would step in as Chair until the next elections to replace Ms. Byrd. Mr. Gray also reported that Daniel Van Liere had also left the UCPRPO. Nancy Nixon reported the numerous applicants had already applied to fill the coordinator position.

Action Items

2. Minutes - November 6, 2012

UPON A MOTION by Troy Lewis (Tarboro), second by Ola Pittman (Edgecombe County) the minutes from the UCPRPO TCC meeting held on November 6, 2012 were unanimously approved.

Old Business

3. Special Study Update

Mr. James Salmons informed the TCC that work was continuing on the NC Report App and that he and Mr. Daniel Van Liere had presented the app to the City of Rock Mount on November 28th. Mr. Salmons reported that he had contacted the City and that the City was still evaluating its potential use within the Rocky Mount MPO.

4. ENC Coalition Update

Mr. Berry Gray reported there was discussion at the ENC Coalition meeting in reference to ferry tolling. The suggestion was to balance fees among all ferries to help balance higher costs at some of the ferries. It was also reported that the staff at the ENC Coalition strongly supports highway tolling as a source of revenue.

5. Ethics Requirements

Mr. Berry Gray reported that the NC Ethics Commission had formalized a ruling in December 2012 that TCC members must complete ethics training as passed into law. There was discussion on providing some sort of training for members. Mr. Scott Walston with the NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch (TPB) reported that TPB was in the process of developing a webinar to aid in training. He also provided printouts of FAQ posted on the Ethics Commissions web site. Mr. Berry Gray recommended assigning the new coordinator with setting up workshops for those interested in help with completing the ethics training. Mr. James Salmons reported that at the NCARPO meeting in October that the representative from the Commission stated the RPO coordinators would be charged with keeping a list of member who had completed the training.

New Business

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6. 2013 SPOT Projects

Mr. James Salmons reported that he had provided a list of current projects within the UCPRPO area with the Agenda and reported that the recommendation from the ENC Coalition meeting was to try and eliminate projects that may no longer be relevant. The agenda handouts also included a process for which the members should begin to think about any critical projects which should be added to the list, and be prepared to present them to the group at the next meeting. Jimmy Eaton reported that the deadline to add additional projects would be April-May.

Other Business

7. TCC Member Comments

Ms. Ola Pittman reported that Edgecombe County had been contacted by Tresha Gresham with Kimly-Horn in reference to the Impact Study to tolling I-95. She stated Hwy 64 and NC 111 were thought to be the most effective. She also stated that they anticipated more meetings with Kimley-Horn in reference to the ongoing impact study. Ms. Pittman also announced that this would be her last meeting and that she has decided to retire after 39 years. She invited everyone to a reception hosted by Edgecombe County on February 1, 2013 from 3pm-5pm.

Mr. Berry Gray reported that CAMPO was trying to include more areas of Johnston County into their area. He reported he had met with multiple communities within these areas and most preferred to stay with the UCPRPO. However there was one small area of Archer's Lodge which will be invited into CAMPO.

Reports

8. NCDOT Division 4

Mr. Jimmy Eaton shared that projects within the division are moving forward on schedule with no problems to report.

9. NCDOT Planning Branch

Mr. Scott Walston reported that the UCPRPO will now be in his TPB group. He stated they are in the process of hiring new individuals and it would be likely one of these individuals would be assigned to support the RPO. Mr. Scott Walston also reported they were working on a travel demand model for Wilson. He also reported that after the new 2010 census a new MPO would be formed for New Bern.

Public Comment

10. Public Comments

No Public was in attendance.

Upcoming meetings:

The next meeting will be held on March 5, 2013.

A motion from Mr. Mark Johnson was made to adjourn and a second motion was made by Ms. Nancy Nixon and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Berry Gray, TCC Vice-Chair

UCPRPO Transportation Planner

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