

West Tennessee Rural Planning Organization (WTRPO)
Executive Board and Technical Committee
Meeting Minutes

University of Memphis-Millington Campus
Millington, Tennessee

September 13th, 2018
10:00 A.M CST

Executive Board Members Present:

Hon. Maurice Gaines Jr., Mayor of Lauderdale County
Mr. William Veazey, Planner, Tipton County (Proxy, Hon. Executive Jeff Huffman, Executive of Tipton County)
Robert Turner, Town Administrator, City of Somerville (Proxy, Hon. Mayor Ronnie Neil, City of Somerville and Hon. Rhea “Skip” Taylor, Fayette County Mayor)
Peter Colin, City Manager, City of Munford (Proxy, Hon. Mayor DeWayne Cole, City of Munford)

Executive Board Members Absent:

Hon. Jon Pavletic, Mayor of Ripley
Hon. Craig Fitzhugh, Tennessee State Representative
Hon. Mark Norris, Tennessee State Senator

Technical Committee Members Present:

Mr. William Veazey , Chairman & Planner, Tipton County
Mr. Derek Kissell, Road Superintendent, Lauderdale County
Mr. Scott Nelson, City of Ripley G&W, City of
Mr. Robert Turner, Town Administrator, City of Somerville
Mr. Peter Colin, City Manager, City of Munford

Technical Committee Members Absent:

Mr. Shannon Reed, Public Works Director, Tipton County
Mr. Jim Smith, Fayette County Public Works Director, Fayette County
Mr. Hugh Davis, Vice Chairman, Chairman and Commissioner of Piperton

Also Present:

Ms. Jasmine Champion, MAAG-WTRPO Coordinator
Mr. Ordis Copland Business Development Consultant, TN ECD
Mr. Alan Cherry, Public Works Director, Town of Halls
Ms. Sara Gangware, Mayors Administrative Assistant, City of Covington,
Mr. David Gray, City of Covington
Mr. Jason Ditrich, A2H
Mr. Wesley Flower, Delta HRA
Mr. Ralph Moore, Executive Director, MAAG
Mr. Ben Bradberry, NWTDD- RPO Coordinator
Mr. Calvin Abram, TDOT OCT Region 4 Manager, TDOT
Mr. Tim King, Tennessee Department of Health
Hon. Baris Douglas, Mayor of Henning
Ms. Marissa Nowlin, A2H
Ms. Joni Bailey, A2H

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions

Executive Board Vice-Chair, Maurice Gaines called the meeting to order at 10:10AM.

2. Roll Call

Executive Board Vice-Chair, Maurice Gaines asked everyone for introductions as Ms. Jasmine Champion, RPO Coordinator marked off roll.

3. Approval of Joint Executive Board and Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

MOTION by Executive Board Vice- Chair Maurice Gaines, to approve the minutes as presented. **SECONDED** by Technical Committee member Derek Kissell. Unanimously **APPROVED**

4. Multimodal Access Grant Applicants

Jasmine Champion, RPO Coordinator explained the Multimodal Access grant criteria and scoring sheet for presentations. The WTRPO received three applications for TDOT's Multimodal Access Grant program. The Town of Somerville, The Town of Munford, and the Town of Covington presented their application for scoring and ranking. The applications were scored and ranked by voting members. The Town of Somerville – Multimodal access project scored 874. The Town of Munford – Pedestrian Connections of Community Places with a score of 760. The Town of Covington – Highway 51 Connector Phase II with a score of 800.

5. Questions/ Discussion

Ralph Moore asked, Will signalization be considered with the completion of the Town of Somerville MMAG? Marrison Nowlin responded, Yes, the signalization will be taken into consideration and will be improved at this area. Ralph Moore asked, was a roundabout considered for the Town of Munford Project? Peter Colin responded, A-round-a-bout was considered; however, after careful due diligence it was determined the town would not move in that area of design. Ralph Moore asked, Do you think in the future Covington may create streetscape to discourage midblock crossing?

Sara Gangware responded, The city typically doesn't sponsor events that could conflict with 51 and with the completion of the requested projects; an educational component could assist with informing residents of safe areas to cross the street. Providing a safe crossing area will limit the midblock crossing along 51.

6. RPO Coordinators Update

Jasmine Champion shared RPO Coordinator updates. A crash data report was submitted for the Town of Mason HWY-70 & 59 intersection. After the investigation the location did not qualify for Highway Safety Improvement Funds. A crash data report was submitted for Fayette County, SR-196. The project did not qualify after investigation. Jasmine attended a Local Road Safety Audit in Fayette County for Thrope Drive, Bobbitt Rd, and Old Jackson. Recruitment e-mails were shared with the RPO to fill vacancies. Participation outreach was made with the Town of Brighton, Moscow and Mason. An E-TRIMS training is being organized.

7. **Questions/ Discussion**

No Questions/Discussion

8. **Other Business**

Calvin Abrams, provided insight on working with both the RPO and TDOT to address transportation concerns. The Community Transportation Planning grant program was promoted and its correlation to the Multimodal Access grants.

9. **Public Comment**

No public comment.

10. **Adjournment**

MOTION by Chairman Taylor, to adjourn. **SECONDED** by Technical Committee Chairman William Veazey. Unanimously **APPROVED**.