

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

Virtual Meeting/GoToMeeting

March 16, 2021  
10:05 A.M. CST

**Executive Board Voting Members Present:**

Hon. Maurice Gaines Jr., Mayor of Lauderdale County, Vice Chairman  
Hon. Rhea “Skip” Taylor, Mayor of Fayette County, Chairman  
Mr. William Veazey, Director of Planning for Tipton County (Proxy, Executive Jeff Huffman, County Executive of Tipton)  
Hon. Eugene Pugh, Mayor of Halls  
Mr. Robert Turner, Town Administrator, City of Somerville (Proxy Hon. Ronnie Neil, Mayor of Somerville)

**Executive Board Voting Members Absent:**

Executive Jeff Huffman, Mayor of Tipton County  
Hon. Dwayne Cole, Mayor of Munford  
Hon. Ronnie Neill, Mayor of Somerville  
State Senator Paul Rose  
Representative Chris Hurt, District 82

**Technical Committee Voting Members Present:**

Mr. Danny Hartsfield, Director of Maintenance Lauderdale County, Lauderdale County  
Ms. Mendi Donnelly, Community Development Director, Town of Somerville  
Mr. Robert Turner, Chairman, Town Administrator, City of Somerville (Proxy Hon. Ronnie Neil, Mayor of Somerville)  
Mr. William Veazey, Vice-Chairman, Director of Planning for Tipton County  
Mayor Craig Fitzhugh, Ripley, TN (Proxy Lin Thompson, Ripley, TN Representative, City of Ripley)  
Mr. Derek Kissell, Road Superintendent, Lauderdale County  
Mr. Hugh Davis Jr., Citizen Representative

**Technical Committee Voting Members Absent:**

Ms. Pragati Srivastava, MPO Representative  
Mr. Lin Thompson, Ripley, TN Representative, City of Ripley)  
Mr. Glen Stringfellow, Building Inspector, City of Munford  
Mr. Wayne Dowdy, Public Works Director, Fayette County, TN  
Mr. Shannon Reed, Public Works Director, Tipton County  
Mr. Ralph Moore, MAAG Executive Director

**Also Present:**

Mayor Washam, Brighton, TN  
Amanda Ciapponi, Atoka, TN  
Shelton I. Merrell, Southwest RPO  
Ben Bradberry  
Ben Ledsinger, Atoka, TN  
Kwabena Aboagye (KB), TDOT  
Ashley Owens, OCT Region 4 TDOT  
Antoine Hawkins, OCT Region 4 TDOT  
Kamillah Kelly, WTRPO  
Stephen Seibert, TN  
Stacy Morrison, TDOT

**1. Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions**

Executive Board Chair Hon. Rhea “Skip” Taylor called the meeting to order at 10:05AM.

**2. Roll Call**

Ms. Kamillah Kelly, WTRPO Coordinator, called the roll. **Establish Quorum Meeting**

**3. Approval of the Joint Executive Board and Technical Committee Virtual Meeting**

**MOTION** by Technical Committee member Mr. Robert Turner (Proxy Executive Board Member Hon. Ronnie Neil, Mayor of Somerville) to approve the Virtual Meeting in accordance with Tennessee Governor Bill Lee’s Executive Order 16. **SECONDED** by Mayor Craig Fitzhugh, Ripley, TN (Proxy Lin Thompson, Ripley, TN Representative, City of Ripley). Unanimously **APPROVED**.

**4. Approval of Joint Executive Board and Technical Committee Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION** by Mayor Eugene Pugh, Halls, TN to approve the minutes. **SECONDED** by Mr. Robert Turner (Proxy Executive Board Member Hon. Ronnie Neil, Mayor of Somerville). Unanimously **APPROVED**.

**5. WTRPO and CTPG Updates**

Ms. Kelly presented Halls RuPI grant updates and CTPG kick off meeting information.

**6. MMAG and TDOT Updates**

Ms. Owens mentioned MMAG awards would be announced in the Spring. Discussed American Rescue Plan.

**7. WTRPO Bylaws Updates**

Ms. Kelly presented WTRPO Bylaws Updates.

**8. Questions/Discussion**

Joint Executive Board and Technical Committee discussed bylaws, election of officers, and virtual meetings.

**9. Approval of the Joint Executive Board and Technical Committee WTRPO Bylaws**  
**MOTION** by Mayor Maurice Gaines Jr., Lauderdale County, **SECONDED** by Mayor Craig Fitzhugh, Ripley, TN (Proxy Lin Thompson, Ripley, TN Representative, City of Ripley). Unanimously **APPROVED**.

**10. Other Business**  
No other business

**11. Public Comment**  
No public comment.

**12. Adjournment**  
No public comment.

**MOTION** by Technical Committee member Mayor Craig Fitzhugh, Ripley, TN (Proxy Lin Thompson, Ripley, TN Representative, City of Ripley), **SECONDED** by Technical Committee member Mr. Derek Kissell, Road Superintendent, Lauderdale County. Unanimously **APPROVED**. Meeting end 10:26 am.

APPROVED