

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

UT Martin Somerville Center, Chickasaw Community
Somerville, TN

May 31, 2022
10:05 a.m. CST

Executive Board Voting Members Present

Hon. Rhea “Skip” Taylor, Mayor of Fayette County, Chairman
Hon. Maurice Gaines Jr., Mayor of Lauderdale County, Vice Chairman
Mr. Glen Stringfellow, Building Inspector, City of Munford (Proxy Hon. Dwayne Cole, Mayor of Munford)
Mr. William Veazey, Director of Planning for Tipton County (Proxy Executive Huffman of Tipton County)

Executive Board Voting Members Absent

Hon. Dwayne Cole, Mayor of Munford
Executive Jeff Huffman, Mayor of Tipton County
Hon. Ronnie Neil, Mayor of Somerville
Hon. Eugene Pugh, Mayor of Halls
Senator Paul Rose, District 32
Representative Chris Hurt, District 82

Technical Committee Voting Members Present

Mr. Derek Kissell, Road Superintendent, Lauderdale County
Ms. Mendi Donnelly, Community Development Director, Town of Somerville
Mr. Danny Hartsfield, Lauderdale County Director of Maintenance, Lauderdale County
Mr. Wayne Dowdy, Fayette County Public Works Director, Fayette County
Mr. Marc Woerner, Town Administrator, Atoka, TN
Mr. Ralph Moore, MAAG Executive Director
Hon. Craig Fitzhugh, Mayor, Ripley, TN

Technical Committee Voting Members Absent

Mr. Shannon Reed, Public Works Director, Tipton County
Ms. Pragati Srivastava, MPO Representative
Mr. Hugh Davis Jr., Citizen Representative, Commissioner of Piperton
Mr. Robert Turner, Town Administrator, City of Somerville

Also Present

Ms. Kamillah Kelly, MAAG-WTRPO Coordinator
Mr. Shelton Merrell, SWTDD-RPO Coordinator, Virtual Attendee
Ms. Thiera Taylor, Community Transportation Planner, OCT Region 4, TDOT
Ms. Ashley Owens, Senior Community Transportation Planner, OCT Region 4, TDOT
Mr. Antoine Hawkins, Planning Supervisor, OCT Region 4, TDOT
Ms. Virginia Rivers, Vice-Mayor, Mason, TN
Mr. Ordis Copeland, TNECD

Ms. Norma Davis, Mason, TN
Ms. Katie McGinnis, TDOT
Mr. Gary Scruggs, TDOT

1. **Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions**
Executive Board Chair Hon. Mayor Rhea “Skip” Taylor called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
2. **Roll Call**
Ms. Kelly called the roll, and Mayor Taylor approved the **Established Quorum for the Meeting.**
3. **Approval of Executive Board and Technical Committees Meeting Minutes**
Discussion: Mr. Woerner requested that the WTRPO December 6, 2022, minutes be corrected to reflect Mr. Marc Woerner as the proper Tipton County municipal representative for the WTRPO technical committee. **MOTION** by Mr. Derek Kissell to approve; **SECONDED** by Mr. William Veazey. Unanimously **APPROVED**.
4. **Bylaws-Legislative Information**
Changed section 3.1.a.3. of the WTRPO bylaws to state, “Five state legislative members or their designees (two senators and three representatives).”

Changed section 3.3.a. to state, “The Executive Board chair may declare a quorum with one-third of the WTRPO Executive Board voting members present.”

Added to section 5.2.b. of the WTRPO bylaws to state, “If the vice-chairperson is not available, the WTRPO Executive Board can elect a voting member of the WTRPO Executive Board to call to order and conduct the WTRPO Executive Board meeting.”

Changed section 9.3.a. to state, “The Technical Committee chair may declare a quorum with one-third of the WTRPO Technical Committee voting members present.”

Added to section 11.2.b. of the WTRPO bylaws to state, “If the vice-chairperson is not available, the WTRPO Technical Committee Board can elect a voting member of the WTRPO Technical Committee to call to order and conduct the WTRPO Technical Committee meeting.”

Added Robert’s Rules of Order section 14.1 to the WTRPO bylaws to state, “When there is conflict within the WTRPO by-law procedures, the WTRPO shall follow the current Robert’s Rules of Order.”
5. **Approval of the WTRPO Bylaws-Updates**
MOTION by Mr. William Veazey to approve the updated WTRPO bylaws; **SECONDED** by Mayor Gaines. Unanimously **APPROVED**.

6. **Multimodal Access Grant Updates**
Mr. Robert Johnson virtually stated the Multimodal Access Grant deadlines and the number of applicants TDOT received from the WTRPO area.
7. **WTRPO Updates**
Ms. Kelly announced the Transportation Planning Grant (CTPG) awardees for the WTRPO area and the State of Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development request for proposals for West Tennessee Community Planning Services.
8. **TDOT Updates**
Mr. Hawkins shared updates on the Tennessee Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Deployment Plan and the new TDOT commissioner.
9. **Other Business**
No other business.
10. **Public Comment**
No public comment.
11. **Adjournment**
Mayor Taylor announced adjournment at 10:51 a.m. Unanimously **APPROVED** by standing.