

Minutes of the
REGION 9
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

Serving Rural Scott County and all of Muscatine County

Thursday, March 30, 2023 – 12:00 p.m.
Scott County Administrative Center
600 W 4th Street
Room # 638 – 6th Floor
Davenport, Iowa 52801
Jeff Sorenson, Chair

Policy Committee Members Present

Brad Bark	Mayor, City of Muscatine
Mike Limberg	Mayor, City of Long Grove
Ross Paustian	Scott County Board of Supervisors
Scott Sauer	River Bend Transit Board
Sam Shea	Iowa Department of Transportation
Jeff Sorensen	Muscatine County Board of Supervisors

Others Present

Jennifer Bizarri	Bi-State Regional Commission
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Bryan Schmid	Bi-State Regional Commission
Zach Sutton	Bi-State Regional Commission

1. Approval of Minutes of the December 15, 2022 Region 9 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. Mr. Sorensen called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Mr. Sauer motioned to approve the Transportation Policy Committee meeting minutes as written from the December 15, 2022 meeting. Mayor Limberg seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved as written.
2. Election of Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) Chair and Vice-Chair. Mr. Sorenson made a motion to nominate Mayor Limberg as the Chair and Mr. Paustian as the Vice Chair. Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Sauer seconded the motion to approve the nomination and elect the chair and vice-chair as presented. The motion carried.
3. Consideration of Revision to the Region 9 FFY2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program. An amendment was requested by the City of Muscatine to move MTS-22-03, the automatic drive through wash bay, from FFY 2022 to FFY 2024, change local dollars from \$234,341 to \$377,441 and change state dollars from \$0 to \$831,700 using PTIG funds. The total increase will go from \$657,900 to \$1,631,700 dollars. There was a question about the reason for the increase which would require follow-up at a later date. Mr. Sorenson made a motion to approve the request and Mr. Paustian seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

4. Presentation on FY2024 Region 9 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP). Ms. McCullough presented on the elements of the FY2024 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP). A draft copy was provided with the Committee agenda packets. She noted the linkage back to the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan for Iowa Region 9 goals and the federal Planning Emphasis Areas (PEAs) – sustainability, equity/inclusion, complete streets, public involvement, coordination to Department of Defense and federal land management agencies, use of the Planning and Environmental Linkages approach to decision-making, and using data to make decisions. Accomplishments in FY2023 to-date included completion of the regional ITS architecture, and Transit Development Plan, along with the TPWP and TIP documents. Technical assistance is another aspect where staff have assisted with trail counting, general planning efforts, and monitoring activities that may impact the region, such as the Corn Belt Ports efforts and the CP-KC rail merger. For FY2024, regional Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds are not anticipated to be used for planning. The total planning effort cost of \$66,434 is 80% federal and 20% local from member dues. The Technical Committee suggested the update of the Muscatine County Trails Plan should be included in the planning activities. This was added to the draft. The Policy Committee did not have any additional comments and concurred with the document. The budget will be taken to the Bi-State Regional Commission for approval and for execution of the contract with the Iowa Department of Transportation.
5. Review Draft Transit Development Plan. Mr. Schmid presented the draft Transit Development Plan. A link to the draft plan was provided with the Committee agenda packet. He outlined the purpose of the plan to guide and help coordinate human services transportation to enhance mobility within the Bi-State Region. Public involvement is an aspect of the plan development. Both human services agency and citizen surveys were conducted to collect feedback on transit services and mobility within the region. Common barriers to the use of transit include limited hours of service, funding limitations limiting service availability, and limited marketing and education. Others include fragmented systems, service complexity, lack of convenience, lack of connectivity, and service hours mismatched to shift work hours. The plan includes a transit accessibility analysis that showed geographic accessibility within Muscatine's MuscaBus service area. The analysis data has been shared with the transit systems for their reference. Comments are being accepted through the spring, and consideration of approval will follow at the next Policy Committee meeting.
6. Public Comment. There were no public comments.
7. Other Business. It was noted that the Iowa DOT Commission will be held in Burlington in June.
8. Adjournment Mr. Sorenson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Sauer seconded the motion. The meeting concluded at 12:55 p.m.