

**Transportation Resource Oversight Committee Meeting
(LaPorte County)
Tuesday, October 26, 2021
Minutes**

This meeting was convened as an *electronic meeting*, in accordance with House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1437. All persons were meeting remotely on a Zoom platform that allowed for real time interaction and supported the public's ability to observe and record the proceedings. When the agenda item was provided for public comment, this was supported as well.

Charles Bradsky called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken by Candice Eklund. In attendance were Beth West (LaPorte TransPorte), Jay Sullivan (LaPorte County), Mitch Bishop (LaPorte County), and Nick Minich (City of La Porte).

NIRPC staff included Charles Bradsky, Kevin Polette, Flor Baum, and Candice Eklund.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 27, 2021 TROC meeting were approved on motion by Mitch Bishop and seconded by Nick Minich. With Beth West, Jay Sullivan, Mitch Bishop, and Nick Minich voting in the affirmative, and no one voting in the negative, the motion passed.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Spending Plan Update

Charles Bradsky discussed the projects in the spending plan that are going into construction and those that have allocated funds in this fiscal year. Some project timelines are starting to slip, causing all reviews to be back logged.

Mitch Bishop had previously requested an additional \$100,000 in funding for DES #1902197 for highway sign replacements. Charles will investigate if funds can be allocated to this project in April next year. Charles will also ask the FHWA if the signs can be installed by the community with construction supervision.

If a community has allocated funds in this fiscal year, they will need to submit their Red Flag Investigations (RFI) and Request for Quotations (RFQ) before the end of January 2022.

New Business

Charles Bradsky reminded the Committee of the virtual Local Quarterly Meetings that are scheduled for October 27, November 4, and November 8. Quarterly reports were to be completed by October 21.

The committee members were encouraged to review the engineer's estimates in 2022 and 2023 for inflation and construction estimates, as various supplies have significantly increased in cost. Charles also noted there is currently no additional funding available because all funds have been fully programmed.

Charles discussed the confusion between all Metropolitan Planning Areas (MPOs) and INDOT regarding the TIP and STIP not being approved yet. INDOT is continuing to work on the issues with the 2022-2026 STIP because it has not been approved by FHWA at this time, but it is hopeful it will be approved early 2022. INDOT has requested accuracy for all projects that have been entered in RTIP.

Mitch Bishop discussed DES #1592335, stating he did not receive construction inspection funds and requested an additional \$96,000 in federal funding. Discussions were held on how projects may be able to be shifted to accommodate Mitch's request. Future discussions will also be held.

Adjournment

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m. The next meeting will be held on January 25, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.