

**Transportation Resource Oversight Committee Meeting
(Lake and Porter County)
Tuesday, November 29, 2022
Minutes**

Charles Bradsky called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was streamed live on YouTube. In attendance were Duane Alverson (Lake County), Deb Backhus (Gary), Kevin Breitzke (Porter County Surveyor), Douglas Brite (Crown Point), Dean Button (Hammond), Phil Gralik (Hobart), Steve King (Merrillville), Jeff Huet (Schererville), Beth Shrader (Valparaiso), Michael Jabo (Valparaiso), Anthony Schleuter (Crown Point), David Wright (Gary), Dennis Cobb, Jake Dammarell, Scott Pruitt, Eric Wolverton, Trisha Nugent, and Chris Murphy.

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

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the November 1, 2022, TROC meeting were approved on motion by Jeff Huet and seconded by Mike Jabo.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Spending Plan Update

At the previous meeting held on November 1, 2022, Charles Bradsky asked the communities to submit their updated project estimates to him by November 23 so he could update the Spending Plan. The spending plan discussions held today included the updated project estimates so the committee could discuss project allocations to budget for the 2022-2026 spending plan. Charles also informed the committee that going forward, the spending plan discussions will be held at the TROC meetings in August each year. This timeframe will offer ample time to check the health and estimates of each project and be able to balance the current / out years in the TIP. Dean Button added that this process will be especially beneficial during the NOFA years because it will provide how much funding will be available for the NOFA each cycle.

The current spending plan for Lake and Porter Counties (Group 1) has a surplus of \$3.5 million for FY 2023, with \$350,000 set aside for Change Orders. Group 2 has a surplus of \$875,000 in FY 2023 and could loan to Group 1, but would have to pay them back in 2023, which already has a deficit, but was rejected by the committee.

Phil Gralik requested moving the project on Marcella back a year to FY 2024. Funding allocated to this project is \$3.6 million. Chris Murphy announced the project on Airport Road in Gary will need to be moved to FY 2024 from FY 2023, for a total of \$700,000. After discussions were agreed on by the committee members to shift projects to future years, FY 2023 had a surplus of \$468,000, including the \$360,000 in change orders.

Charles updated the Spending Plan live as projects were discussed and approved to move to future years to balance the 2022-2026 TIP. Due to the now \$12 million deficit in FY 2025, Dennis Cobb asked Charles if he could contact communities to see if they had any projects that could move out of FY 2025.

At the end of the discussion on the spending plan, FY 2023 and FY 2024 were balanced and Charles will reach out to the communities not in attendance to get their approval on projects that were discussed to move into the out years. In balancing these two years, there will be \$15,000 less funding available in FY 2027. On motion by Mike Jabo and seconded by Jeff Huet, the committee approved the project allocations discussed at the meeting today.

Other New Business

NOFA – Charles Bradsky will create a survey for the municipalities to provide their feedback on the NOFA process this year and provide comments on ideas to improve the NOFA process in 2024. The NOFA in 2024 will not include the RTIP system because INDOT is working on a new web-based TIP program.

Adjournment

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m. The next meeting will be held on February 14, 2023.

The livestream video recording for this meeting is available on NIRPC's YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PkA0GKpg15w>