



Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Board

**Approved MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, April 9, 2015**

Neil Combee Administration Building, Commission Boardroom
330 West Church Street
Bartow, FL 33830

Voting Members Present:

Commissioner Jack Myers
Mayor Pat Huff (late)
Mayor Eugene Fultz
Commissioner Jim Malless
Commissioner Don Salvage
Commissioner Phillip Walker
Mayor Nat Birdsong
Commissioner Todd Dantzler
Commissioner John Hall
Commissioner George Lindsey, *Chairman*
Commissioner Ed Smith

East County Block Voting Members:

Mayor Joe LaCascia

South County Block Voting Members:

Commissioner Barbara Manley

East County Block Alternate Members:

Vice Mayor Charles Lake

South County Block Alternate Members:

Commissioner Collins Smith

Advisory Members Present:

Secretary Billy Hattaway
Tom Deardorff
Randy Mink

Others Present:

Luke Lewis
Ricky Langley
Lori Carlton
Laura Lockwood
Robin Stublen
Christopher Hatton
William Roll
Gloria Rake
Ronnie Blackshear
Ryan Kordek
Xiomara Meeks
Diane Slaybaugh
RJ Walters

Representing:

City of Auburndale
City of Bartow
City of Lake Wales
City of Lakeland
City of Lakeland
City of Lakeland
City of Winter Haven
Polk County BoCC
Polk County BoCC
Polk County BoCC
Polk County BoCC

Representing:

City of Polk City

Representing:

City of Fort Meade

Representing:

City of Lake Alfred

Representing:

City of Mulberry

Representing:

FDOT, District One
Polk County TPO
TPO Legal Advisor

Representing:

City of Eagle Lake
DRMP
Florida Department of Transportation
Florida Department of Transportation
Florida Department of Transportation
Kimley-Horn and Associates
Kimley-Horn and Associates
Long Range Planning
Polk County TPO
Polk County TPO
Polk County TPO
Polk County TPO
Polk County TPO

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman George Lindsey called the TPO Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Lindsey had no announcements

3. CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Gloria Rake confirmed a quorum with 13 voting members and 2 alternate in attendance. Commissioner Barbara Manley represented the South County Block. Mayor Joe LaCasicia represented the East County Block.

4. AGENDA REVIEW

Tom Deardorff, TPO Executive Director briefly reviewed the agenda. Mr. Deardorff presented a plaque in appreciation for Jan Parham's years of service and help to the TPO. Ms. Parham was not in attendance.

5. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No comment heard.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Commissioner Phillip Walker motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner John Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried without dissent.

7. OTHER ACTION ITEMS

A. Public Hearing on Draft Amendments to the FY 2014/15 – 2018/19 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Xiomara Meeks, TPO staff presented draft amendments to the FY 2014/15 – 2018/19 TIP. Federal legislation requires the TPO to prepare and adopt a TIP annually. The TIP identifies how all federal and state transportation money is anticipated to be spent in Polk County. The TIP includes highway, public transit, rail, aviation, bicycle, pedestrian, safety, and freight-related projects. The TPO's TIP must be consistent with its Long Range Transportation Plan. Projects must be listed in the TIP with the current phasing and funding in the year of expenditure in order to receive federal funds. This TIP includes FDOT's FY 2014 – 2019 Five Year Work Program, and transportation projects in local government Capital Improvement (CIP) Plans. Two amendments were presented and project specifications were reviewed.

Public hearing opened. No comments heard. Public hearing closed.

Motion: Commissioner John Hall motioned to approve the amendments to the TIP as presented. Mayor Nat Birdsong seconded the motion. Motion carried without dissent. Roll Call Vote was unanimous.

B. Review/Approve of Consultant Services Authorization (CSA) for Multi-Use Trail Planning

Ryan Kordek TPO reviewed the CSA for Polk County Trails Feasibility Study. Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) is the consultant on this project. The cost for this project must not exceed 85,480.00,

Motion: Commissioner Jack Myers motioned to approve the CSA as presented. Commissioner Todd Dantzler seconded the motion. Motion carried without dissent. Roll

8. PRESENTATIONS

A. Overview of SunRail Commuter Rail System – Past, Present and Future

Harry Barley, Executive Director of MetroPlan Orlando presented an overview of the SunRail Commuter Rail System. The presentation included project evolution, current status of the SunRail and future plans. The SunRail is a 61 mile project with 17 stations. The capitol cost is \$615 million, Phase One of the project opened on April 30, 2014. A video was shown of the SunRail grand opening. Mr. Barley stood for questions from the Board.

B. SunRail Extension Study

Ronnie Blackshear, TPO staff briefly introduced the study and introduced Ed Mierzejewski of Renaissance Planning Group, who updated the board on the status of the SunRail Evaluation. The Staging Concept included 4 phases. The project is currently in Phase 1. Phase 2 would be 2-3 bus services to the Poinciana Station and extend into Haines City. Phase 3 would extend into Auburndale, then Phase 4 into Lakeland. Station Area Evaluations were reviewed. 10 locations were reviewed along the corridor. All 4 Phase locations advanced to the next phase of the evaluation. The Ridership Propensity Analysis and Methodology were also reviewed. The key considerations and action plans for moving forward were discussed.

9. AGENCY REPORTS

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

Secretary Billy Hattaway, FDOT District One:

- Complete Streets Policy Update
 - Smart Growth America
 - Providing free services
 - Six face to face meeting will be held
 - September 2015 report will be presented

Lori Carlton, FDOT Update:

- April is National Distracted Driver Month
 - Fact sheet from the National Safety Council was handed out
- Road Watch Reports #14 was handed out
- Handout about US 27 rut removal from Lake Wales to Winter Haven
- SR 542 in Winter Haven
 - Public Hearing on May 21 at St. Matthew Catholic Church on Overlook Drive

Polk Transit

No Report

12. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

None

13. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None heard

14. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None

15. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Respectfully transcribed by Cherie Simmons, TPO Office Manager

Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, states that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.