

**ETDD North Rural Planning Organization  
Joint Executive Board & Technical Committee Meeting Minutes  
TDOT Region 1 Headquarters Auditorium  
May 18, 2023, 1:00 p.m.  
Knoxville, TN**

**MINUTES**

**Voting Members Present**

Executive Board: Mayor Mike Byrd, Senator Ken Yager (by proxy Brian Langley), County Executive Brian Langley, Mayor Dennis Jeffers, Mayor Joe Brooks, Mayor Jack Lynch (by proxy Randy Brown), Mayor Jason Bailey, Mayor Terry Frank (by proxy Joe Brooks), Mayor Troy Poore (by proxy Adam Wilson), Mayor Phil Vespie (by proxy Mark Keck), Mayor Dennis Jeffers

Technical Committee: Joe Miller, Ron Pittman, David Cox, Randy Brown, David Lietzke, Roger Long, Jim Morrow, Mike Patterson, Joe Brooks, Rick Yakubic, Mike Conger, Charles McAnally, Greg Corum, Mike Ellis, Joe Brooks, Randy Brown, Jim Morrow, Marilyn Toppins (by proxy Jason Bailey), Mayor Fred Sykes (by proxy Rick Yakubic)

**TDOT and Agencies Support Present**

Troy Ebbert (TDOT), Stacy Weaver (TDOT), Don Brown (ETDD), Christie Burt (ETDD), Rich DesGroselliers (LAMTPO), Christie Brown (TDOT), Laura Smith (ETDD), Joe Barrett (ETDD), Eric Wilson (TDOT), Steve Borden (TDOT)

**Others Present**

Leigha Brown (Morgan Co. Hwy. Dept.), Monica Rymer (Morgan Co.), Adam Wilson (City of Harrogate), Jeff Mize (CDM Smith), Stacey Crawford (Claiborne County Highway Department)

**Welcome / Call to Order**

The meeting began at approximately 1:00 p.m. Executive Board Chairman, Joe Brooks called the joint meeting of the Executive Board and Technical Committee to order.

**Determination of Quorum / Roll Call**

Quorums were present for both the Technical Committee and Executive Board. The roll call was waived.

### **Approval of November 15, 2022, Technical Committee Meeting Minutes**

Roger Long asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 15, 2022, Technical Committee Meeting. Joe Miller made a motion to approve the minutes and seconded by Charlie McAnally. Members of the Technical Committee approved the minutes.

### **Approval of November 15, 2022, Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Brooks asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 15, 2022, Executive Board Meeting. Mark Keck made a motion to approve the minutes and seconded by Brian Langley. Members of the Executive Board approved the minutes.

### **Tennessee Transportation Legislative Update**

TDOT Region 1 Director, Steve Borden gave an update of the Transportation Modernization Act legislation noting it would mean \$3.3 billion with each region receiving \$750 million. A short video of the TN Choice Lanes was shown and Mr. Borden stated that the highest volume of vehicle traffic was in Knoxville. He said that TDOT would be evaluating and setting priorities between now and December.

Brett Howell, TCHOA, Executive Director discussed the 2023 TMA benefits for county highway departments. The state aid program in the short term will receive an additional \$300 million on July 1, 2023. This is in addition to the annual allocation of \$21 million of the usual state aid money. Mr. Howell discussed some decreases in revenues from the sale of gasoline and diesel fuels partially due to the increase in the number of electric vehicles. The TMA includes a new tax on electric vehicles to provide additional revenues. Mr. Howell noted that counties maintain 61,000 miles of local roads with approximately 20% of this mileage on the state aid system.

### **TDOT's FY 2023-2026 Multimodal Program**

Troy Ebbert, TDOT, discussed the criteria considered in selecting projects to be included in TDOT's Three Year Plan and the timeline for the project selection process.

### **TDOT Project Updates**

Christie Brown, TDOT, explained that the State's fiscal year is different from the federal fiscal year which starts on October 1, 2023 and goes through September 30, 2024. The fiscal years in the Three Year Plan align with the federal fiscal year. Ms. Brown discussed various projects previously funded. Ms. Brown discussed some of the projects in lettings for the current year.

### **Protect 1-Resiliency Plans, Carbon Reduction & NEVI Funding**

Troy Ebbert made a presentation on the Infrastructure Investment Jobs Act. Mr. Ebbert discussed the amount of National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure funding, \$88 million dollars, for electrical charging stations in the state. Grant opportunities for these funds should become available late spring of 2023.

Mr. Ebbert stated that another \$139 million is available to the State of Tennessee for carbon reduction. There are obligated amounts for the urbanized areas. There are grant opportunities available and communities should think about applying as these are funds available. Mr. Ebbert also discussed the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost Saving Transportation. Tennessee's allocation under this program is \$158 million over five years. This funding will be used to review transportation assets, assess their vulnerability, and to provide resilience building solutions.

**Coordinator's Report**

Laura Smith provided the RPO Coordinators report including status of USDOT RAISE grant applications, Multi Modal Access grants and transportation planning grants awarded in 2022 and 2023 MMAG notices of intent to apply that were submitted.

**Other Business**

None.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.