

CRV REGIONAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Regional Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2023; 5:00 – 6:00pm Gulkana Fuel Pilot Lounge

- I. Call to Order by Bruce C. 6:06pm
- II. Roll Call:
 - a. RPO Members Present: Bruce Cain - CV Chamber of Commerce; Joe Bovee – Ahtna; Judy Chapman – DOT&PF; Martin Boniek - Copper Valley Air; Gary Schliesing – Glenn Transport/Gulkana Fuel; Jerry Lesemann – Crowley; Jennifer Rosenthal – CVDA (non-voting); Asa Brewi – CVDA (non-voting); Jason Hoke – CVDA Board President (non-voting)
 - b. RPO Members Absent: Terry Valentine – CVDA;
 - c. Guests: Brett Nelson – DOT&PF; Carl Heim – DOT&PF
- III. ***Motion to approve the Agenda by Martin Boniek, 2nd by Joe Bovee, motion passed***
- IV. ***Motion to approve the 8.23.23 Meeting Minutes by Judy Chapman, 2nd by Martin Boniek, motion passed***
- V. Discussion:
 - a. STIP 2023-2027 Comments Update: Bruce stated that comments from the CRV-RPO were not submitted and wants to ensure we get those in even though it is past the 9/3/2023 deadline for comments. To Judy can these be submitted DOT has not gotten through resolution of comments she does feel will not turn away this bodies comments if we were to submit them, they may not be part of the official STIP Record, but they would be a record of what the RPO commented, and DOT would respond. It is up to this body if they want to submit. Bruce set a deadline to finalize by Wednesday of next week. Jen asked Bruce to send comments and get together for final review, comments do not need to be sent to the CVDA BOD for approval, but we will send them once they are final.
 - b. Membership. Bruce discussed membership because of the hit/miss participation do we need to switch out members or make changes due to lack of participation? Judy’s designated DOT& PF seat will be filled by Brett Nelson after the 1st of the year. CVDA is a designated seat, the person can change. To clarify, designated seats (CVDA & DOT&PF) are permanent seats in perpetuity but replacing the representative filling the seat changes. For the first year only:
 - 1 Year Seat - CVDA & DOT & PF will re-designate the person filling the seat after year 1 (2024);
 - 2 Year Seat - Joe Bovee (Ahtna); Jerry Lesemann (Crowley), and Gary Schliesing (Glenn Transport) re-appoint in Jan (2025);
 - 3 Year Seat Bruce Cain (Chamber), Martin Boniek (Copper Valley Air) will re-appoint in Jan (2026)After the initial role in the seat will be 2-year seats, per the operating agreement.
Discussion followed: Bruce noted he spoke with Lumber Yard Owner in Glennallen and one of the owners of Wenger’s, would participate. Judy noted that we should consider a wider geographic representation look at the corners of our region, land managers are good, they have money for transportation. Should be Jen noted we should broaden our area and should be looking farther out we are the copper river valley, not just the Glennallen area, spread out. Should be doing board recruitment and development even if no current vacancies, what are our goals for representation. Martin reminded the group that meetings are public and if anyone is interested, they can attend any meeting.
 - c. Carbon Reduction Strategy: Judy infrastructure investment and jobs act has money for projects that reduce Carbon tasked to put together a strategy to show how this is lowered through projects. Toward things that encourage non-motorized transportation. Fed Legislation, money for Alaska, half can be transferred to other programs. NO action needs to be taken, Judy will send a list of what types of projects. These are not grants but funding that will go to DOT for projects, like the CTA & TAP another program of funding that is available.

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- d. DOT Wayside at the HUB: Carl Presented the conceptual drawing to construct a wayside in the grassy area at the intersection of the Glenn and Rich Hwy. Construction to start May/June 2024. The proposed conceptual design has a few parking spots, vaulted toilets, picnic tables, garbage cans etc. Discussion followed, Semi trucks park in this area and overnight there and will block access the proposed area, 5 spots are not enough, Semi, campers, bus and winnebago's traffic is excessive in in the summer months, there is a lot of traffic and this is not a good location and as this is proposed it will not work. Increase the number of toilets and the parking. Look at other locations, maybe between the church and the HUB or another location. Ahtna discussed a wayside on Ahtna land that could be available as a public/private partnership with a fee structure between landowners to generate revenue. It was suggested that the chamber could move here and have vending machines, develop other businesses that could generate revenue. Other options should be discussed. RPO is very interested in commenting and participating in this discussion, getting landowners together, parks, public meetings.
- e. **Right of Way Update:** Cooperative agreement is with the DOT& PF for a legal review, whose purpose is to look for incursions, old historic buildings and whatever else is in the right of way and to see if those individuals would be able to vacate their or if we could. They may be able to apply for a vacation of the right away so that the DOT&PF could vacate. It has been given to the attorney for review to make sure everything is legal. Judy is writing up a flyer for what this is and isn't to clarify and propose a public meeting. When the attorney has completed the review, and the MOA is executed the flyer can be distributed and a public meeting scheduled. This be a pilot, if successful this process may move to other areas of the state and the region.
- f. **Glennallen Flood Update:** DOT Staff working on three actions to hopefully minimize the potential for another flood event next spring during breakup.
- M&O cleared debris and re-established proper hydraulic capacity at the Moose Creek culvert inlets (including the new overflow pipes).
 - 2M&O is working with a contractor (from the Richardson Hwy MP 110 flood repairs) to do a grade raise and armor Snowshoe Street to protect against over-topping.
 - M&O installed a new 8' diameter culvert across the Glenn Hwy to convey any potential floodwater that would have otherwise over-topped Snowshoe but would now be directed south by the grade raise.
- DOT&PF Hydro was still looking into potential longer-term solutions, and they were working to gather LIDAR data to assist in that effort. I hope this helps, let me know if you have any questions.
- g. Meeting Schedule: Joe brought up changing the meeting to be more consistent. Discussion followed about changing the meeting schedule to every other month. ***Motion by Joe Bovee to change meeting schedule to be bi-monthly on the first Wednesday every other month at 5:00pm. 2nd by Martin Boniek, Motion passed***

VI. Adjourn: 6:16 ***Motion to Adjourn by Martin Boniek, 2nd by Judy Chapman, Motion passed***

VII. Next Meeting: December 6th, 5pm