

CRV REGIONAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Regional Planning Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2024; 5:00 – 7:00pm Gulkana Fuel Pilot's Lounge– Gulkana Airport

- I. Call to Order by Gary Schliesing at 5:02pm
 - a. RPO Members Present: Gary Schliesing – Glenn Transport/Gulkana Fuel; Joe Bovee – Ahtna; Martin Boniek - Copper Valley Air; Brett Nelson – DOT&PF; John Becker – CVDA; Jennifer Bowman – CVDA (staff); Asa Brewi – CVDA (staff)
 - b. RPO Members Absent: Bruce Cain - CV Chamber of Commerce; Jerry Lesemann – Crowley;
 - c. Guests: Jason Hoke- CVDA Board President; Colleen Merrick – CRNA/CR Watershed Project; Sarah Devens- CRNA
- II. Invocation: Gary Schliesing
- III. ***Motion to approve the agenda by Joe Bovee, 2nd by John Becker, motion passed***
- IV. ***Motion to approve the 8.7.24 Meeting Minutes by Brett Nelson, 2nd by Joe Bovee, motion passed***
- V. Chairs Report: Jason spoke in leu of Chairs Report due to Bruce's absence. Bruce informed Jason and Jen via email that he is stepping down from the CV Chamber of Commerce Board (CVCCB) as of October 24, 2024, because he will no longer be a member CVCCB board his seat on the CRV-RPO representing the CVCCB will expire and no longer eligible to sit on the RPO Committee. Per the operations agreement the CVDA can fill the seat. Discussion of the RPO Operating Agreement concerning membership and how to fill an empty seat on the committee followed. ***Motion by Martin to have Chamber of Commerce designate a member to fill the Chamber seat; John 2nd motion; motion passed.*** John Becker will bring this up to the CVCCB Board to nominate a new CRV-RPO. A new chair will be voted on at the next December 4, 2024 RPO Committee Meeting. Jason mentioned Senator Sullivan's visit to the Airport and the video that was made with the Senator on the runway concerning the FAA runway extension. **Action:** Jen to forward the video and a Letter from the Senator to the Committee. Jason excused himself from the remainder of the meeting.
- VI. Membership: Discussion was covered during Chair's report.
- VII. Reports/Discussion:
 - a. Financial report- Jen discussed financial report **Action:** Jen to send report out to the Committee members.
 - b. DOT&PF: Brett Nelson discussed construction projects closing out for the season.
 - Wayside Project: DOT&PF sent a letter of Intent to award the construction contract to Ahtna on September 10. 2024 Project will likely not start until spring.
 - Questions for Richardson Hwy 106-115 Project: The inspection finished and closed out, Brett brought up the public comments concerning narrow lanes on Simpson Hill. The construction schedule of the project that allowed the work to be completed this past summer did not allow for a redesign to accommodate wider lanes prior to construction commencing this season. DOT& PF will scope a new project to address the issues, it and will be added to the next STIP amendment. Additional discussion followed.
 - Jen is working with Sara Lucy, PM of the Interior Alaska Transportation Plan to schedule a public meeting for the region.
 - Announcement, DOT& OF is hiring two additional Planners for Fairbanks, will potentially help with addressing needs in this area.
 - A meeting will be scheduled with Matt White, TOK Chamber of Commerce, John Becker and Jen Bowman to discuss the formation of RPO in the Tok area.
 - CRV-RPO Committee needs to collect projects that RPO would like to see done for this area.

CRV REGIONAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

- VIII. Old Business: Long Range Transportation Plan: Jen presented the CVCA Map with local roads identified to demonstrate how the map can be utilized and identifies road ownership. The next step is to confirm road ownership and identify road conditions. The map needs additional work, when that work is complete a public meeting will be scheduled. The DOT&PF, CVDA and the CRV-RPO will partner with a consultant to organize and present materials for the meeting, the goal is to receive public comments on needs road conditions etc. much like the IATP. Discussion followed. Copper River Watershed offered use of their map identify culverts. DOT&PF has this information. Culverts will not be identified in this map generally, they can be turned on as a layer. They should be identified through regular DOT&PF channels for projects get approved for construction and move into design.
- IX. New Business: Trails- Brett spoke about the existing programs for winter trails. Snow Machine Clubs can apply for funds for grooming trails for existing trails, this does not include equipment or identifying new trails. Discussion followed. John- Valdez Snowmachine Club helps with Copper Basin 300 trail grooming Brett will look at Winter Rural Access Program for application to receive funds for trail grooming.
- X. Public comment: No additional comments.
- XI. ***Motion to adjourn at 6:02pm by Joe Bovee, 2nd John Becker, motion passed***
- XII. Next Meeting December 4th, 5pm at the Copper Valley Air Conference Room