



**KERR-TAR RPO Joint RTAC/RTCC MEETING**

**March 9, 2006**

**1:30 P.M.**

**Bethel Hill Charter School  
Roxboro, NC**

**RTAC Members**

\*Alston, Clinton – Warren County

\*Averette, Pete – Granville County

**Day, Jack – Town of Stem**

\*Gardner, Walter – Town of Warrenton

**Joyner, Steve – City of Roxboro**

**Pernell, Karl – Town of Louisburg**

\*Seifert, Clem – City of Henderson

\*Spaulding, Ken – NCDOT Board of  
Transportation

\*Swanson, Robert Lee – Franklin County

\*Wright, Danny – Vance County

**Yarborough, Larry – Person County**

**RTCC Members**

**Ayscue, Jerry – Vance County Mgr**

**Barlow, Jonathan – Roxboro City Mgr**

\*Becker, Kelly – NCDOT Traffic Engineer

**Bruff, Mike – NCDOT TPB (Alternate:  
Scott Walston)**

\*Bullock, Ray – Middleburg Mayor

**Carpenter, Steve – Person County Mgr  
(Alternate: Leigh Woodall)**

\*Carver, Larry – Warrenton Town Mgr

**Church, John – Warren County EDC**

**Coudriet, Chris – Franklin County Mgr**

\*Cox, Diane – KARTS Director

**Day, Jack – Stem Mayor**

**Finch, Benny – Vance County EDC**

**Jones, Linda – Warren County Mgr**

**Gobble, CL – Louisburg Town Mgr**

\*Goswick, Ronnie – Franklin County EDC

**Harris, Carol – Macon Mayor**

\*Lunsford, Gerald -- PATS

**Mallory, Neil – COG Director**

**Marrow, Tommy – Oxford City Mgr**

**Moss, Jerry – Henderson City Mgr  
(Alternate: Erris Dunston)**

**Nance, Jon – Division 5 Engineer (Alternate:  
Wally Bowman)**

**Newman, Walter – Norlina Mayor**

\*Newsome, Glen – Person County EDC

**Parrott, Janet – Stovall Mayor (Alternate:  
Tonya Sneed)**

**Powell, Shelby – RPO Planner**

\*Turner, Leon – Granville County EDC

**Watts, Dudley – Granville County Mgr  
(Alternate: Scottie Kim Cornett)**

\*Wynne, Howard – Kittrell Mayor

*\*Denotes voting members who were absent*

**Ex Officio Non-Voting RTCC Members Present**

Allen, Lucy T. – NC House of Representatives

Wilkins, Winkie – NC House of  
Representatives

## Others Present

Dumas, Geraldine – Kerr-Tar COG  
Krulik, Ken – Vance County  
Schaumleffel, Bob – City of Creedmoor

Seekins, Rick – Kerr-Tar COG  
Young, Patrick – Franklin County  
Zlotchenko, Elina – NCDOT TPB

<b>MINUTES</b>
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**Welcome and Introductions** – RTAC Chairman K. Pernell and RTCC Chairman T. Marrow welcomed everyone to the meeting. L. Woodall said a few words about the history of Bethel Hill Charter School.

**Minutes from November 10, 2005 RTCC Meeting** – T. Marrow stated that the November 10, 2005 RTCC minutes had been included in the agenda packets. **Motion was made by J. Day, second by L. Woodall to approve the minutes as they were presented.** There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes from November 29, 2005 RTAC Conference Call Meeting** – K. Pernell stated that the November 29, 2005 RTAC Conference Call meeting minutes had been included in the agenda packets. **Motion was made by L. Yarborough, second by S. Joyner to approve the minutes as they were presented.** There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes from January 25, 2006 RTAC Conference Call Meeting** – K. Pernell stated that the January 25, 2006 RTAC Conference Call meeting minutes had been included in the agenda packets. **Motion was made by J. Day, second by S. Joyner to approve the minutes as they were presented.** There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

**Planning Work Program FY 2006-2007** – S. Powell reviewed the progress that has been made thus far on projects in the FY 05-06 Planning Work Program (PWP). She then reviewed projects in next year's PWP, including a transit project to assist with transportation planning for the CareerStarts program at Vance-Granville Community College campuses in Warren and Granville Counties, continuing the collection of bicycle, pedestrian, and downtown parking facility data using GPS, and continuing to assist local governments with grant preparation and other technical assistance as necessary. GIS data collection and mapping would also continue throughout the coming fiscal year. She also outlined assistance that would be provided to NCDOT during the Comprehensive Transportation Plan preparation for Granville County, Warren County, and the Town of Louisburg. She stated that the five-year planning calendar included with the PWP outlined a future schedule for other Comprehensive Transportation Plans in the region, with a Person County/Roxboro plan scheduled to start in FY 06-07. The total RPO budget for FY 06-07 is \$125,695, with 80%, or \$100,556, being paid by NCDOT. The remaining 20% of the budget would be covered by a \$5,000 Tier Assistance Grant provided by the NC Rural Center, COG general funds, and a \$0.06 per capita assessment to be made for each member government. L. Yarborough asked if the GIS data available through the RPO was compatible with county GIS data. S. Powell stated that GIS Technician Geraldine Dumas had worked closely with county GIS staff over the past year to ensure compatibility of data across the region. S. Joyner asked if there was data being collected on gas tax revenues being paid in each county. S. Powell stated that she had tried over the past couple of years to get that data but was repeatedly told that it was not compiled on a county-by-county basis. L. Woodall stated that he was able to get pumping station numbers from the NC Petroleum Association. B. Finch stated that he

had gotten estimates from stations around his county, but could only go on what those stations told him. T. Marrow asked if there were other questions from RTCC members. **Motion made by C. Gobble, second by J. Ayscue, to recommend the FY 06-07 PWP for approval by the RTAC.** There being no further RTCC discussion, the motion carried unanimously. K. Pernell asked the pleasure of the RTAC regarding the PWP. **Motion made by L. Yarborough, second by J. Day, to approve the FY 06-07 PWP as prepared by staff and recommended by the RTCC.** There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

**Air Quality/CMAQ Update** – S. Powell stated that the RTAC had a conference call in January to discuss the issue of regional versus county-level motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEB) for air quality modeling purposes. The RTAC had decided to support the regional approach preferred by CAMPO over the county-level approach supported by DCHC MPO and NCDOT. The neighboring Upper Coastal Plain RPO also agreed to support the regional approach. As such, the Kerr-Tar RPO sent a letter to the Division of Air Quality, which was included in the agenda packet, to make our preference known. This resulted in a letter coming from NCDOT stating they did not oppose the regional approach to MVEB development. That letter was also included in the agenda packet. S. Powell stated that she expected to see a regional MVEB covering Wake, Franklin, Granville, and Johnston Counties, and separate county-level MVEB's for Person County and the other counties in the Triangle Non-Attainment area. She also stated that CMAQ project agreements for 2006 projects in Roxboro and Creedmoor had been forwarded to those municipalities and that work should begin shortly on those projects.

**US 158 Corridor Study Request** – S. Powell presented a list of TIP projects along the Strategic Highway Corridor portion of US 158, all of which runs through the Kerr-Tar RPO region. Some planning work has just begun on the portion of US 158 between I-85 and I-95. The remaining portion of US 158 in our region is still identified as a post-years project in the current TIP. As such, S. Powell recommended that the RPO adopt a resolution requesting a corridor study of US 158 so that the future of the corridor could be developed with local input and so local governments could get an idea of what kind of right-of-way might be required so that right-of-way can begin to be preserved. Rep. Allen stated that this was a very good idea so that our region can have a say in what our future four-lane highway looks like and we can make sure it serves our needs. L. Woodall stated that Person County had been a supporter of this project for ten years and would support a corridor study. S. Cornett stated that she had been advised by the County Manager that Granville County would like to remain neutral on this issue for the time being until the County Commissioners had a chance to review the material and get citizen input. S. Powell stated that US 158 was legislated to be four-laned, so it was a matter of when that would happen, not if that would happen, and this would be the best way for the local governments to get involved early in the planning stages. She stated that all the RPO's along the Strategic Highway Corridor would be considering support of this resolution in the coming months. Rep. Allen encouraged people to attend a meeting scheduled for March 29, 2006 that would look at some preliminary environmental and planning issues along the portion of the corridor between I-85 and I-95. K. Pernell asked if the RTAC would like to take action on the proposed resolution. **Motion made by S. Joyner, second by L. Yarborough to adopt a Resolution Requesting the Completion of a Corridor Study by NCDOT for the Strategic Highway Corridor Portion of US 158.** There being no further discussion, the RTAC passed the resolution unanimously.

**TIP Priority Policy Update** – S. Powell stated that the RTCC had agreed to periodically review the Priority Ranking System adopted by the RPO to make sure it was still meeting the region's goals. S. Joyner requested that we look at equity as a part of that policy for updates. The Draft 2007-2013 TIP is

scheduled to come out in May or June of this year, and the RPO will need to make comments on that as well. She suggested the RPO form a subcommittee to work on the policy and report back to the full RTCC. L. Woodall asked if we could have a draft of some recommendations to give to the RTCC at the May meeting. S. Powell stated that should be feasible. T. Marrow asked S. Powell to contact the County Managers regarding appointments to the subcommittee, and report back to the full RTCC at the May 11, 2006 meeting.

**NCDOT Economic Development Funds and Division 5 Update** – W. Bowman stated that new Economic Development funds were available in FY 05-06 for economic development projects that will help create jobs, such as industrial access. He encouraged members to get project requests into BOT member with a copy going to Division Engineer Jon Nance as soon as possible. These projects had an approximate maximum of \$400,000 for construction, and no right-of-way would be purchased with the funds. W. Bowman said the US 158 work being done between I-85 and I-95 would be a long drawn-out process, with an environmental document expected to be complete around 2011 and a record of decision complete in late 2013. The section will be a four lane divided facility, and is the last intrastate project in our region. He asked S. Powell to ensure that RTAC and RTCC members receive notice of the meeting on March 29 when it goes out. He stated the Division office is also lobbying to get more interstate maintenance money to make some repairs on I-85 since it is the backbone of our transportation network in Division 5.

**NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch Update** – S. Walston stated that RPO Coordinator Ellen Beckmann had left the NCDOT, and he was currently trying to hire a new RPO Coordinator. There are three Comprehensive Transportation Plans underway in the region. Granville County's plan is moving forward, and traffic count projections are being performed right now. They conducted a survey of citizens' needs, and got 408 responses. Warren County is just about to put out a citizen input survey. Louisburg's plan is temporarily on hold due to staffing issues, but will be started again once some of the vacant positions in the Triangle Unit are filled. S. Walston introduced Elina Zlotchenko, who is serving as the new head of RPO Coordinators at NCDOT.

**Planners Report** – S. Powell updated the group on the following issues:

*Safe Routes to Schools* – There has been a new Safe Routes to Schools coordinator appointed. Her name is Terry Canales. The Safe Routes to Schools program was funded in the SAFETEA-LU transportation legislation last that was passed last year. It is for projects dealing with safety issues surrounding transportations to elementary and middle schools. It will likely be a competitive grant process similar to Transportation Enhancements or CMAQ. Ms. Canales is coming to speak to the NC Association of RPO's at the quarterly meeting in April, so more information on this program will be available at the May RTCC meeting.

*NC Moving Ahead Project Schedule Update* – S. Powell updated the group on NC Moving Ahead projects that would move forward this year. Projects included were, for Franklin County, bridge replacements on Dyking Road and work on NC 36 from Henderson down to Wake County; for Granville County, the work on the NC 56/NC 96 intersection project; for Person County, road resurfacing on Concord Ceefo and McGhees Mill Roads; for Vance County, milling and resurfacing Garnett and Raleigh Roads in Henderson; and for Warren County, a turn lane would be added to US 158 Business at NC 58 in Warrenton this fall.

*MOU Adoption Update (NEED MIDDLEBURG, NORLINA, & STOVALL)*—The RPO still needs Middleburg, Stovall, and Norlina to adopt the new MOU before it can be forwarded to the NCDOT for final approval.

*Open Meetings Law issues* – S. Powell stated that the RPO Bylaws need to be updated to require quorums in both committees, and reviewed the membership structure of the RTCC and RTAC. She asked if the group felt it would be appropriate to ask the Division Engineer to serve as an Alternate for NCDOT BOT member Ken Spaulding, since he was rarely available for meetings. W. Bowman agreed to discuss this with Mr. Spaulding to see if it was something he would be interested in. S. Powell stated that we would need to get written lists of acceptable alternates for each RTCC voting member, which would help in achieving a quorum. She stated that she had been advised by NCDOT that non-voting ex officio members should count towards a quorum requirement, making a minimum attendance of 18 necessary at RTCC meetings. She stated that this number had only been achieved twice in the past year and a half. The RTAC only requires 6 members to make a quorum, and had achieved that for all meetings but 1 in the past year and a half. She stated that the group needs to strongly encourage attendance from their peers, and make an effort to send an alternate when they can't attend. She hopes to have these revisions to the bylaws available for a draft review at the May RTCC meeting.

*NC Association of RPO's Funding Project Update*—The NCARPO Executive Committee has been working on a project to outline funding sources for various projects other than TIP projects to produce a handbook and/or website for local governments to use when seeking funding for small transportation projects. Such projects could include signalization, curb and gutter, landscaping, sidewalks, or street lighting, among others. S. Powell will keep the group posted of the progress of this project. The NCARPO hopes to have something out by the end of the year.

**Other Business** – Rep. Allen stated that she wanted the RPO to be kept abreast of developments with toll roads. Virginia had attempted to set up some legislation to make a compact to toll I-85 and/or I-95, but that had been taken off the books last week. She encouraged communities to get involved earlier in the process to see how these types of projects would affect our local area. There needs to be some way to pay for the needed transportation improvements, and if tolls were going to be put in place, the Kerr-Tar area needs to have input on that. Federal legislation would be required to put tolls on I-85 and I-95. J. Church asked if there were any studies done regarding before and after traffic patterns on roads where tolls had been put in. W. Bowman stated that there probably were such studies, but he had not seen any.

**Adjournment** – There being no further business, K. Pernell adjourned the meeting.