

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS

January 30, 2004

BUSINESS MEETING Raleigh, NC

Attendees:

1. Ann Whitley, Upper Coastal Plain RPO
2. Billy Leggett, Albemarle RPO
3. Chris Rountree, Peanut Belt RPO
4. Dawn Qiu, Rocky River RPO
5. Don Eggert, Cape Fear RPO
6. Gene Foxworth, Mid-East RPO
7. Geraldine Dumas, Kerr Tar RPO
8. Greg Christo, Isothermal RPO
9. Hanna Cockburn, Piedmont Triad RPO
10. Jake Gilmer, Land-of-Sky RPO
11. Janet Robertson, Lumber River RPO
12. Jim Daughtry, Eastern Carolina RPO
13. John Marshall, Unifour RPO
14. Ken Krulik, Kerr Tar RPO
15. Lisa Craven, Mid-Carolina RPO
16. Matt Roark, Southwestern RPO
17. Pat Strong, Triangle Area RPO
18. Phil Trew, High Country RPO
19. Rebecca Yarbrough, Lake Norman RPO
20. Shelby Powell, Down East RPO
21. Tammye Rey, Mid-Carolina RPO
22. Beshad Norwozi, NCDOT
23. Everett Ward, NCDOT
24. Mike Bruff, NCDOT

Meeting Minutes

1. **Start-up-** D. Eggert called meeting to order at 11:45.
2. **Consideration of Minutes of October 1, 2003 meeting** – *Motion made by K. Krulik to accept minutes as submitted; Second by H. Cockburn. There being no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.*
3. **Bylaw Amendment** – S. Powell presented a proposed amendment to the bylaws that would allow an alternate to vote for the appointed RPO representative. J. Robertson asked if the wording of the amendment would preclude anyone from the COG from filling in since no one has the exact qualifications she has. S. Powell stated that she interpreted the amendment to mean anyone from the Lead Planning Agency would be allowed to fill in for the designated RPO Planner. *Motion made by P. Trew to adopt bylaw amendment; Second by J. Daughtry. There being no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.*
4. **Mission Statement** -- P. Trew presented the three variations of Mission Statements that had been developed in Subcommittee. *Motion made by H. Cockburn to adopt #1, with the addition of "...transportation issues with statewide and national significance." Second by R. Yarbrough. P. Trew stated that Everett Ward had mentioned the importance of adding a regional aspect to the Mission Statement. Motion made by P. Trew to amend H. Cockburn's motion to add "...regional transportation issues with statewide and national significance." Second by J. Daughtry. Motion to amend original motion carried unanimously.* J. Gilmer questioned conciseness of statement #1. S. Powell stated that a mission statement should be one sentence that includes who you are, what you are doing, and how you are going to do it. J. Gilmer stated that his TAC had specifically instructed him to not take policy positions within the RPO Association, and the policy advocacy wording in #2 would prevent him from fully supporting that statement. M. Roark pointed out that choice #3 stated essentially the same thing as #1 but in a more condensed manner. J. Daughtry asked if we should go with #3 to avoid the policy advocacy issue. H. Cockburn stated that she would entertain a substitute in her motion. P. Trew stated that the NC ARPO should take a stance and provide policy input to NCDOT in order to be

effective, and that maybe the wording should state “coordinated input” instead of “policy advocacy.” R. Yarbrough stated that choice #3 limits discussion to rural officials and NCDOT, and perhaps the organization would want to talk with people outside of those two entities, and stated that #2 could be changed to state “input” rather than “advocacy.” S. Powell stated that #2 should also be amended to include the regional wording. P. Trew stated that perhaps the Subcommittee should take the suggestions made under advisement and come back to the full group at the next meeting with a revised Mission Statement. *Motion made by P. Trew to table Mission Statement adoption until April meeting; Second by J. Daughtry. Motion carried unanimously.*

5. **Appointment of MPO Liaison** – D. Eggert stated that Hanna Cockburn had agreed to be the RPO Liaison to the NC MPO Association since most of their meetings were held in her area. Ed Johnson from CAMPO would be the MPO Liaison to the NC Association of RPOs.
6. **Partnering with National Association of MPOs** – D. Eggert stated that he was still collecting information on this issue and would bring that information to the group at the April meeting.
7. **Sub-committee reports** – D. Eggert stated that Jake Gilmer and Pat Strong had agreed to co-chair a Legislative Subcommittee, and that they would present a report on legislative activities, both national and statewide, that affect RPO’s at the April meeting.
8. **Membership status update-** J. Marshall stated that there were still two RPOs who had not provided a letter confirming their membership in the NC Association of RPOs.
9. **Other business** – K. Krulik announced that his email would still be active at the Kerr Tar Council of Governments until his vacancy was filled, and that he would still be acting as RPO Planner until a replacement was found. He also reminded the group that, with the new year, it may be time to look for membership changes on TCC and TAC committees, and that the RPO Planners should check their bylaws and be aware of those changes. D. Eggert asked for topic ideas for the April meeting. Suggestions for topics included a legislative update, a Driveway Manual update by Teresa Wyatt of NCDOT, traffic modeling/project design/long range planning/project justification, various forms of the prioritization policy and outcomes, RFP development for transportation projects and studies, and NCDOT expectations and progress report on the state of RPOs. D. Eggert stated that any other discussion topics should be emailed to him. He also stated that the GIS Planners would be invited to the April meeting to discuss what GIS projects were being done for RPOs across the state. J. Gilmer stated that western RPO planners had met with Statewide Planning staff to discuss the possibility of RPO funds rolling forward from year to year. M. Bruff stated that the only way to roll over funds is to have them come through a federal channel, and RPO funds come entirely from the Highway Trust Fund. M. Bruff also stated that July 1 will begin year 3 of the five-year RPO funding commitment by NCDOT.
10. **Wrap-up** – There being no further discussion, D. Eggert adjourned the meeting at 12:17 p.m.

Submitted by

Shelby Powell, Secretary
NC Association of RPO’s