

East Central Iowa Council of Governments Board Meeting Notice

1:30 P.M. March 28, 2019
East Central Iowa Council of Governments
700 16th Street NE, Suite 301
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

TEL 365-9941 FAX 365-9981

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	1.0 CALL TO ORDER
	.1 Recognition of Alternates
	.2 Public Discussion
2	.3 Approval of Agenda
3	.4 Public Hearing: Consolidated Transit Application
4-10	2.0 RPA POLICY COMMITTEE
	3.0 ROUTINE MATTERS
11-13	.1 Approval of Minutes (February 28, 2019)
14-19	.2 Budget Reports/Balance Sheet
	4.0 AGENCY REPORTS
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21-22	.2 Community Development Report
23-25	.3 Housing Report
26-31	.4 Transportation Report
	> <i>Consider Consolidated Transit Application</i>
	> <i>Consider Public Transit Infrastructure Grant Applications</i>
32	.5 Environmental Services Report
	.6 Program Spotlight: Services to Linn County
	5.0 STRATEGIC DECISION-MAKING CONSIDERATIONS
	> <i>Consider Actions on the Executive Director Search Process</i>
	6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS
33-34	.1 Revolving Loan Fund Committee
	> <i>Committee Recommendations</i>
	7.0 OLD BUSINESS
	.1 Approval of Expenditures
	8.0 NEW BUSINESS
	.1 Board Member Reports
	9.0 NEXT MEETING: April 25, 2019

ECICOG is the Region 10 planning agency serving local governments in the counties of Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn, and Washington.

MINUTES

East Central Iowa Council of Governments
Board Meeting 1:30 p.m., March 28, 2019
700 16th Street NE, Suite 301, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kathleen VanSteenhuyse-Benton County Citizen
Dave Fish-City of Belle Plaine
Sara Buck-City of Cedar Rapids
David Collins-Washington County Citizen
Mark Prentice-City of Solon
Betty Weimer-City of Anamosa
Randy Laubscher-Johnson County Citizen
Kevin Heitshusen-Iowa County Supervisor
Vicki Pope-Iowa County Supervisor
Tracy Seeman-Benton County Supervisor
Darrin Gage-Linn County Citizen
Jon Zirkelbach-Jones County Supervisor
Brent Hinson-City of Washington
Les Beck-Linn County Planning & Development
Bob Yoder-Washington County Supervisor

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tony Hocamp-Iowa County Citizen
Rod Sullivan-Johnson County Supervisor
Derek Lumsden-Jones County Citizen
Don Gray-Mayor of Central City
Ben Rogers-Linn County Supervisor
Ruby Dickey-City of Lone Tree

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Brad Ketels-Linn County Engineer

OTHERS PRESENT

Cami Rasmussen-City of Solon
Rob Fangmann-Cedar County Engineer
Brad Gaul-Cedar County Supervisor
Tom Brase-Johnson County SEATS
Cathy Cutler-IDOT
Rochelle Fuller-Senator Grassley's Office
Carl Lingen-ICOG

STAFF PRESENT

Doug Elliott-Executive Director
Mary Rump-Transportation Director
Gina Peters-Executive Assistant
Robyn Jacobson-Contract Manager
Jennifer Fencl- Environmental Services Director
Mark Culver-Housing Specialist
Tom Gruis-Planner
John Bruce-Iowa Waste Exchange
Kendra Abel-Grant Writer
Brock Grenis-Transit Administrator
Natalie Fraehlich-Public Information Specialist
Chad Sands-Community Development Director
Tracey Achenbach-Housing Director

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Van Steenhuyse at 1:33 p.m.

.1 Recognition of Alternates

Brad Ketels for Ben Rogers

Van Steenhuyse welcomed Mark Prentice to his first board meeting. Everyone introduced themselves for the benefit of new members.

.2 Public Discussion -None

.3 Approval of Agenda

Van Steenhuyse asked to move item 5.0 after item 3.2.
M/S/C (Hinson/Heitshusen) to approve the agenda with the change. All ayes.

.4 Public Hearing: Consolidated Transit Application

Van Steenhuyse opened the public hearing at 1:34 p.m.
Grenis read the notice of public hearing:

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the East Central Iowa Council of Governments (ECICOG) Board of Directors at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, March 28th, 2019 at the ECICOG offices at 700 16th Street NE, Suite 301, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402. The purpose of this hearing is to solicit citizen input regarding the FY 2020 Consolidated Transit Application. The Region 10 transit planning area includes the counties of Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn, and Washington.

This hearing will discuss an application from the East Central Iowa Council of Governments (ECICOG) to the Iowa Department of Transportation for financial assistance for FY 2020 transit operating and capital needs. ECICOG will request federal and state transit assistance amounting to approximately \$788,543 and \$518,509 respectively for the support of day-to-day operations for Corridor Rides Transit, which consists of the following public transit providers: Benton County Transportation, Iowa County Transportation, Johnson County SEATS, Jones County JETS, Linn County LIFTS, Washington County Mini Bus, 380Express and CorridorRides vanpool. ECICOG will also request federal transit assistance to support the following planned capital equipment activities (cost estimates per unit are noted):

- Replace 10 minivans (\$55,000)
- Replace 5 light-duty buses with 138" wheelbase (\$87,000)
- Replace 7 light-duty buses with 158" wheelbase (\$89,100)
- Replace 14 light-duty buses with 176" wheelbase (3 diesel \$102,500; (11 gas @ \$94,500)
- Replace 5 Medium Duty diesel bus with 33' wheelbase (\$186,000)

The total estimated cost of these capital purchases is \$3,108,560. If approved, federal funds will be matched with local financing on an 85% federal - 15% local basis. These projects will not have significant detrimental environmental effects on the area and no persons or businesses will be displaced by these activities. The transit projects are in conformance with the Region 10 FY 2020-2023 TIP.

Any interested person or agency is invited to attend this hearing and speak for or against these projects. Written comments will be accepted by ECICOG through the date and time of the public hearing specified above. For additional information, contact Brock Grenis at 700 16th Street NE, Suite 301, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402; telephone (319) 365-994; or email brock.grenis@ecicog.org
(Laubscher joined the meeting at this time.)

There were no comments from the public.

M/S/C (Seeman/Fish) to close the public hearing at 1:35 p.m. All ayes.

Van Steenhuyse recessed the meeting so the RPA Policy Committee could meet.

2.0 RPA POLICY COMMITTEE

(Weimer joined the meeting at this time.)

Van Steenhuyse reconvened the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

3.0 ROUTINE MATTERS

.1 Approval of Minutes

M/S/C (Gage/Buck) to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2019 meeting as presented. All ayes.

.2 Budget Reports/Balance Sheets

Elliott gave an overview of the February financial statements.

M/S/C (Yoder/Weimer) to receive and file the February financial statements for audit. All ayes.

5.0 STRATEGIC DECISION-MAKING CONSIDERATIONS

Carl Lingen from Capture Marketing and the Executive Director of ICOG was present to give an update on the Executive Director search. He noted a survey would be sent to ECICOG staff and COG directors in the next couple of weeks. He also said a marketing piece would be created to compliment the job description for the national search. Van Steenhuyse noted the executive committee has met with Lingen twice and the search committee should be finalized by the end of April. She noted there would be a three-part interview process and the search committee would be making a final recommendation to the full board.

Elliott noted in November the Board passed a resolution in support of ICOG's prison housing project with Prison Industries. Lingen said he has been involved in setting up a non-profit "Homes for Iowa" and ICOG is helping with management of the project in Newton, Iowa. He gave an update on the program.

4.0 AGENCY REPORTS

.1 Director's Report

Elliott noted he would be in Florida the second week of April tending to his parents' estate. He gave an update on the NADO conference and meetings with legislators.

Fuller from Senator Grassley's office gave an update.

.2 Community Development Report

Sands noted CDBG applications for infrastructure and water are due July 1st.

.3 Housing Report

Elliott congratulated Achenbach on being chosen a Women of Influence by the Corridor Business Journal.

Achenbach gave an update on the housing trust funds.

.4 Transportation Report

Grenis referred to page 31 of the packet, an Authorizing Resolution to allow Grenis to apply for state and federal transit assistance from the IDOT.

M/S/C (Hinson/Yoder) to approve the Authorizing Resolution as presented. All ayes.

Elliott noted the 380 Express was presented an Innovation Award from ICOG.

On pages 27-30 of the packet are letters from Benton County Transportation and Washington County Mini Bus (WCMB) expressing their intent to apply for a Public Transit Infrastructure Grant. This is the same program JETS utilized about three years ago. Grenis outlined each proposal and noted there is approximately \$1.5 M available statewide. Elliott noted the Benton County project is similar to the JETS project but the Mini Bus project is more complex because they are a private non-profit that competes for service every three years and would have to transfer ownership of their entire building to ECICOG for 30 years. Hinson said the City of Washington provides funding through local option sales tax to Mini Bus each year. Discussion followed. Grenis noted both applications could be submitted for up to 40% funding but he thought he would be asked to prioritize the applications. Gage asked if the City of Washington or Washington County would be willing to be the lease-holder of the building and sub-lease to Mini Bus. Hinson said he thought an arrangement could be made. Discussion followed.

(Rasmussen and Prentice left the meeting at this time.)

M/S/C (Zirkelbach/Gage) to allow staff to submit both applications pending further conversation with IDOT Public Transit, and if the applications need to be prioritized, then the Benton County application would be the priority. Unless IDOT prohibits multiple applications, both applications would be submitted and in the case of WCMB, the 30-year lease would be between Washington County or the City of Washington and ECICOG, and the local government would sublease to Mini Bus. Collins, Hinson and Yoder no, all the rest ayes. Motion carried.

(Collins and Hinson left the meeting at this time.)

.5 Environmental Services Report

Fencl gave an update on watershed projects.

.6 Program Spotlight: Services to Linn County

This item will be deferred until next month due to the length of the meeting.

6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

.1 Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee

This item will be deferred until next month due to the length of the meeting.

7.0 OLD BUSINESS

.1 Approval of Expenditures

M/S/C (Yoder/Fish) to approve the list of expenditures as presented. All ayes.

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

.1 Board Member Reports

Yoder gave an update on the RFP for ambulance service.

.2 Legislative Priorities - none

9.0 NEXT MEETING: April 25, 2019

Van Steenhuyse adjourned the meeting at 3:16 p.m. All ayes.