

Cape Fear RPO

Brunswick County ❖ Columbus County
Pender County

Rural Transportation Advisory Committee
October 19, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Voting Members Present

Robert Barnhill, St. Helena
JV Dove, Southport
Mike Forte, Brunswick County
Glenn Marshall, Sandy Creek

Fred McCoy, Pender County
Frank Williams, Brunswick County
Jackie Williams-Rowland, Brunswick

Others Present

Justin Brantley, Cape Fear COG
Karen Collette, NCDOT Division 3
Charles Edwards, NCDOT

Nazia Sarder, NCDOT TPD
Allen Serkin, Cape Fear COG
Darius Sturdivant, NCDOT Division 6

1. **Introduction and quorum** – Having reached a quorum, Mr. Williams called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM. The attendees introduced themselves.
2. **Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance** – Mr. Dove led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Ethics awareness and conflict of interest statement** – Mr. Williams read the statement to the RTAC. No conflicts of interest were raised and no members recused themselves from any votes.
4. **Additions or corrections to the agenda** – There were no proposed changes or additions to the agenda.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – *Mr. McCoy made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Ms. Williams-Rowland seconded the motion. The motion carried.*
6. **November Meeting Data Discussion** – The group discussed the meeting date for the final RTAC meeting of the year, in order to perform the final point assignments. It was decided that the meeting will be held on November 16th. Mr. McCoy made a motion to approve this meeting data, Ms. William-Rowland seconded the motion. The motion carried.
7. **Public Comment** – There was no public comment.
8. **Freight Flows in NC** – Charles Edwards, Director of NCDOT's Logistics and Freight Division, provided an overview of North Carolina's freight operations and highlighted that North Carolina is 15 years behind other states while the Port of Wilmington is the most

efficient port in the US in terms of lifts. He provided a summary of expected population, manufacturing, and freight trends in North Carolina and noted that rural depopulation is occurring in some counties while metropolitan areas are experiencing significant growth. Mr. Edwards noted that NCDOT is looking into rehabilitating the old Cape Fear canal system to reestablish water-based freight routes inland, revitalizing the Triad inland port, and eyeing new technologies such as “blockchains”, fiber optics, and Intelligent Traffic Systems (ITS).

9. **Prioritization 5.0 Regional Tier Results** – Mr. Serkin provided a summary of the Prioritization 5.0 Regional Tier Results. Mr. Forte asked if the ferry makes money. Mr. Serkin clarified that the ferry does make revenue and also identified that earlier this year the Board of Transportation approved an increase in toll rates for the Southport-Ft. Fisher Ferry.
10. **Prioritization 5.0 Preliminary Division Tier Point Assignments** – Mr. Serkin summarized the revised local point assignments at the Division Tier and also identified that the widening of NC 87 to four lanes from US 74/76 to NC 11 and the US 74/76 interchange at Maco Rd are at risk of losing funding. The group discussed accepting points from GSATS for two projects in southern Brunswick County. The group decided to accept the points from GSATS for the preliminary point assignments. Mr. Serkin indicated that the point assignments will be made available for public review. *Mr. McCoy made a motion to approve the preliminary point assignments, Mr. Dove seconded the motion. The motion carried.*
11. **Resolution Supporting Boiling Spring Lakes Pedestrian Plan Grant Application** – Mr. Serkin explained that Boiling Spring Lakes is seeking support from the RPO to support a NCDOT planning grant application for a pedestrian plan. *Mr. Helms made a motion to approve the resolution of support, Mr. Dove seconded the motion. The motion carried.*
12. **Resolution Supporting Monarch’s FTA 5310 Grant Application** – Mr. Serkin explained that Monarch, a non-profit serving adults with intellectual disability, is seeking a resolution of support for their FTA 5310 Grant Application. Ms. Williams-Rowland noted that this is an organization that has been providing these services for years in Columbus County. *Ms. Williams-Rowland made a motion to approve the resolution, Mr. McCoy seconded the motion. The motion carried.*
13. **Reports/Updates** – Mr. Serkin provided an update on STIP amendments and noted that NCDOT is seeking input on the Statewide Transportation Plan. Mr. Sturdivant provided an update for Division 6. Mr. Sturdivant stated that Division 6 is in the middle of a public comment period for point assignment recommendations and that a public meeting is to be held at Lake Waccamaw for R-5819/5820. Ms. Sader provided the update for TPD.
14. **Open Discussion:** There was no further discussion at this time.
15. **Adjournment** – *There being no further discussion, Ms. Williams-Rowland made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Dove seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:36 AM.*

Minutes prepared by Justin Brantley on October 19, 2018 and approved by the RTAC on November 16, 2018.