

# Northern Tier RPO Regional Transportation Advisory Committee

## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Monday, December 14, 2015  
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
NTRPDC  
Bradford County, Towanda, PA

### Attendance:

Bob Getz, Sullivan County Commissioner  
Ethan Sexton, Northern Tier  
Brian Baker, Northern Tier  
Matt Williams, Northern Tier  
Carey Mullins, PennDOT Central Office  
Rudy Mattes, Choconut Township  
Jim Weaver, Tioga County Planning  
Arnie Kriner, Sen. Gene Yaw  
Alan Hall, Susquehanna County Commissioner  
Len Wheatley, Susquehanna County  
Matt Smoker, FHWA  
Rick Biery, Bradford County  
Justin Batiuk, PennDOT 3-0  
Steve Fisher, PennDOT 4-0  
Fred Jugan, Sullivan County  
Kim Barnes, Northern Tier  
Kevin Kilpatrick, EMTA/BEST  
Annette Schultz, Endless Mountains Heritage Region  
Jason Krise, Rep. Tina Pickett  
Lynnelle Bennett, Wyoming County Planning  
Jean Ruhf, Endless Mountains Visitors Bureau  
Debra Valunas, Rep. Sandra Major  
Lloyd Ayers, PennDOT District 3.0  
Frank Paczewski, STC Commissioner  
Shaw Siglin, Grand Canyon Airport Authority  
Fred Lavancher, Tioga County  
Joe Shabloski, Grand Canyon Airport Authority  
Craig Musser, Wellsboro/Johnston Airport Manager/Grand Canyon Airport Authority  
Chuck Dillon, Sen. Scarnati

### I. Items for Discussion

#### A. Approve August 10, 2015 Minutes

- A motion was made by Jim Weaver to approve the 8/10/15 Meeting Minutes, seconded by Bob Getz, the motion carried unanimously.

#### B. 2013 – 2016 Administrative Actions and Amendments –

District 3.0 – Amendments & Admin Actions

- Project #8 – This project was increased to meet new estimates
- Project #16 – This project was increased to meet new estimates
- Project #18 – This project was increased to meet new estimates

District 4.0 – Amendments & Admin Actions

- Project #1 – This project has had its PE phase advanced
- Project #4 – This project had its low bid increased

Amendments:

- Project #2 – This project’s funds have been advanced
- Project #3 – This project is now 100% state
- Project #4, #7-10 – These projects were increased to meet new estimates
- These actions required an amendment, a motion was made by Carey Mullins, seconded by Alan Hall and carried unanimously

**C. STC Commissioner presentation**

- STC Commissioner Frank Paczewski gave a presentation on the state’s 12 year plan, specifically the public participation portion. The STC had created an online survey for public participation this year. Every county in the state was represented by some form of public input. Most concerns dealt with safety, pavement conditions, biking/walking, and bridge conditions. In our region road conditions was the #1 priority followed by bridge conditions and safety.

**D. Wellsboro/Johnston Airport Discussion**

– Craig Musser, Wellsboro/Johnston Airport Manager, discussed some issues the airport is dealing with from SR 3029. SR 3029 is affecting the airports approach of planes into the airport with the only way to alleviate the issue being to close the road. The airport would also like to eventually expand to the east where the road currently is, the airport would like to request a study of closing SR 3029. Although the “official” detour would only be 1 or 2 miles. The township stated that most people would use the township road off or SR 3029 and the road can’t handle the increased traffic. Carey Mullins asked Brian Baker to set up a conference call with all parties involved to be held in early January 2016 to discuss this further.

**E. PennDOT District Bridge Presentation/Discussion**

– Lloyd Ayers discussed PennDOT’s process for local bridges. PennDOT can now manage projects from start to finish if the local entity agrees. This includes in house design if possible, surveying of the bridge, etc. which can promote cost savings. PennDOT will also do most engineering agreements on behalf of the municipality. This process can help with bridges that are alike that have similar maintenance issues be repaired and grouped together. Also, Lloyd mentioned PennDOT can now cast concrete beams for local municipalities. Lyold also mentioned District 3 and 4 will be meeting to discuss working together on some projects in District 4-0.

**F. Central Office Website Presentation**

– Carey Mullins gave a presentation over viewing the central office website which over views construction and planned projects by county, PennDOT district, legislative district and more. The website can be found at [www.penndot.gov](http://www.penndot.gov)

**G. Endless Mountains Heritage Region Introduction**

– Annette Schultz introduced herself as the new director of the Endless Mountains Heritage Region and gave an overview of what the EMHR is working on.

**H. LTAP Training & Equipment Shows**

- The following LTAP Trainings have been scheduled for the Winter:

- Winter Maintenance – Montrose Borough – 1/12/2016
- Winter Maintenance – Tunkhannock Township – 1/14/2016
- Winter Maintenance – Mansfield Fire Hall – 1/28/16
- Winter Maintenance – Athens Township – 2/10/16
- Polymer Modified Emulsion Asphalt Paving System – Athens Township – 3/10/16

**I. Community Development GIS, What is Going On?**

- Matt Williams has been working on the following projects:

- The Upper Tioga River Authority Waterline Extension – The county has loaned the group \$1 million towards the \$7.5 million needed to fund the project
- The Marsh Creek Greenway has converted into a River Authority
- Matt has also been working with municipalities that are looking for TAP money for streetscapes, but the program closes January 8<sup>th</sup> . Municipalities interested in TAP funding include Clifford Township, Lanesboro, and Nicholson Borough.
- Matt also mentioned the DCNR C2P2 program is to open in Janury

#### **J. 2016 Meeting dates**

- A tentative schedule of 2016 meeting dates was passed out. The dates of March 21<sup>st</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup> have been changed from the original list.

#### **K. Local Asset Collection**

- Due to State Budget Impasse travel ban the RPO is unable to travel which is a main factor of the local asset collection.

## **II. Reports**

### **A. Legislative Report:**

Rep Karen Boback – No one present

Rep. Tina Pickett – No Comments

Rep. Sandra Major – Debra Valunas mentioned that state legislatures are working on the budget

Rep. Matthew Baker – No One Present

Senator Gene Yaw – No One Present

Senator Lisa Baker – No One Present

Senator Joseph Scarnati – Chuck Dillon mentioned that he hoped there would be a budget soon

Congressman Marino – No one present

### **B. FHWA – Matt Smoker mentioned that the FAST Act will replace Map-21, some of the highlights include more federal funding to the state and a higher priority on freight transportation.**

### **C. PENNDOT Reports**

Central Office – Carey Mullins mentioned TIP Draft Discussions have taken place and will continue, we hope to have a draft TIP ready for the February meeting

Dist. 3.0 – Justin Batiuk mentioned to Bob Getz that numerous no jumping signs have been taken from the Hillsgrove Bridge, following up on a question about what can be done to stop people from jumping off the bridge. The state police are supposed to be monitoring the area.

Dist. 4.0 – Alan Hall voiced concerns to District 4.0 on some issues within Susquehanna County specifically on SR 171 at the Great Bend exit off I-81. The condition of the road off the interstate is very poor. Commissioner Hall mentioned he talked to George Roberts months ago but nothing has changed. Pictures of the issues were sent to 4.0.

**D. County Reports**

1. Bradford County – No Comments
2. Sullivan County – The RTAC thanked Bob Getz for his service to our committee as this was his final meeting. Commissioner Getz thanked the group and specifically District 3.0 for their help over the years.
3. Susquehanna County – Alan Hall mentioned the county has four local bridges that they'd like to be added to the TIP. These bridges will be funded through Act 13 Alan Hall also stated that they will be sending formal requests to George Roberts to get bridges added on the TIP.
4. Tioga County – Jim Weaver mentioned that county bridge #6 does not have PE until 2018 but the bridge is in serious condition and may not make it to 2018. District 3-0 will follow up with Jim on this. Fred Lavancher asked about the status of I-99 designation. Carey Mullins stated "All inquiries about the I-99 Designation are to be directed to District 3-0 Executive Sandra Tosca."
5. Wyoming County – No Comments
- E. BEST Report – Kevin Kilpatrick mentioned that BEST has added six share ride vehicles, he also mentioned the TIP for BEST would be sent out soon.
- F. BMTS Report – No one present.
- G. EMVB – No one present.
- H. NTRPDC Reports – No comments

**IV. Other Items for Discussion – None.**

**V. Public Discussion – Lunch was provided by the NTRPDC.**

**VI. Adjournment - With no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM**