

**Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission
Full Board Minutes
211 N. Gear Avenue, West Burlington, IA 52655
November 17, 2011**

Members Present: Brent Schleisman, Byron Smith, Jim Davidson, Sue Frice, Hans Trousil, Chris Ball, Mark Hempen, Steve Bisenius, Mark Huston, Gary Folluo, Michael O'Connor, and Ron Durbin (alternate for Wapello)

Members Absent: Bob Beck, Kent White, Klay Edwards, David File, Bob Hesler, Phil Thomas, and Jim Howell

Guests Present: Sam Shea, IDOT; and Rex Troute, The Hawkeye

Staff Present: Mike Norris, Debbie Laughlin, Bob Kuskowski, Kim Schisel, and Zach James

Call to order at 12:03 p.m.

Agenda Approval

Motion by Huston to approve the November 17, 2011 agenda, second by Huston. All Ayes, motion passed.

Consent Agenda Approval

Motion by Hempen to accept the consent agenda, second by O'Connor. All Ayes, motion passed.

Old Business

1. Department Reports: James highlighted some points from the Planning Department report stating that we are in the process of conducting 80 personal interviews as well as doing an internet survey for the public input portion of the CEDS update, and reported that the Louisa County Trails Plan is expected to be completed by the end of the year. James also mentioned from his report some of the grants that have been submitted as well as some upcoming grant opportunities reminding them of the late December application deadlines for Brownsfield's Assessment and Cleanup grants, and Regional STP and TE grants. Norris stated that there is a lot going on in Housing with GRHTF projects underway, Mount Pleasant upper-story, multi-family upper story, Single Family New Construction in Des Moines & Louisa counties just to name a few. He further stated that flood recovery efforts are wrapping up in Des Moines and Louisa counties. Kuskowski stated that the ridership is growing for the added Wednesday medical shuttle route and that a substitute driver has been hired for the Louisa County route. No action necessary.
2. Public Hearing: Resolution No. 85-2011: Resolution Adopting the SEIRPC 2011 Public Participation Plan: Schleisman opened the Public Hearing at 12:17 p.m. James stated that the Draft Public Participation Plan was presented at the September Full Board meeting, which required a 45 day public comment period, of which the only comments received were from the Iowa DOT regarding minor formatting and wording changes, which are reflected in the Final Public Participation Plan. Schleisman asked for comments, and there was no one from the public in attendance, and no further comments were made. Davidson made a motion to close the Public Hearing to Approve Resolution No. 85-2011: Resolution Adopting the SEIRPC 2011 Public Participation Plan at 12:18 p.m., second by Folluo. All Ayes, motion carried. Ball made a motion to Approve Resolution No. 85-2011:

Resolution Adopting the SEIRPC 2011 Public Participation Plan, second by Trousil. All Ayes, motion carried.

3. Public Hearing: Resolution No. 86-2011: Resolution Amending the FY2012 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP), Authorizing Filing of Grant Application and Execution of Grant Contracts Consistent with the Work Program; and Resolution No. 87-2011: Resolution Assuring Required Local Match for FHWA STP, FHWA SPR and FTA 5311 Funds: Schleisman opened the Public Hearing at 12:19 p.m. James stated that the amendment to the FY2012 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) is due to the need to add \$30,000 for the purchase of Traffic Speed Indicators, and because the Iowa DOT recently informed us that there is \$52,428 in STP Carryover from FY2011. He further stated that these changes increase the total transportation planning budget to \$267,880 with \$214,304 coming from federal funding, and \$53,576 in local funding. Schleisman asked for comments, and there was no one from the public in attendance, and no further comments were made. O'Connor made a motion to close the Public Hearing to Approve Resolution No. 86-2011: Resolution Amending the FY2012 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP), Authorizing Filing of Grant Application and Execution of Grant Contracts Consistent with the Work Program; and Resolution No. 87-2011: Resolution Assuring Required Local Match for FHWA STP, FHWA SPR and FTA 5311 Funds at 12:22 p.m., second by Bisenius. All Ayes, motion carried. Bisenius made a motion to Approve Resolution No. 86-2011: Resolution Amending the FY2012 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP), Authorizing Filing of Grant Application and Execution of Grant Contracts Consistent with the Work Program, second by Frice. All Ayes, motion carried. Bisenius made a motion to Approve Resolution No. 87-2011: Resolution Assuring Required Local Match for FHWA STP, FHWA SPR and FTA 5311 Funds, second by Trousil. All Ayes, motion carried.
4. Community Housing Development Organizations(CHDO): Norris stated that a CHDO is another avenue for housing development in Southeast Iowa, and could partner with Great River Housing, Inc. Norris further stated that the CHDO would also be a 501(C)(3) and that some of the board members can have some cross population with GRH, Inc., however there would be additional board members needed to meet the CHDO criteria. Norris stated that staff is looking for board approval to move ahead and begin developing a 501(C)(3) entity that would be arms-length from SEIRPC, and have a separate structure, but connected to it through administration/operation of the organization. Folluo made a motion to approve staff looking further into having a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) in conjunction with the Great River Housing, Inc. board, second by O'Connor. All ayes, motion carried.

New Business:

1. Historic Tax Credits: Norris stated that Southeast Iowa has a need for services in developing tax credit projects, and that some projects are being done now. Norris further stated that SEIRPC will start assisting regional partners with tax credit projects, for a fee, as opportunities arise, and staff will be developing its expertise in tax credit financing. No action necessary.
2. Renewable Energy: Norris stated that we are looking into renewable energy options as a way to cut utility costs at our 211 N. Gear Avenue facility with wind turbines likely being

the best option. He further stated that contacts with Alliant Energy and the Iowa Energy Bank have been made to begin the evaluation process first for energy efficiency opportunities, and secondly, renewable options, and that information is also being sought from the Iowa Energy Center and USDA-RD. No action necessary.

3. Leland McCosh and LeRoy Meyer Awards: Norris stated that letters have gone out in regard to nominations for the Leland McCosh and LeRoy Meyer awards, which are due by December 30, 2011 . No action necessary.
4. Environmental Assessment for Improvement of US 61: Sam Shea, IDOT representative, stated that the Environmental Assessment for US 61 in Louisa County, between the Muscatine County line and IA 92 has been completed, but the document is out for public comment . He further stated that if no significant impacts are found through the comment process, a Finding of No Significant Impact will be prepared for federal approval. No action necessary.
5. Governor's Transportation 2020 Citizen Advisory Commission (CAC): Sam Shea, IDOT representative, talked about the Governor's Transportation 2020 Citizen Advisory Commission Report & Recommendations, referring in particular to the Executive Summary about the summary of recommendations on page 3. He further stated that an effort is being made to find efficiencies and redundancies. No action necessary.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR:

None.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Davidson, second by Bisenius. All Ayes

Meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

Submitted by Debbie Laughlin

Mike Norris, Executive Director

Jim Howell, Secretary

Date: _____

Date: _____