

**CROSS PLAINS RURAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
MINUTES
February 19, 2015
Thursday, 10:00 a.m.
Nortex Regional Planning Commission Conference Room
4309 Jacksboro Highway - Wichita Falls, Texas 76302**

Voting Members

Greg Tyra, Wilbarger County Judge
John Bullock, Young County Judge
Woody Gossom, Vice Chairman, Wichita County Judge
Howard Raeke, Mayor, City of Henrietta
Curtis Warner, Mayor, City of Electra
James Yohe, Proxy for Mayor Robert Fenoglio, City of Nocona
Al Smith, Cooke County Commissioner
Randy Jackson, Archer County Judge
Kenneth Liggett, Clay County Commissioner
Howard Raeke, Mayor, City of Henrietta
Mike Whaley, City Manager, City of Burkburnett
Mark Murphey, Proxy for County Judge Rick Lewis, Montague County
Rusty Stafford, Baylor County Judge

Other Participants

Jennifer Foster, for Senator Robert Duncan
Jennifer Smith, for Senator Craig Estes
Rhonda Poirot, for Representative James Frank
Jennifer Vogel, for Representative Drew Springer
Joe Gambill, Nortex Regional Planning Commission
Leon Klement, Cooke County
Jamie Lee, Wichita Falls MPO
Jerry Flemming, City Manager, City of Iowa Park

TxDOT Staff

Danny Brown, P.E., Director of TP&D
Mike Beaver, P.E., Design Engineer
Allan Moore, P.E., Director of Construction
David Rohmer, P.E., Wichita Falls Area Engineer
Zach Husen, P.E., Graham Area Engineer
Colby Shelton, P.E., Gainesville Area Office
Ben Coker, TxDOT Design
Tammy Marlow, TPP-MPO Coordination
Cymantha Cato, Construction Office
Tim Hertel, P.E., Director of Maintenance Operations
Darell Johnson, P.E., Planning
Shaun Barnes, P.E., Utilities Coordinator
TJ Herrell, P.E., Traffic Engineer
Adele Lewis, TxDOT PIO

The Cross Plains Rural Transportation Council (CPRTC) met at the Nortex Regional Planning Commission Conference Room on February 19, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

1. **Welcome & Opening Remarks** – Judge Woody Gossom, Vice Chairman, welcomed everyone to the quarterly CPRTC Meeting and led pledges to the United States' and Texas' Flags.

2. **Self Introductions** – Introductions were made around the room.
3. **Public Comments** - James Yohe, City of Nocona Economic Development, informed the group of the statewide Texas Rural Challenge Conference for June 15-16 in Waco, Tx.
4. **Approval of CPRTC minutes from the October 16, 2014 meeting**
A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as documented and the motion carried.

5. Topics

- **Nomination of and Voting in of New Chairman** – Judge Gossom, Judge Liggett and CPRTC Members

Judge Liggett confirmed with Danny Brown that, per CPRTC bylaws, a proxy is eligible to be elected chairman of the group. Al Smith, Cooke County Commissioner, was nominated and selected as chairman to finish out the remainder of the 2-year term of outgoing Archer County Judge and former CPRTC Chairman Gary Beesinger. No other nominations were suggested.

- **CPRTC Overview Presentation** - Judge Gossom

Judge Gossom led a PowerPoint presentation to give new CPRTC members an overview of the goals, mission and objectives of the council. The presentation included meeting dates/times and important TxDOT contacts for the group.

James Yohe commented that, at a recent meeting in Austin, TxDOT Deputy Executive Director, John Barton, spoke highly of the CPRTC group.

- **CPRTC Project Prioritization** - Danny Brown, P.E., Director of Transportation, Planning and Development, TxDOT

Danny opened by saying that the CPRTC is recognized as one of the most active groups among Rural Planning Organizations in the entire state. He said CPRTC is not to be confused as being a TxDOT meeting, but rather a council led by members of the cities and counties represented by TxDOT's Wichita Falls District. Danny encouraged the group to suggest meeting topics that will help them stay informed about transportation in their areas.

Danny said that TxDOT takes CPRTC project priorities very seriously and uses the results to plan future project lettings.

In terms of funding, Danny discussed Proposition 1, passed by voters in November 2014 to provide additional transportation funding, and said the Wichita Falls District expects approximately \$20-million per year from Prop 1. He added the WFS District received \$26-million in Prop 1 funds for Fiscal Year 2015. The Comptroller anticipates statewide Prop 1 funds to be around \$1.2 billion per year, meaning the WFS District would receive approximately \$18-\$20 million per year.

Danny then went through the Project Prioritization results scored during the October CPRTC meeting and gave an update on projects funded and/or scheduled for letting.

- **County Transportation Infrastructure Fund Grant Program** – Allan Moore, P.E., Director of Construction, TxDOT

Allan Moore, P.E. presented updated information about the County Transportation Infrastructure Fund Grant Program including addressing invoicing questions received from counties participating in the

program. He suggested TxDOT conduct a workshop with county staff that deals with the agreements to get everyone on the same page on how to successfully complete the grant process. Judge Liggett suggested TxDOT schedule the meeting and the counties would try to send their personnel that work with the invoices to the meeting. Judge Gossom suggested Allan send meeting info to the Judges to coordinate.

Judge Gossom asked if there is a way to simplify the grant process in the future. He said it seems like an onerous, time consuming process. Allan concurred.

- Wichita Falls District Area Engineers provided an update and answered questions on the active projects in their areas:

David Rohmer, P.E., Wichita Falls Area Engineer

TxDOT's Colby Shelton, P.E. provided the update for the Gainesville Area in the absence of Mike Hallum, P.E., Gainesville Area Engineer.

Zach Husen, P.E., Graham Area Engineer

- Judge Gossom announced TxDOT's Tammy Marlow was attending her final CPRTC meeting before retiring from TxDOT. Danny Brown thanked Tammy for her efforts over the years with CPRTC.

6. Next Meeting Date - Thursday, April 16, 2015, 10:00 a.m.

7. Topics for Next Meeting

- James Yohe requested a State of the State, details about increased funding for TxDOT.
- Judge Liggett and Danny Brown requested an update from legislative staff concerning transportation.
- Judge Gossom requested information about future and current expansion of US 281.

Judge Gossom encouraged group members to contact TxDOT's Ben Coker if they thought of any topics for the next meeting.

Danny Brown informed the group of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and asked TxDOT's Darell Johnson to elaborate about the program. Darell told the group about an upcoming TAP meeting on March 10, 2015 in Arlington, Tx from 9:00am-12:00pm and encouraged group members to contact him with any questions about TAP and project nominations.

Danny invited new members to contact TxDOT with any questions they may have and welcomed new Chairman Al Smith. Al gave the group his cell phone number and said he looks forward to working with CPRTC members.

8. Adjourned at 11:06 a.m.