

**CROSS PLAINS RURAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
July 19, 2012  
Thursday, 10:00 a.m.  
Nortex Regional Planning Commission Conference Room  
4309 Jacksboro Highway - Wichita Falls, Texas 76302**

**Voting Members**

Gary Beesinger, Archer County Judge, CPRTC Chairman  
Linda Rogers, Baylor County Judge  
Kenneth Liggett, Clay County Judge  
Woodrow Gossom, Jr., Wichita County Judge, CPRTC Vice-Chairman  
Greg Tyra, Wilbarger County Judge  
John Bullock, Young County Judge  
Jim Henson, Mayor, Lakeside City  
Al Smith, Proxy for John Roane, Cooke County Judge  
John Studer, Proxy for, Mayor Ronald Reeves, City of Seymour  
James Cantwell, Proxy for Mayor Pat Polk, City of Bowie  
James Yohe, Proxy for Mayor Robert Fenoglio, City of Nocona  
Joe Singer, Proxy for Mayor Joe Ward, City of Iowa Park  
Mike Whaley, Proxy for Mayor Carl Law, City of Burkburnett  
Mitch Grant, Proxy for Mayor Jeff Bearden – City of Vernon

**Other Participants**

Joe Gambill, Nortex Regional Planning Commission  
Tim James, City of Burkburnett, Proxy for Mayor Carl Law  
Mary Ward, City of Wichita Falls Council  
Leon Klement, Cooke County Commissioner  
Sam Bounds, Lakeside City

**TxDOT Staff**

Larry D. Tegtmeyer, P.E., District Engineer  
Danny Brown, P.E., TP&D Director  
Carole Mayo, WFS Administration  
Tim Hertel, P.E., Director of Operations  
Glen Allbritton, P.E., Traffic Engineer  
Adele Lewis, Public Information Officer  
Ben Coker, Public Information Officer  
Monty Brown, P.E., Wichita Falls Area Office

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The Cross Plains Rural Transportation Council (CPRTC) met at the Nortex Regional Planning Commission Conference Room on July 19, 2012. Meeting began at 10:00 a.m.

1. **Welcome & Opening Remarks** – Judge Gary Beesinger, Chairman welcomed everyone to the quarterly CPRTC Meeting.
2. **Self Introductions** – Introductions were made around the room.
3. **Public Comments** – James Cantwell announced the residents of Bowie are very pleased with and proud of the US 82 Railroad Overpass project.

James Yohe inquired about the status of the US 82 Railroad Underpass project in Ringgold. The project was

recently delayed until approximately the end of August 2012, at such time the contractor will resume construction.

Judge Rogers stated there are piles of concrete rubble and brush at the sight of the torn-out roadside park at Dundee. Judge asks that the rubble and brush be removed for a more aesthetically pleasing roadway.

Larry Tegtmeyer stated he appreciated Judge Rogers comment concerning the old roadside park location and assures Judge that the TxDOT Maintenance section in charge of the Dundee location will address the issue as soon as possible.

When asked whether or not additional parks will be included on the closure list, Larry Tegtmeyer stated Wichita Falls District of TxDOT does not plan to expand the parks closure list.

4. **Approval of CPRTC minutes from April 19, 2012** – A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes and the motion carried.

#### 5. Topics

- **Breakdown the larger corridors on the Priority List into projects of shorter, more readily fundable limits – Danny Brown, P.E.**

A proposed, segmented project map of the US 82 project from Henrietta to Nocona was provided for discussion. TxDOT reviewed some of the longer sections and determined how we can tie them into the priority projects. When we break these into smaller projects, this may affect our project estimates.

Judge Liggett believes Sections 1 and 7 of the map need to be moved to be the last two projects.

An option TxDOT always considers is the “no-build” option. “No-build” may be applied to the Nocona section; while, something must be done about the Henrietta section.

- **Projects we are moving forward to spend our portion the \$2 Billion State allocation – Danny Brown, P.E.**

Danny Brown discussed the project development schedule. The larger projects are broken into steps:

- Planning and Programming
- Preliminary Design
- Environmental
- Right of Way and Utility Coordination
- Plan Development
- Plan Review, Letting & Construction

We have no idea of when or from where we will acquire funding for the future projects.

Sometimes we skip to next steps such as Environmental and others so we can be ready when funding becomes available.

Then, we look at other projects we can fund:

- US 82 “Gap job” – we may not want to invest funds into this project now (we may want to leave this project in tact).
- We look at others such as US 82 in Gainesville and determine how we can tie US 82 into IH-35.
- Then CPRTC decides the priority for this project

TxDOT too, has a priority list; the top three projects concern IH-35. Next, we decide the projects to pursue. Another project of priority is US 281, the Sections between Scotland and Windthorst.

TxDOT proposes these priorities be included in the prioritization list for CPRTC to determine if they are indeed among your priorities as well:

- US 82 Henrietta Section
- US 82 Nocona Section
- IH-35
- US 281 (Scotland to Windthorst)

Do we have shoulder widening jobs to be broken down?:

- US 183
- US 283
- Section of US 380
- SH 148

If the CPRTC tells TxDOT that a particular project is a priority, TxDOT will determine if we have the funds to build it.

Judge Beesinger asked members if they agree with adding the TxDOT priority list to the CPRTC list to be scored during the October 19, 2012 meeting.

Judge Liggett states the represented Cities and Counties of a particular project on the TxDOT prioritized list, should nominate the projects for their locations, to be added to the CPRTC priority list for scoring in October.

Judge Beesinger asked voting CPRTC members whether or not they want to include TxDOT priority projects to their list for scoring. All voting members present indicated they are in agreement with the proposal for the representative City or County to include TxDOT Priority List Projects to the CPRTC Priority list for scoring.

Al Smith stated, a segment of FM 922 roadway from Roston to Forestburg is where they have had recent fatalities.

Larry Tegtmeyer reported he has been serving on Texas' Oil & Gas Task Force for the Barnett Shale area. If we can widen some of the roads in the Shale, it will help improve and protect the conditions of our roads concerning oil & gas industry traffic. FM 922 is in the Barnett Shale area.

Danny Brown reaffirmed, we (TxDOT) want to know how you believe a widening project on IH35 to 8-lanes ranks with a widening project on US 281 to a Super 2.

We do not know where funds will come from for IH-35 projects. We have progressed as much as we can on those until more big dollars are made available to us. The expansion of IH-35 will come out of Austin.

Some District Funds will be used for the US 82 project.

The Wichita Falls MPO allocated \$2.2 million for the US 277 project that is to be let in December 2012 from the Knox County Line to Seymour. This will release one section of the US 277 project.

Larry Tegtmeyer stated that this project was made possible by the Wichita Falls MPO's \$2.2 million and the TxDOT Commission allocation of \$5 million. The MPO did not have a project ready to utilize all their allocation and they looked Regionally and provided the funds. The Commission commends this type of Regional cooperation. The cost of the entire project is \$12.6 million; that includes ROW, utility adjustment, plans and construction.

- **Update on V2 Projects – Danny Brown, P.E.**

These projects are within the MPO

- The Windthorst Rd Bridge project let in June, construction starts in December.
- A.L. Helmcamp project went over the estimate \$600,000

Next year (FY2013)

- Professional Drive near Wal-Mart, will let in July
- Henrietta to Ringgold Super 2, will let in June

The US 82 project from Clay to Montague County has no hope of getting funds to make this project a 4-lane; that is why the CPRTC decided to go with the Super 2. The decision of going with a Super 2 for this project because it will not require the purchase and acquisition of additional right of way, is one of the reasons we were able to start this project at this time.

Larry Tegtmeyer stated the remainder of the MPO money goes to the Transit Center project in the amount of \$650,000.

**6. Other Business – Larry Tegtmeyer, P.E. – District Engineer**

- TxDOT is still analyzing MAP 21, a bill Congress passed last Friday and it was signed by the President. We are not certain at this point, how MAP 21 changes any of our allocations.
- Your voice, as a Rural Transportation Council, affects what TxDOT and the Wichita Falls District does.
- Mr. Yohe requests TxDOT give the Council an idea of how the priorities are progressing in a sort of periodic, status report. Particularly in the project development schedule process.

Larry Tegtmeyer says periodic status reports are reasonable for TxDOT to provide.

Danny Brown reminds the council that our District has resources available to focus our efforts on probably one project at a time. TxDOT gives a lot of weight to what the council wants to accomplish.

- Judge Beesinger reminds the council that the next meeting is when we prioritize the projects.

Judge Liggett adds that projects currently on the list remain unless the proposer requests their projects to be removed. We re-rank all existing projects plus any new projects proposed.

Jim Henson asked if the council proposes minor projects such as re-marking of roads.

Danny Brown says the best way to address the minor issues such as re-marking, is to talk with the TxDOT Area Engineers in your areas. Monty Brown is the representative for the Wichita Falls Area Office at this meeting today and David Rohmer is the Area Engineer in charge of the Wichita Area. Project nominations should be of the mobility type projects and asks that the CPRTC voting members wear their Regional hats when nominating and scoring.

- Monty Brown provided a project update for the projects in the Wichita Falls area.
- Judge Tyra asked about the US 283 Railroad re-planking project; it is to begin sometime in August 2012.
- Judge Gossom discussed the Tex -21 projects. During a recent meeting, Judge Gossom asked representatives of Tex-21 why US 281 is not on their list for expansion. They do not know. There is a lot of work making sections of US 281 a 4-lane highway; there is a lot of work going on in Lampasas and there is not much going on in Mineral Wells. They are constructing a Super 2 from Hamilton to Evant. The Panama Canal cargo will require US 281 and IH-35 routes in our Region.

- Mitch Grant of Vernon stated we are seeing National Park Studies for tourism in our area.
- It was determined by the CPRTC members that, **beginning with the October 18, 2012 meeting**, the start time for CPRTC meetings will be **9:30 a.m. instead of 10:00 a.m.**, the third Thursday for the months of January, April, July and October each year.
- Proposed projects to be scored and prioritized during the October 18, 2012 meeting should be submitted to TxDOT by September 15, 2012.
- Changes in proxies should also be submitted to TxDOT prior to the October 18, 2012 meeting.

**7. Next Meeting Date** - Thursday, October 18, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.

**8. Topics for Next Meeting**

- Prioritizing and scoring proposed and existing prioritized projects

**9. Adjourned** at 11:11 am