

Transportation Resource & Oversight Committee
LaPorte County
February 19, 2019
Meeting Minutes

In attendance were Jay Sullivan (LaPorte County), Mitchell Bishop (LaPorte County), Margaret Dickerson (City of La Porte), Beth Shrader (City of La Porte), Tom MacLennan (TransPorte), Robin Barzoni-Tillman (Michigan City Transit) and Craig Phillips (City of Michigan City).

NIRPC staff included Charles Bradsky, Trey Wadsworth, James Winters and Candice Eklund.

Charles Bradsky called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Charles Bradsky began the meeting by reviewing the action items discussed at the previous meeting, held in November 2018, before requesting a motion to approve the minutes. Charles stated there was a funding surplus of \$20,857 in November for FY 2019 and a deficit of \$1,347,114 in FY 2020. Charles adjusted some projects in the spending plan to reduce the deficit with the Michigan City Transit agreeing to move their new vehicles request of \$300,000 from FY 2019 to FY 2020. The Singing Sands trail project, DES #1802785, moved to FY 2021. Mitch Bishop requested moving DES #1592335 to FY 2022. Mitch also requested moving \$105,750 for ROW engineering and \$132,275 for ROW services to FY 2020. This would leave a remaining balance of \$527,373 for DES #1592335. The group agreed to the changes and on motion by Beth Shrader and second by Mitch Bishop, the minutes of the November 27, 2018 meeting were approved as presented.

FY 19-22 Spending Plan Update / NOFA Discussion

Charles Bradsky displayed the spending plan on a projection screen and will continue to do so for future meetings. This will eliminate the need for paper copies and provide a greater discussion advantage for the group. There were many discussions on the spending plan and Charles Bradsky made changes live based on consensus of the group. Some of the discussion points are noted below.

Beth Shrader discussed changes or updates to the following DES numbers for FY 2019:

- DES #1702262 – Received a new estimate of \$52,000, reducing the initial requested amount on line item 18 by \$22,400 and eliminating the duplicate entry on line 28 for \$74,400.
- DES #1500422 – Requested an additional \$50,000 for construction and construction inspection costs.
- DES #1700756 – Project moved from FY 2019 to FY 2021 in the spending plan.
- DES #1700758 – Project originally estimated at \$220,000 in FY 2019 but is now requesting an additional \$278,612 due to a full depth reconstruction. Total construction estimate is \$556,487, resulting in an 80% match of \$498,612. With the additional estimate being greater than 50% of the original estimate, there will need to be a 30-day public comment period and an amendment to the TIP.
- DES #'s 1400774 and 1382604 – Requested moving \$12,576 in CMAQ projects from FY 2021 to FY 2019.

Craig Phillips noted he did not receive DES #1082567 until December 2018, feeling it would not be enough time to obligate the funds by April. Charles asked Craig to make his desired changes in the RTIP after March 1.

Tom MacLennan offered the \$20,000 in propane funding for Transporte fuel purchases if needed to balance the budget in FY 2019. Charles Bradsky emailed Kathy Luther during the meeting asking if programming federal funds for alternative fuel, specifically propane, is permitted and what the eligibility procedures were.

Charles provided a synopsis of the changes discussed for FY 2019. The Committee requested the Lake and Porter TROC Committee pay for the planning and maintenance of the RTIP system. Shifting this project to Lake and Porter lead to a surplus of \$7,424 in FY 2019. The surplus was restored to Transporte in the spending plan, balancing the budget fiscally in 2019.

Beth Shrader requested an additional \$100,000 in FY 2020 for engineering costs and an additional \$400,000 in FY 2021 for railroad constructions costs, for DES #1601867. Charles Bradsky suggested requesting a new DES number for the railroad construction costs and will send Beth a change number request form. These two new requests as well as other changes made live by consensus of the Committee, resulted in a deficit of \$46,887 in the FY 2020 budget.

Charles Bradsky scheduled a follow-up meeting for March 4, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. to discuss balancing the budget for fiscal years 2021 and 2022. Charles will email the updated spending plan to the Committee before the meeting on March 4.

Tom MacLennan and Robin Barzoni-Tillman discussed their vehicle purchase needs for Transporte in La Porte and Michigan City Transit. They are requesting new vehicle purchases in various years. Their requests will be further discussed at the spending plan meeting scheduled for March 4.

Letting Results and Public Comments

Due to the length of the meeting, the letting results and public comments will be discussed at the continuation meeting on March 4, 2019.

Adjournment

The meeting ended 3:08 p.m. A continuation meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. in La Porte County to discuss balancing the budget for fiscal years 2021 and 2022.