

Dale Hollow RPO Technical & Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Upper Cumberland Development District, Cookeville, TN
June 3, 2022

Technical Members Present: Mark Dudney, Hope Vargas, Evan White, Jared Claiborne, Ray Evans, Dr. Doug Young, Jacob Rosenbaum, Sam Edwards, Holly Montooth (proxy for Lloyd Williams), Charly Lyons, Jim Young, Heather Call, Mark Farley, Tommy Lee, Chuck Sutherland and Sammy Talent

Executive Members Present: Dale Reagan (Chair), Mark Dudney, Jimmy Johnson, Randy Heady, Steve Jones, Ben Danner, Jeff Mason, John Potts, Stephen Chambers

Others Present: Andrea Noel, TDOT; Rachael Bergmann, TDOT; Shane Carney, ETDD; Angela Regitko, State of Tennessee; Kevin Layne, State of Tennessee; Marcie Ackerman, UCDD

Welcome & Introduction:

At 11:07 a.m., Mark Dudney called upon Technical Committee Vice Chair, Ray Evans, to call the meeting to order and approve the minutes of the last meeting.

Technical Committee Call to Order and Roll Call:

Mr. Evans, the Technical Committee Co-Chair, calls the Technical Committee to order. Mark Dudney conducts a roll call of the Technical Committee and announces that a quorum has been obtained.

Approval of November 17, 2021, Technical Committee Meeting minutes:

Sonya King opens floor for the approval of the November 17, 2021, meeting minutes. Evan White makes a motion to approve, the motion is seconded by Chuck Sutherland. The motion passes unanimously.

Executive Committee Call to Order and Roll Call:

At 11:09 a.m. Mark Dudney asked Dale Reagan, the Executive Committee Chair, to call the Executive Committee to order. Mark Dudney conducts a roll call of the Executive Committee and announces that a quorum has been obtained.

Approval of November 17, 2021, Technical Committee Meeting minutes:

Mark Dudney opens floor for the approval of the November 17, 2021, meeting minutes. Steve Jones makes a motion to approve, the motion is seconded by Randy Heady. The motion passes unanimously.

UCHRA Updates:

Holly Montooth, UCHRA Transportation Director, provided statistics for the Transportation Department. Ms. Montooth stressed the public transportation was open to anyone. It is expected from July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022, there will be approximately 36,000 trips for the Dale Hollow region. Throughout the entire Upper Cumberland, she anticipates 250,000 which is higher than the previous fiscal year, but still not back to pre-COVID numbers. UCHRA was awarded a grant recently which will allow them to

purchase two new electric vehicles. Ms. Montooth also briefly mentioned the IMPROVE ACT Grant that a few Tennessee Tech University interns were working on.

Dale Hollow RPO Updates:

With so many new faces in the meeting, Mr. Dudney provided a brief overview of what is an RPO and introduced the new members to the attendees.

Nex, Mr. Dudney provided updates on Multimodal Access Grants (MMAG) that were currently being administered in Celina and Lafayette. The deadline for the current round of MMAG is July 19, but due to a prior work-scheduled conference, Mr. Dudney will be submitting them on July 15. Mr. Dudney mentioned the resubmit of a sidewalk in Hartsville/Trousdale County and a sidewalk in Gainesboro as well.

The Safe Streets for All Grant is a new funding opportunity and Mr. Dudney will be emailing the information.

Mr. Dudney then announced Gordonsville had been awarded a Community Transportation Planning Grant (CTPG) for a Community Mobility Plan and its goals are to provide citizens a safe, ADA-compliant multimodal system connecting the businesses around Interstate 40 to the area surrounding the intersection of state routes 141 and 53.

Update on Cumberland National Scenic Byway:

The next step in this project is to set up a steering committee. This will provide input and direction for the project.

ADA Compliance:

Mr. Dudney reminded the committees the necessity of completing and maintaining an ADA Transition plan.

Election of Officers:

After thanking the out-going officers, Mr. Dudney opened the floor to nominations for Technical Committee Chair. Tommy Lee nominated current Vice Chair Ray Evans. With no other nominations made, Evan White made a motion to approve the nomination and Sam Edwards provided a second. No discussion was made and the nomination passed with all ayes.

Evan White then nominated Charly Lyons to serve as Vice Chair of the Technical Committee. After no other nominations were made, Sam Edwards made a motion to approve and Mark Farley provided the second. The nomination passed with a vote of all ayes.

Mr. Dudney asked for nominations to serve as Executive Board Chair and Dale Reagan nominated Randy Heady. After no other nominations were made, Sam Edwards made a motion to approve and a second was provided by Jeff Mason. No discussion was had the nomination passed with all ayes. John Potts then nominated Jeff Mason to serve as Executive Committee Vice Chair. Jimmy Johnson made a motion to approve and was seconded by Randy Heady. Mr. Mason was elected with a vote of all ayes.

Governor's Highway Plan

Rachael Bergmann, TDOT Region 2, provided updates on the Governor's Highway Plan. In the fall meeting, Ms. Bergmann mentioned the committees will vote on the three-year plan rankings. Once that

list is compiled, she will send it to TDOT with a final plan being announced in May 2023. Ms. Bergmann provided a brief update on bridge updates in Smith County.

Resurfacing Project Updates:

Ms. Bergmann stressed the importance of communicating with TDOT when roadway, sidewalk, and other projects were being done. During resurfacing, Ms. Bergmann mentioned this was a perfect time to add bike lanes, crosswalks, rumble strips, etc. For more information, please go to <https://www.tn.gov/tdot/multimodal-transportation-resources/bicycle-and-pedestrian-program.html>

TN Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan:

Andrea Noel, OCT Region 2 Supervisor, laid out the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program. Ms. Noel stated the overall program was \$7.5 billion and Tennessee would be getting \$88 million to use between 2022 – 2026. Plans are due by September 30. For more information, you can go to <https://www.tn.gov/tdot/long-range-planning-home/air-quality-planning/tevi.html> Each charging station would be at least four charging areas and every 50 miles along the selected corridors. The DC Fast Charge option would fully charge a vehicle within 45 minutes of being plugged in. Ms. Noel provided a few statistics on electric cars, including electric car sales now is 4% of the Tennessee automobile market. After a brief discussion from the committee members and Ms. Noel, she mentioned there would be a Community Charging Planning Workshop at the development district Monday.

Holly Montooth mentioned UCHRA was awarded a grant to purchase a 12-passenger electric van that should be delivered in August.

Ms. Noel mentioned the Justice 40 Initiative. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/briefing-room/2021/07/20/the-path-to-achieving-justice40/>

Other Business:

Mark Farley mentioned he was in a conference with various highway superintendents last week and the Safe Streets for All was a popular topic. Mr. Farley mentioned that 60% would go towards implementing fixes and 40% of the project would go toward planning.

Adjourn Technical Committee:

With no other business to discuss both the Technical Committee and Executive Board meetings were adjourned at 12:10 p.m.