

Dale Hollow RPO Technical Committee and Executive Board Joint Meeting Minutes
Upper Cumberland Development District, Cookeville, TN
June 11, 2024

Technical Committee Members Present: Mark Dudney, Hope Vargas, Evan White, Jared Claiborne, Dr. Doug Young, Mark Farley (via proxy Tommy Lee), Rosalie Myhan, Tommy Lee, Ty Walker (via proxy Marcie Ackerman), Sammy Talent, and Jessica Hill (via proxy Taylor Lee).

Executive Board Members Present: Chairman Randy Heady, Dale Reagan, Jimmy Johnson, Steve Jones Tony Day, Stephen Bilbrey, John Potts, Jeff Mason, and Jack McCall (via proxy Rosalie Myhan).

Others Present: Kevin Layne, TDOT; Jeff Harper, Baylen Parker, John Brock, Jenna McKenzie; Nick Meek, Rob Howard, Jeremy Bryson, Landon Castleberry, Representative Kelly Keisling, and Kassidy Roberts.

Welcome & Introduction:

After a brief overview of what was to come, Mark Dudney called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m. and asked for approval the minutes of the last meeting.

Technical Committee Call to Order and Roll Call:

Mark Dudney conducts a roll call of the Technical Committee and announces that a quorum has been obtained.

Approval of December 5, 2023, Technical Committee Meeting minutes:

Mr. Dudney opens the floor to approve the May 11, 2023, meeting minutes. Tommy Lee makes a motion to approve; the motion is seconded by Evan White. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Board Call to Order and Roll Call:

At 11:07 a.m. Mark Dudney asked Randy Heady, the Executive Board Chair, to call the Executive Board meeting to order. Mark Dudney conducts a roll call of the Executive Board and announces that a quorum has been obtained.

Approval of December 5, 2023, Executive Board Meeting minutes:

Mark Dudney opens the floor for the approval of the May 11, 2023, meeting minutes. Mayor Jeff Mason makes a motion to approve; Mayor Dale Reagan seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Urban Boundaries Adoption:

Bently Thomas from TDOT presented an overview of how TDOT has proposed to re-categorize roads to keep from going from urban to rural to urban, etc. This will have no impact on the municipalities – only TDOT will be impacted. This will ensure the roads are paved/constructed in a more uniform way.

After a brief discussion, Evan White from the Technical Committee made a motion to recommend the adoption of the new Urban Boundaries in Lafayette to the Executive Board. The motion was seconded

by Jared Claiborne. The motion then went to the Executive Board where Mayor Steve Jones made a motion to approve and Mayor Dale Reagan provided a second. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Heady then signed a written resolution adopting the new boundaries for TDOT.

Dale Hollow RPO Updates:

Mr. Dudney provided a quick update on training sessions/conferences he has/will attend this summer. He then provided an update on the Clay County Multimodal Access Grant he is working on as well as a WCTE-TV show he is working on for the Cumberland National Scenic Byway.

Mr. Dudney then provided information on the 2025-26 Dale Hollow RPO Work Plan. His tasks would stay the same as the last contract. TDOT is requesting that the RPO vote to approve the proposed work plan for the next two years. The tasks are:

- Rural Planning, Program Management – RPO Meetings
- Community Outreach and Engagement
- Transportation Grants Coordination
- Rural Planning, Program Administration – Professional Development
- Cumberland National Scenic Byway

Dr. Doug Young made a motion to recommend the work plan and Tommy Lee offered a second. There was no discussion and the motion carried unanimously in the Technical Committee. Voting to adopt the work plan in the Executive Board, Mayor Jeff Mason made a motion and Mayor Jimmy Johnson provided a second; the 2025-2026 work plan was adopted.

TDOT Updates:

Kevin Layne from TDOT provided an overview of the new ten-year plan and the resurfacing plan. Mr. Layne explained TDOT is taking a “what gets started gets finished” approach to projects. After a brief explanation, Representative Kelly Keisling voiced his displeasure with TDOT, stating his opinion that TDOT has turned its back on rural counties. Mayor Heady agreed and stated, “smaller counties have needs too”. Mr. Layne asked if anyone had specific projects to discuss. Mayor Mason asked about Exit 258 and Mayor Jones asked about state route 52. Mr. Layne said he would get more information and get back to the mayors.

Adjourn Technical Committee:

With no other business to discuss, both the Technical Committee and Executive Board meetings were adjourned at 11:53 a.m.