



# IRON COUNTY RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

ICRTEC CHAIR—MAYOR CONNIE ROBINSON • ICRTAC CHAIR—TOM STRATTON • PLANNING MANAGER—CURT HUTCHINGS

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## MINUTES

### Transportation Executive Council (RTEC)

July 2, 2014, 2:00 pm

(Began at the conclusion of the ICC Meeting)

Brian Head Town Offices

56 N. Hwy 143, Brian Head UT

#### **MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff  
Commissioner David Miller  
Mayor H.C. "Dutch" Deutschlander  
Mayor Robert Rasmussen  
Mayor Galen Allred  
Mayor Donald Landes

#### **REPRESENTING:**

Iron County  
Iron County  
Brian Head Town  
Enoch City  
Kanarraville  
Parowan City

#### **MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mayor Constance Robinson  
Commissioner Alma Adams  
Mayor Maile Wilson

#### **REPRESENTING:**

Paragonah Town  
Iron County  
Cedar City

#### **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. Reed Erickson  
Mr. Monte Aldridge  
Mr. Tom Stratton  
Mr. Curt Hutchings  
Mr. Dave Demas

#### **REPRESENTING:**

Iron County  
Utah Dept. of Transportation  
Brian Head Town  
Five County AOG  
Five County AOG



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## I. Quorum Declaration

The meeting was chaired by Mayor H.C. Deutschlander in the absence of Mayor Connie Robinson. Mayor Deutschlander welcomed all present and declared there was a quorum.

*NOTE: At this point the meeting began to be recorded. Mr. Miller suggested, due to other commitments, a time to adjourn this meeting at 20 minutes after the hour.*

## II. Approve Minutes for March 5, 2014

**A motion was made by Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff, seconded by Mayor Donald Landes, to approve the Minutes dated March 5, 2014 of the Iron County Rural Transportation Executive Council.**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

## III. Approve Minutes for May 7, 2014

**A motion was made by Commissioner David Miller, seconded by Mayor Donald Landes, to approve the Minutes dated May 7, 2014 of the Iron County Rural Transportation Executive Council.**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Commissioner Miller requested that the committee move on to agenda item 5 and come back to agenda item 4 in order to take care of the last action item on the agenda.

## IV. FY 2015 Rural Planning Organization (RPO) Funding

Mr. Demas provided the committee members a copy of the memorandum from Mr. Hutchings regarding the 2015 funding request for the RPO. He explained that due to the cancellation of the last Rural Transportation Executive Committee (RTEC) meeting, the budget request was taken to the County Commission meeting as a discussion item since the budget start date was July 1<sup>st</sup>. He noted that the request has also been reviewed and approved by the Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) and recommended for approval to the RTEC. The request is for a total budget of \$40,000 which is the same amount as the 2014 budget and very



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similar to the 2013 budget. The funding consists of \$30,000 from the Iron County Council of Governments (COG) and \$10,000 from UDOT (Utah Department of Transportation). Commissioner Miller explained that the Commission confirmed that the funding was in place and expressed their support of the work that is happening through the RPO. Mr. Demas remarked that this is the 5<sup>th</sup> year of the 5 year program partnering with UDOT. If the program is to extend beyond this fifth year, a discussion will need to take place to continue funding out of the planning funds available in the COG fund or other.

**A motion was made by Mayor Donald Landes, seconded by Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff, to approve the \$40,000 funding request for the Iron County Rural Planning Organization for fiscal year 2015 as proposed in the Memorandum from Mr. Curt Hutchings.**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Demas expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to participate in the transportation planning for the Iron County area. He enjoys working with the committee and is also very appreciative of the state for providing a representative to participate in the process. Mr. Hutchings commended the city and county on their great staff that work through the transportation issues and the projects to be forwarded to UDOT. He feels the RPO has been a great process and has worked very well. Commissioner Miller commented that they are pleased to see the current projects in progress in Cedar City and appreciate the significant long term planning and the transportation needs being assessed in Iron County. Mr. Demas remarked that there had been a lot of benefit from the RPO work. One example is the projects on the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) as a result of the Alton Study.

## **V. Utah Department of Transportation**

### **A. STIP Update**

Mr. Demas passed out the draft copy of the STIP report to the committee members. Mr. Aldridge provided an update on the STIP cycle. He explained that the draft copy of the STIP was published in June 2014 for public comment and is available on the UDOT website for comment until August 2014. UDOT will make the necessary changes to the plan from August to October. In October the plan will be sent to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for approval.



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Mr. Aldridge reviewed the current Iron County projects on the report. He provided a brief explanation of the product used to resolve the challenges with the permeable asphalt on the Parowan Main Street project. Water was penetrating at a higher rate than they were comfortable with. A new product (HA5) was used to seal the surface and should solve the potential problem.

Mayor Landes stated that Parowan will be shutting down Main Street on Saturday July 12<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for a ribbon cutting and celebration. Everyone is invited to attend.

Commissioner Miller inquired as to the difference between 'construction complete' and 'closeout' under the Status Fund column on the STIP report. Mr. Aldridge explained that 'construction complete' is used when 95% of the construction has been installed. 'Closeout' is the period used to wrap up all the project documents. UDOT's goal is a 120-day closeout.

Mr. Aldridge encouraged the committee to contact him if they have any questions on projects. They should also feel free to contact Mr. Kirk Thornock (UDOT Program Manager) or Mr. Rick Torgerson (UDOT Region Director). He also reminded the committee of the interactive map available on the UDOT website for detailed information on projects. He provided a short demonstration of the capabilities of the map.

Commissioner Miller and Commissioner Brinkerhoff were excused from the meeting at this time in order to attend a previous commitment.

## **VI. Alton Update**

Mr. Demas provided a brief update on the Alton Coal Mine. He stated that he has had conversations with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and also with Mr. Larry Johnson, Alton Plant Manager. The supplemental draft environmental impact statement has been completed and they are waiting for Washington to allow the local office to release the statement. The approval to release is expected this month or early next month. After the statement has been released there will be a 60 day comment period.

Mr. Demas explained that, after the comment period, it will take approximately 1 year for the BLM to hold a lease sale. Then it will approximately 2-3 years for the successful bidder, to get permits in place to begin mining the coal. Mr.



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Deutschlander asked if they are confident that they will receive the approval from Washington. Mr. Demas responded that Alton is confident the approval will be received and the BLM feels as if the process is moving forward and didn't offer information suggesting problems or issues.

Mr. Demas reported that Alton is continuing their coal mining operations. They currently have approval for mining 2 million tons per day. They are down from 150 trucks to 100-110 trucks per day right now. Some of the coal is being hauled to Moapa to the Apex Mine but most of it is going to the Intermountain Power Plant (IPP). Alton has not started any mining on the additional private land; they are still mining on their original track. Alton anticipates that their mining operations will continue to grow. Mr. Landis expressed concern about the recent announcement by the EPA proposing a 30% reduction over the 2012 emissions rates. He noted that the proposal requires the state to come up with a plan within 1 year on how they will make the reductions. The committee remarked that 30% would be a very significant reduction.

## VII. Other Discussion Items

### B. Miscellaneous Items

There were no miscellaneous items discussed.

C. Next meeting is scheduled for September 3, 2014 in Enterprise.

## VIII. **Adjournment**

**A motion was made by Mayor Galen Allred, seconded by Mayor Donald Landes, to adjourn the meeting.**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**