**DIXIE MPO TRANSPORTATION** **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (DTEC)**

**REGULAR AND ELECTRONIC MEETING MINUTES**

**May 19, 2021**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chris Hart, Ivins Mayor

Naghi Zeenati, UDOT Commissioner

Richard Hirschi, La Verkin Mayor (via Zoom)

Wayne Peterson, Leeds Mayor (via Zoom)

Dannielle Larkin, St. George City

Michele Randall, St. George City Mayor (via Zoom)

Jimmie Hughes, St George City

Rick Rosenberg, Santa Clara Mayor (via Zoom)

John Brammall, Hurricane City Mayor

Ken Nielson, Washington City Mayor

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT / EXCUSED**

Dean Cox, Commissioner

Lynn Chamberlain, Toquerville Mayor

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chairman Chris Hart called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

**BUSINESS**

**a. Consideration of April 21, 2021 DTEC Minutes**

**MOTION: Motion by Naghi Zeenati to Approve the April 21, 2021 DTEC Minutes. Motion Seconded by Mayor John Bramall and Carried by a Unanimous Vote.**

**DISCUSSION**

1. **Southern Parkway Report - UDOT**

UDOT Project Manager Rick Torgerson stated that the ribbon cutting of Southern Parkway took place on May 19, 2021. Many cyclists turned out to ride their bikes on the newly completed parkway. The Southern Parkway now connects into SR-9, completing the regional corridor. The twenty-six (26) miles of roadway cost approximately $250,000,000 to complete.

1. **Springdale to St. George Transit Implementation Plan**

St. George City Public Works Director Cameron Cutler explained that there are several steps that need to be completed in the process of implementing the Springdale to St, George route plan. These include: right of way; draft environmental proposal; site design; architecture; bus purchase; transit route design; and personnel needs.

There are still some issues with the electric buses in regards to battery usage and ability to maintain charge throughout the day that are still being considered and worked through.

1. **Raise Grant Applications**

The Federal Highway Administration will be allocating grant money for projects that are ready to move forward under the Raise Grant Program. The Dixie MPO is considering hiring a grant writer in order to better qualify for potential grant allocations. The estimated cost to hire a grant writer is approximately $30,000.

The two regionally significant projects that would be at the forefront of funding consideration for the MPO area are the Old Highway 91 expansion and Purgatory Road.

This item will be brought before the DTEC at the next meeting for formal approval.

1. **Ironman Event Transportation Report**

Washington County Tourism Director Kevin Lewis explained that it is important to continue discussions between municipalities to identify alternative routes when planning various events throughout the community.

Mr. Lewis reviewed the upcoming course and event schedule for the World Championship Ironman 70.3 which will take place throughout the week of September 13-20, 2021. The race itself will take place on September 17th and 18th and have major transportation impacts on the Hurricane, Washington, St. George and SR-18 areas of the County. The event is expected to bring in $25 million dollars of economic impact to the community.

**REGIONAL UPDATES**

1. **Local Government Updates**

None presented.

1. **UDOT Updates**

The UDOT Commission meeting is to be held on Friday, May 21, 2021 to discuss various projects in the area.

1. **Federal Updates**

Congressman Stewart’s representative Adam Snow stated that the Congressional Review Act review time period has passed, therefore, the progress on the Northern Corridor cannot be rolled back by the current administration.

There are several “orphaned” properties owned by the BLM within the municipalities that are in the process of being transferred into the municipalities’ ownership.

Discussions are still being held regarding the Zion National Park visitor use management plan.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

DTAC- June 2, 2021

DTEC – June 16, 2021

**ADJOURN**

Having no other business, Chairman Hart adjourned the meeting at 1:13 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Cheyenne Bentley