

# Region 2 Planning Commission

*Serving Hillsdale, Jackson and Lenawee Counties*

## MINUTES

Region 2 Planning Commission – Executive Committee  
Hillsdale City Hall  
97 N. Broad Street  
Hillsdale, MI 49242

**Thursday, February 13, 2020**

- I. **Call to Order** – Chair Tillotson called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. A quorum was present.

Executive Committee Members:

✓ Beeker	Gould	✓ Poole
Burtch	✓ Grabert	Sigers
✓ Drake	Guetschow	✓ Terry
✓ Driskill	✓ Jancek	✓ Tillotson
✓ Duckham	✓ Knoblauch	✓ Welsh
✓ Elwell	Kubish	✓ Wittenbach
✓ Gaede	Overton	

**Key: ✓ = present**

Other Commissioners Present: Bair and Frey

Others Present: Kelby Wallace, MDOT; Susan Smith, Economic Partnership of Hillsdale County

Staff Present: Bauman, Duke

- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Those in attendance joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Approval of the Agenda** – A motion was made by Comm. Beeker, supported by Comm. Driskill, to approve the February 13, 2020, Executive Committee agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
- IV. **Public Comment** – Chair Tillotson announced the first opportunity for public comment. No public comments were received.

- V. **Approval of Minutes of the December 12, 2019, Executive Committee Meeting** – A motion was made by Comm. Jancek, supported by Comm. Grabert, to approve the December 12, 2019, Executive Committee meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
- VI. **Receipt of the Treasurer’s Report of January 31, 2020** – A motion was made by Comm. Drake, supported by Comm. Knoblauch, to approve receipt of the R2PC Treasurer’s Report for January 31, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.
- VII. **Approval of the February 13, 2020, Submitted Bills** – A motion was made by Comm. Driskill, supported by Comm. Grabert, to approve payment of the February 13, 2020, submitted bills as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
- VIII. **Staff Progress Report for January, 2020** – Mr. Duke highlighted staff activities for January, 2020, as follows:
- Staff created a series of land use maps for Hillsdale County and a map of major community facilities in the county.
  - Staff met with Toole Design regarding the RPI rural mobility study.
  - The R2PC FY 2019 Annual audit was completed and will be presented at the March meeting.
  - Staff set the 3-County Rural Task Force selection committee meeting for February 25 at JCDOT in Jackson.
  - Staff prepared and submitted the year-end final acceptance report summarizing FY 2019 urban and rural project activities.
  - Staff attended the quarterly I-94 Corridor Alignment Review Team (CART) meeting to review progress on the Cooper Street interchange and Grand River bridge reconstruction. The M-60 interchange reconstruction is set to begin in March. Upcoming I-94 projects beginning in FY 2021 include reconstruction of the West Avenue and Elm Rod interchanges and the Lansing Avenue bridge over I-94.
  - Staff facilitated the process of updating recreation plans in Jackson County and the City of Jackson and provided data to Lenawee County (which is updating its plan in-house).
  - Staff prepared a proposal to develop a recreation plan for a 14-community multijurisdictional area in southeast Jackson County continuing into Lenawee County.
- IX. **Report of Nominating Committee – Election of R2PC Officers for 2020** – Mr. Duke reported that Section VII of the R2PC bylaws specifies that the four (4) officer positions (Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary) shall be elected by the Executive Committee from its membership. Officers shall not serve more than 2 years and are to be rotated among Committee members representing Hillsdale, Jackson, and Lenawee counties. All current officers have served the maximum two years in their positions.

The Nominating Committee met on January 6, 2020 and unanimously endorsed the following slate of officers for 2020 – Chair, Doug Terry (Hillsdale County); Vice-Chair Pete Jancek (Jackson County); Treasurer, Alan Beeker (Hillsdale County); and Secretary, Chris Wittenbach, (Lenawee County). No nominations from the floor were received.

The motion was made by Comm. Elwell, supported by Comm. Duckham, to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for the 2020 slate of officers as submitted by the Nominating Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

- X. **Update – Economic Development Partnership of Hillsdale County** – Ms. Susan Smith, CEO of the Hillsdale County EDP, summarized various programs and projects her agency is working on including developing a leadership foundation, assisting MEDC with an agricultural summit, and continuing retention visits with employers throughout the county.
- XI. **MDOT Project Updates** – Mr. Kelby Wallace, MDOT-Jackson TSC, provided handouts and a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the status of the MDOT projects in Hillsdale and Lenawee counties programmed for 2020-2021. He also reviewed the status of the I-94/Cooper Street interchange and the Grand River bridge reconstruction. I-94 projects programmed for FY 2021-2023 include the reconstruction of both the West Avenue and Elm Road interchanges, and the replacement of the Lansing Avenue bridge.
- XII. **Approval of Amendments to the JACTS FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** – Mr. Wallace, MDOT-Jackson TSC, presented the following proposed MDOT amendments:

FY	Job no.	Phase	Project Name	Limits	Length	Project Description	Funds	Federal Source	Amendment Type
2020	209494	PE	M-106 & US-127 BR	Various Locations – Jackson TSC	0	Traffic Signal Modernization, connected vehicle installations	Federal - \$419,886 State - \$0 Total - \$419,886	STG	Phase Add
2021	209494	ROW	M-106 & US-127 BR	Various Locations – Jackson TSC	0	Traffic Signal Modernization, connected vehicle installations	Federal - \$10,000 State - \$0 Total - \$10,000	STG	Phase Add
2023	209494	CON	M-106 & US-127 BR	Various Locations – Jackson TSC	0	Traffic Signal Modernization, connected vehicle installations	Federal - \$2,694,539 State - \$0 Total - \$2,694,539	STG	Phase Add
2020	201001	CON	M-50	M-124 to Goose Creek	0	HMA cold milling & single course HMA overlay	Federal - \$777,902 State - \$172,498 Total - \$950,400	ST	Phase Budget
2020	204793	CON	I-94 W	Various locations throughout Jackson County	15.962	Install ITS devices along I-94 throughout Jackson County	Federal - \$1,679,129 State - \$372,342 Total - \$2,051,471	NH	Length over ½ mile

Mr. Duke reported the City of Jackson was requesting the following amendment to the JACTS FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):

FY	Street	Description	Length	Funding	Action
2020	Francis St – Morrell St to Mason St	Reconstruct	0.204	Federal \$587,000 City \$1,555,699.75	Rename Francis St to Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  Increase the local funding

Mr. Duke explained that JCDOT was requesting the following amendment to the JACTS FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):

FY	Job #	Project Name	Limits	Project Description	Funding	Action
2020	207164	King Road	Mathews Road to M- 60	Two course asphalt re- surfacing	\$504,000 STUL \$846,000 Local	Change Funding

A motion was made by Comm. Duckham, supported by Comm. Jancek, to approve the proposed MDOT, City of Jackson, and the JCDOT amendments as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

- XIII. **JACTS FY 2019 List of Federally-Obligated Projects** – Mr. Duke reported that federal legislation requires each metropolitan planning organization (MPO) to prepare an annual listing of the federally-funded projects either constructed or obligated during the recently completed fiscal year. The report was presented to the R2PC Board and is posted on the [www.region2planning.com](http://www.region2planning.com) website.
- XIV. **Hillsdale County – Existing Land Use Patterns and Major Community Facilities** – Mr. Bauman reported that a goal of the R2PC 2017-2021 edition is the identification and mapping of cultural and recreational resources. A summary of these resources and locational maps were included in the agenda packet. Similar information for Jackson and Lenawee counties will be available soon.
- XV. **Other Business** – Mr. Bauman prepared a summary of bills that have been introduced during the 2019-2020 legislative sessions of the Michigan House of Representatives and the Michigan Senate that would amend the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act. Comm. Terry requested the information be emailed to all members.

Mr. Duke reported that the New Commission orientation session will be held at 1:00 pm prior to the regular R2PC Commission meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

The Committee thanked Chair Tillotson for his guidance over the past two years of his chairmanship.

No additional business was brought before the Committee.

- XVI. **Public Comments/Commissioner Comments** – No further comments were received.

XVII. **Adjournment** – There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm by Chair Tillotson.

Chris Wittenbach  
Secretary