

## MINUTES

### REGION 2 RURAL TASK FORCE

Brooklyn Village Office  
121 N. Main St.  
Brooklyn, MI 49230

**Tuesday, November 4, 2025**

#### Members Present:

##### Hillsdale County

Heather Boyd, HCRC  
Bob Griffis, HCRC

##### Jackson County

Charlie Briner, JCDOT  
Hunter Causie, JATA  
Matt Swartzlander, Village of Brooklyn

##### Lenawee County

Scott Merillat, LCRC (Chair)  
Kate Daisher, LPTA

#### Others Present:

Brian Stark, MDOT – RTF Program Manager  
Jim Cole, JCDOT  
Brett Gatz, Region 2 Planning Commission  
Noah Schoenberger, LCRC  
Jacob Porath, MDOT – Office of Passenger Transportation

#### ITEM 1            **CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Merillat called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Introductions were done by the committee.

#### ITEM 2            **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were received.

#### ITEM 3            **APPROVAL OF APRIL 8, 2025 FULL REGION 2 RURAL TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Swartzlander, supported by Ms. Daisher, to approve the Full Region 2 Rural Task Force meeting minutes of April 8, 2025 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

#### ITEM 4            **RURAL TASK FORCE UPDATE FROM MDOT**

An update about the statewide Rural Task Force Program was given by Mr. Stark. He said that the LABR has been updated to reflect the transfer with RTF 7. The FY 2026 allocations have also been updated to reflect the new census numbers.

#### ITEM 5            **REVIEW AND ADJUST BALANCE SHEET FOR FY 2026-2029 JATA PROJECTS**

It was decided to only adjust FY 2026 projects at this meeting and wait until the spring meeting to adjust FY 2027-2029 projects. The FY 2026 project changes are outlined below:

- Hillsdale County Road Commission
  - JN 216458 – Increase federal funding to \$1,024,259; increase state funding to \$251,987; increase limits of Territorial Rd
- Jackson County Department of Transportation
  - JN 216545 – Decrease federal funding to \$979,553; increase state funding to \$242,510
- Jackson Area Transportation Authority
  - Add Van Purchase project; \$128,000 Fed., \$18,800 Local, \$160,000 Total
- Lenawee County Road Commission
  - JN 215611 – Decrease federal funding to \$963,396; decrease local funding to \$240,849
  - JN 223106 – Decrease federal funding to \$0; increase state funding to \$268,000; increase local funding to \$67,000
  - Add Medina Rd (Dillon Hwy to 0.5 mi E. of Ingall Hwy) project; \$158,000 Fed., \$39,500 Local, \$197,500 Total
- Lenawee Public Transportation Authority
  - Add two Bus projects
    - \$35,725 Fed., \$8,931 Local, \$44,656 Total
    - \$169,557 Fed., \$42,389 Local, \$211,946 Total

A motion was made by Ms. Daisher, supported by Mr. Swartzlander, to approve the changes to the FY 2026 projects. The motion carried unanimously.

## ITEM 6            **CHANGES TO ALL-SEASON ROAD NETWORK**

The Hillsdale County Road Commission proposed a change to make Camden Rd all-season from Tripp Rd to US-127, where it was previously all-season just until M-99. A motion was made by Ms. Boyd, supported by Mr. Swartzlander, to approve this change. The motion carried unanimously.

## ITEM 7            **OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was presented.

## ITEM 8            **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were received.

## ITEM 9            **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Merillat adjourned the meeting at 2:06 p.m.

Brett Gatz, Recording Secretary  
Region 2 Planning Commission