

MINUTES

REGION 2 RURAL TASK FORCE

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

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Members Present: **Hillsdale County**
Heather Boyd, HCRC
Brooke Lewis-Stiverson, Key Opportunities

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

Lenawee County
Scott Merillat, LCRC (Chair)
Kate Daisher, LPTA
Jim Frayer, Village of Britton

Others Present: Brian Stark, MDOT – RTF Program Manager (Virtual)
Thomas Boss, Region 2 Planning Commission
Jim Cole, JCDOT
Brett Gatz, Region 2 Planning Commission
Bob Griffis, HCRC
Jacob Porath, MDOT – Office of Passenger Transportation
Morgan Torres, LPTA

ITEM 1 **CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Merillat called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Introductions were done by the committee.

ITEM 2 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were received.

ITEM 3 **APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 4, 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 November 4, 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 there will be RTF training held in Kalamazoo on September 17 along with a virtual option. There also new 1799

forms that have the option for a project to be pro rata or a lump sum.

ITEM 5 **REVIEW AND ADJUST BALANCE SHEET / APPROVE PROPOSED PROJECT CHANGES**

Adjustments to the FY 2027 RTF projects were made. These changes are outlined below:

- Hillsdale County Road Commission
 - JN 223131 – Increase federal funding to \$979,000.
- Jackson County Department of Transportation
 - JN 223501 – Decrease federal funding to \$1,170,000; decrease state funding to \$207,808.
- Village of Brooklyn
 - JN 223372 – Decrease federal funding to \$155,000.
- Lenawee County Road Commission
 - JN 223102 – Increase federal funding to \$501,000.
 - JN 223104 – Increase federal funding to \$416,000.
 - JN 223105 – Increase federal funding to \$370,000.
- Lenawee Public Transportation Authority
 - Add facility improvements project from illustrative list; \$8,000 Federal, \$2,000 State, \$10,000 Total.

A motion was made by Mr. Swartzlander, supported by Mr. Causie, to approve the changes to the FY 2027 projects. The motion carried unanimously.

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

No changes to the all-season network were presented.

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, a motion was made by Ms. Daisher, supported by Mr. Griffis, to adjourn the meeting at 1:49 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Brett Gatz, Recording Secretary
Region 2 Planning Commission