



**SALEM-PLAISTOW-WINDHAM  
TAC Committee Meeting  
MINUTES**

Atkinson Town Hall  
Friday, June 28, 2002

**Members Present:** Ellen Faulconer, Chair, Kingston; Paul Sullivan, Atkinson; Steve Laurin, Newton; Becky Ohler, NHDES; and Robert Lyford, NHDOT.

**Others Present:** Tony McKomornick, MVPC.

**Proxy Votes:** Marilyn Senter, Plaistow.

**Staff Present:** Dave Walker, Scott Bogle and Roxanne Rines, RPC.

Meeting opened at 9:40 a.m.

**I. Introductions**

Attendees introduced themselves and stated what municipality they were from or the agency they represented.

**2. Communications**

**Ohler** stated the state had two Air Quality Action Days when the 8-hour standard was exceeded, but that standard is not in effect.

**3. Approval of May 10, 2002, Minutes**

**Motion:** **Ohler** made a motion to accept the minutes of May 10, 2002, as written. **Laurin** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with abstentions.**

**4. STIP Amendment #9**

**Walker** stated the amendments were recommended by the state. There are five projects within the MPO: one is a full amendment, which requires a 30-day public notice that will close on July 17<sup>th</sup>; 4 expedited amendments, which require MPO approval; and three statewide projects. The Londonderry/Windham commuter service project had been left out of the TIP, it's being added.

**Walker** continued that there was another information only project that wasn't included. It's a project in Salem to purchase some railroad right-of-way. The Policy Committee will vote on the amendments at their July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**DRAFT**

**Komornick** stated the Londonderry/Windham service is operating down to Ballardville. **Walker** stated it has started, this is for funding that the state had committed to providing.

**Faulconer** asked how the amendments are impacting projects that are already approved? **Walker** stated the added funding will most likely cause delays in other projects. Discussion continued about where the money will come from.

**Motion:** **Laurin** made a motion to approve and send Amendment #9 to the Policy Committee for their approval with the caveat that it does not impact other projects not listed, pending adequate Air Quality Conformity determination and receiving no adverse public input. **Sullivan** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with Faulconer opposed and Ohler and Lyford abstaining.**

## 5. Long Range Transportation Plan

**Walker** stated the schedule is being re-arranged because there is a need to have an air quality conformity determination completed for the 2003-05 TIP sooner than planned. Hopefully, the projects in the long-range plan will match-up with those in the conformity determination.

Staff has started looking at potential long-range projects for the region. He asked members to review the memo included in their packet which includes existing projects and requested additional ideas from the committee about projects that could be added to the long-range plan.

Walker reviewed some of the project suggestions gathered from the survey. Members discussed their ideas for projects.

**Bogle** reviewed the transit chapter: goals of the chapter were added; a number of changes still need to be made to section B; detail added about GD/GSRTC; a new section to each chapter will be added that lists the projects that have implemented since the last plan was adopted.

**Ohler** stated the Nashua TAC had Kit Morgan give a presentation on the initiation of the Statewide Intermodal Study, which seeks information from the region identifying areas of need which was informational.

**Bogle** reviewed the scope of the Greater Derry/Salem Regional Transportation Council; it includes developing recommendations for fix route service; and developing a plan for coordinating existing transit services.

Members discussed the pros and cons of municipalities implementing the \$5.00 fee at vehicle registration and town budgets.

**Walker** stated an air quality conformity determination needs to be done sooner than anticipated. The air quality and TIP chapters will be forwarded to the front of the workload; the plan will not be completed when the air quality conformity work is finished. The timeline is going to be stretched a bit; hopefully, not more than a month.

## 6. Air Quality Conformity

**Walker** stated one of the items needed for the conformity are regionally significant projects. He asked members to notify him if they are aware of any regionally significant projects happening in their community within the next few years. He reviewed some of the projects that were added in the past.

**Ohler** stated the emission numbers in the outer years look great, but conformity may not be met in 2003. DES has a number of items they will look at that will help with obtaining conformity and explained them.

**Ohler** concluded that if the MPO doesn't meet conformity with the state implementation plan, the MPO loses all federal funding for highway projects until conformity is met.

## 7. National Defense Rail Act

**Bogle** stated the bill re-authorizes and fully funds Amtrak, it removes the requirement that Amtrak be financially self-supporting and establishes a commitment to build a national passenger rail system with a focus on building high speed corridors around the country.

The same memo was presented to the Seacoast Policy Committee and they gave their support to draft a letter on behalf of the Seacoast MPO to the NH Congressional Delegation supporting the bill.

**Ohler** stated all of the Northeastern Senators except NH's have signed on. **Ohler** stated Steve Pesci commented at the Seacoast meeting that Amtrak is the only entity that can require private rail owners to allow passenger rail service on their lines. Without a national rail service there will be no one that exists with that authority.

**Motion:** **Laurin** made a motion that staff draft a letter of support for the bill and forward it to the members of the NH Congressional Delegation urging the senators to co-sponsor the bill. **Senter** seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

## 8. Project Updates

**Walker** distributed the handouts of the updates.

NH 125 Plaistow/Kingston project – **Faulconer** stated that project manager Chris Waszczuk, stated the completion date was aggressive and that the project will not be completed until 2005. She spoke of the numerous times that NHDOT employees told her that the project would not be delayed. She continued that she wants the MPO to write a letter asking DOT for an explanation.

Members discussed how funding is moved around when an amendment is approved. **Walker** stated he will investigate why the project was delayed and discussion will continue at the Policy meeting.

Regional Traffic Model Update – **Walker** stated the model is currently being work on.

Greater Derry/Greater Salem RTC – **Bogle** stated that the Executive Directors position is being eliminated and that the Advisory Committee will meet in early August.

I-93 Widening – No update was given.

**9. Next Meeting**

Next meeting will be held on Friday, July 26<sup>th</sup>.

**10. Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne M. Rines, Recording Secretary