

**MINUTES
OF THE
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
Thursday, April 16, 2026, 1:30 p.m.
Zoom/2nd Floor Circle of Friends Community Room
Rapid City, South Dakota**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Talbot Wieczorek – Meade County Commission, Sarah Gilkerson via proxy for Jafar Karim – South Dakota Transportation Commission, Vicki Fisher via proxy for Jason Salamun – Mayor of Rapid City, Lance Lehmann as proxy for Dr. Stephen Tamang – Rapid City City Council, Ron Wiefenbach and Brittany Hand via proxy for Ron Rossknecht – Pennington County Commission, and Patrick Dame – Rapid City Regional Airport

MEMBERS ABSENT: Larry Larson – Mayor of Box Elder, Rod Pettigrew – Rapid City City Council, Richard Liggett – Meade County Commission, and Michael Knight – Box Elder City Council

STAFF PRESENT: Kip Harrington, Kelly Brennan and Melissa Bloomberg – Rapid City Department of Community Development, Matt Layman – Rapid City Public Works Department

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Carlson – South Dakota Department of Transportation and Justin Scott – SRF Consulting

Vice-chairman Wieczorek called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

Meeting quorum was met.

General Public Comment

No General Public Comment

Business

Lehmann moved, Wiefenbach seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2026 Executive Policy Committee.

26TP012 – Approve the 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #26-003. Gilkerson reviewed Amendment #26-003 that adds Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) funding to perform planning, preliminary engineering, and design services for Cheyenne Boulevard, Highway 1416, and Radar Hill Road in Box Elder.

Lehmann moved, Fisher seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the the 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #26-003.

26TP013 – Approve the Resolution #2026-01: Rapid TRIP 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Amendment #1. Congressional Directed Spending (CDS) funding has been allocated to perform planning, preliminary engineering, and design elements for

a Box Elder Regional Transportation Project, which includes Cheyenne Boulevard, County Highway 1416, and Radar Hill Road. This project was not listed as a fiscally constrained project in the Rapid TRIP 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). In order for the MTP to remain in compliance with Federal regulations, the MTP must be amended to include the project and demonstrate fiscal constraint. The resolution amends the MTP to include the Box Elder Regional Transportation Project to Table 40 on Page 115 of the MTP. Harrington reviewed this Resolution.

Fisher moved, Lehmann seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the Resolution #2026-01: Rapid TRIP 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Amendment #1.

26TP014 – Approve 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #26-004. Harrington and Dame reviewed this amendment that adds 2027 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) funding to assist with airport improvements, including renovations and expansion.

Lehmann moved, Wiefenbach seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #26-004.

26TP016 – Approve Resolution #2026-02: Rapid TRIP 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Amendment #2. Congressional Directed Spending (CDS) funding has been allocated to assist with airport improvements involving concourse expansion to provide five new gates to accommodate mainline jets and additional carriers. This project was not listed as a fiscally constrained project in the Rapid TRIP 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). In order for the MTP to remain in compliance with Federal regulations, the MTP must be amended to include the project and demonstrate fiscal constraint. The resolution amends the MTP to include the Airport Improvements Project to Table 40 on Page 115 of the MTP. Harrington reviewed this Resolution.

Lehmann moved, Fisher seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the Resolution #2026-02: Rapid TRIP 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Amendment #2.

26TP017 – Approve the 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #26-005. Harrington reviewed this amendment that adds 2029 Transportation Alternative Program funding to construct non-motorized transportation improvements in Rapid City and Box Elder.

Gilkerson moved, Lehmann seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #26-005.

26TP018 – Acknowledge the Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization 2025 Traffic Volume Counts Report. This report provides the public and business community with traffic count data to help make informed decisions. The following four street segments have volumes of more than 30,000 vehicles per day: West Main Street from Jackson Boulevard to Cross Street, I-90 from I-190 to Haines Avenue, I-90 from Elk Vale Road to the east City Limit boundary, and West Main Street from Cross Street to

West Street. In addition, there are 25 street segments with more than 20,000 vehicles per day, adjusted for seasonal variation. Many factors including construction, weather, and land use changes can influence daily traffic counts. Historically, our traffic counts are growing overall, with yearly fluctuations. Brennan reviewed this report. Discussion ensued including traffic counts for other areas of the MPO outside of Rapid City limits and the gathering of data.

Wiefenbach moved, Lehmann seconded and motion carried unanimously to acknowledge the Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization 2025 Traffic Volume Counts Report.

26TP019 – Approve the Railyard Relocation and Railway Configuration Study – Draft Report. In 2022, The Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization conducted the Cambell Street Structure Study, in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration, the South Dakota Department of Transportation, the Rapid City, Pierre and Eastern Railroad, and the City of Rapid City. Based on the recommendations from that study, the Railyard Relocation and Railway Configuration Study is currently in progress. The objective of this study is to investigate the effectiveness and feasibility of relocating the current Rapid City, Pierre & Eastern (RCP&E) railyard to an alternate location. A significant focus is also placed on identifying a more efficient rail network configuration for the region. This analysis is being undertaken with the goal of finding an alternative that addresses community concerns, alleviates the need to replace the Cambell Street structure, considers efficient, effective rail operations, and supports the orderly growth of the region. Justin Scott from SRF Consulting provided a presentation on the draft report. Discussion ensued.

Wiefenbach moved, Lehmann seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the Railyard Relocation and Railway Configuration Study – Draft Report.

Update on Construction Projects

Harrington provided information on current Rapid City construction projects. Carlson provided information on the current construction projects within the Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization area.

Update on Planning Projects

Harrington and Brennan provided information on the current planning projects within the Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization area. Fisher provided additional information on the Future Land Use Plan.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:44 p.m.