

**Minutes**  
**Rural Task Force 10C (Benzie, Grand Traverse, and Leelanau)**  
**April 30, 2020**  
**2:00pm – Zoom Meeting**

*In Attendance: Dan Hawkins (Village of Kingsley), Wayne Schoonover (GT Road Commission), Matt Skeels (Benzie), Keith Moore (Leelanau County), Josh Grab (MDOT), Bill Kennis (Benzie Buz), Don Mayle (MDOT), Justin Kelenske (Leelanau County), Heather Bowden (MDOT), Mathew Cooke (Networks Northwest), Kelli Dunham (BATA)*

**1. Introductions**

Kelli Dunham, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

**2. Approval of agenda/meeting minutes**

**Motion to approve the April 30, 2020 agenda by Dan Hawkins, supported by Wayne Schoonover.**

**Motion approved by all members in attendance.**

**Motion to approve the December 13, 2019 minutes by Wayne Schoonover, supported by Matt Skeels.**

**Motion approved by all members in attendance.**

**3. RTF updates**

Josh Grab, MDOT, informed the members of RTF updates including:

- Statewide Planning is still working as normal
- RTF projects are 83.4% obligated.
  - MDOT is looking into projects not yet obligated and those challenges that are holding it up.
- Traffic is down around 60% which will directly affect funding and next year's budget may change.

**4. 2020-2023 Revision/Update of TIP projects**

Mathew Cooke explained that RTF 10C had a 2019 project that was moved to 2020, which was causing RTF 10C to be out of fiscal constraint. Don Mayle mentioned that we were over programmed by 23,118 to begin with and the Bohemian Road project shouldn't have been moved to 2020 without action from the RTF members, leading RTF 10C to being out of fiscal constraint by \$121,731. He added that if this project was done in 2019, there would have been issues as other projects went over their budgets.

Transit members mentioned they would be amicable to pushing their transportation projects to the future to help out in 2020. Kelli Dunham had wondered if this was able to be done this late in the fiscal year. Don Mayle mentioned that some of the additional options available would be to advance

construct the over programmed amount to 2021. This would mean that 2021 jobs would need to change to accommodate this. He also mentioned that Leelanau had State D funds that could be exchanged for STP funds with GT County. Don Mayle Lastly mentioned we could ask other RTF's if they have any additional STP funds which would need to be paid back in 2021 (or other year as agreed upon).

Kelli Dunham asked about the advanced construct option, and if there were savings from 2020, would it affect the advanced construct amount in 2021. Don Mayle said that if the project comes in low, the advanced construct amount could change. He added that the year to year carryover balance can be used for overages, but we cannot program the carryover amounts into current year allocations.

Justin Kelenske mentioned that Leelanau can't use State D funds on their project as it is not on the all season network. He asked how using State D would be paid back if they went that route. Don mentioned it would take a couple years to repay State D because of the amounts that are allocated per year. Wayne Schoonover mentioned that the RTF was going back to everyone uses their own suggested STP funds, but they had been doing some sharing between counties so that larger projects could be completed.

Don Mayle said that projects came in high in 2019, so we did not lose any money from Leelanau's Bohemian Road project being shifted to 2020. Kelli Dunham thought that transit agencies got extra money in 2019, but wanted to see the projects over the past few years before making any decisions. Don said that he would pull the Local Agency Balance reports from 2018 forward and compile them.

Justin Kelenske asked if we needed to make a decision today. Don Mayle said that we didn't need one today, but needed one soon in order to remain in compliance with FHWA. IT was mentioned that if transit jobs pulled out we would still be over programmed by +/- \$3500. Matt Skeels also mentioned their Homestead project should be completed soon and they would have an idea of what final costs would be.

Don Mayle said that he would pull together information on previous projects since 2018 and send it out as soon as possible. Members discussed processes to prevent this from occurring in the future.

Wayne Schoonover mentioned that GT County had purchased \$603,753 STP from Houghton County to add and use for their Walton Road project. Dan Hawkins asked if a vote now had any impact on the overage issue. Don Mayle said that it may be more proper to acknowledge the funds were purchased but he thought that there would be a future motion to solve the over programming issue. Mathew Cooke mentioned that the job was already programmed in JobNet but needs action approval date so we can wait until next meeting to make any decisions.

## **5. Public Comments**

The next meeting will take place on May 14, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. using Zoom.

Justin Kelenske mentioned that his last day as Leelanau County Road Commission manager would be 5/8/2020. RTF members were sad to see him leave.

Don Mayle mentioned that moving this project was an MDOT mistake that was approved without RTF action. He added that the issue would have happened last year, but instead we are dealing with it now. Members were appreciative of Don Mayle helping resolve the matter.

## **6. Adjourn**

- a. Meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.