

SIGN-IN SHEET

Northern District Policy and Technical Committees

of the

East Alabama Rural Planning Organization

April 11, 2019 11:30 AM

NAME	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL ADDRESS
Libby Messick	EHRPO	
Lathina Royal	EHRPO	
Tim Barnett	Alabama Transportation Institute	tbarnett1@ua.edu
Kenny Wilbanks	Cherokee County Hwy.	cchkw@tts.net
Corey Chambers	Cherokee County Hwy	cchdca@tds.net
Daniel Steele	Cherokee Co. Commission	davidsteele@cherokee-county-al.gov
ERIC TUCKER	CHEROKEE CO COMMISSIONS	eric.tucker@cherokee-county-al.gov

AGENDA

RPO District Meetings of the East Alabama Rural Planning Organization

April 11, 2019
11:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order
 - a. Introductions

2. Old Business
 - a. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting
 - b. Other Old Business

3. New Business
 - a. Hearing from Persons Having Business with and/or Reports for Committee
 - b. Motions and Resolutions
 - c. Appointment Forms
 - d. RPO Transportation Needs Forms
 - e. Other New Business
 - f. Open Discussion and Announcements
 - a. Public Participation
 - b. Safety Concerns
 - g. STIP Public Participation
 - a. Northern District – May 2nd, 2019 2 pm – 4:00 pm

4. Adjourn

East Alabama Rural Planning Organization (EARPO)
Meeting Minutes
District Policy and Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – Northern District
Thursday, January 10, 2019 - 11:30 a.m.
Gadsden and Etowah Chamber of Commerce

Members in Attendance:

Libby Messick, EARPDC
Clay Zahorscak, Etowah County
Karen Carr-Jones, ALDOT
Rodney Ellis, ALDOT
Curtis Vincent, ALDOT
J. Cody Adams, ALDOT

Other Attendees:

Seth Burkett, ALDOT

Ms. Messick called the meeting to order at 11:24 and welcomed everyone to the first FY19 meeting of the East Alabama Rural Planning Organization's District Policy and Technical Advisory Committee Meeting for the Northern District.

Ms. Messick asked attendees to introduce themselves.

After introductions, Ms. Messick explained she had put together a brief agenda which was available for attendees at the meeting.

Minutes from the previous meeting were not available in the EARPO transfer to Ms. Messick. She explained the RPO would be starting fresh and attempt to revamp the RPO with new ideas.

Ms. Messick then called for any reports or updates from ongoing projects from ALDOT or County. Mr. Ellis reported for Cherokee County bridge replacement on SR-9 is currently advertised, should have a February Let and should see the project starting in the early part of this summer; there is a resurfacing project on SR-9 should also start this summer; in Etowah county there are some resurfacing projects on various routes that are ongoing as well as a project on 431 that was mentioned at the GEMPO meeting (resurfacing and two-foot safety widening on SR-1 US-431 from the bridge end at Little Wills Creek to the bridge end at Line Creek) that will be advertised this month. Mr. Adams and Mr. Zahorscak reported that the Hokes Bluff bridge replacement project on CR-71 in Etowah County has been Let, but they are waiting on the water to recede before proceeding. This bridge serves as a connection between Cherokee and Etowah Counties and will have an approximate 10-mile (15 minute) detour for the duration of the project (estimated 1 year). Mr. Zahorscak reported the bridge project on Murphy Valley is currently in progress and should be complete by late spring.

There were no motions or resolutions that needed to be discussed.

The next item of business was special programs which Ms. Messick explained was a round-table discussion item such as what are the district's interests with the RPO, what type of projects are there needs or interests for, and what can the RPO can do for the districts. Attendance was not sufficient to discuss this item; however, ways in which to gather more participation such as what other counties have done with incentives and conducting extra meetings for public participation was discussed. Mr. Vincent asked if there were any informative mailouts that are currently being sent. Ms. Messick explained that monthly newsletters are currently being sent to RPO members, but not much feedback has occurred. Other items as boxed lunches and Ms. Messick becoming more involved with town council meetings or introducing herself outside of RPO meetings to the municipality Mayors. Mr. Adams offered to be of assistance in these introductions. Mr. Vincent reported another RPO was moving their meetings into the communities to see if it offers any greater participation. Ms. Messick reported a need to find a location for the next Northern District meetings in Cherokee county and that perhaps meeting with the local government there would foster more participation by giving more people an opportunity to attend.

The next item of business was other new business. Ms. Messick included a list of goals in an Action Plan in the previous RPO Coordinator's files. She requested the attendees look over the goals in the action plan and make any suggestions to remove or change anything that may not fit the RPO. Mr. Adams suggested changing the language in the plan from region to district. Ms. Messick said she would remove the portion regarding vision statement since it sounded too related to a regional plan. No other suggestions were made for the Action Plan.

The next item on the agenda was for Safety Concerns. Ms. Messick explained that she would like to implement a way for the local rural governments to be able to voice their transportation concerns, those concerns get to the appropriate and necessary department, and the responses to be tracked.

The final item on the agenda was for the Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan which ALDOT will be implementing the RPOs as their public participation areas of contact. An ALDOT representative will be at each meeting to assist with any questions from the public regarding the plan, but the rural areas will have the first look and first opportunity to discuss the plan.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

East Alabama Rural Planning Organization (EARPO)

Fiscal Year 2019

Meeting Schedule

⇒ Northern Counties:

Cherokee and Etowah

January 10 @ 11:30, Gadsden Chamber after MPO meeting

April 11 @ 11, Cherokee County Commission

July 11 @ 11:30, Gadsden Chamber after MPO meeting

⇒ Central Counties:

Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, Talladega

January 17 @ 11, EARPDC 3rd floor conference room

April 18 @ 11, EARPDC 3rd floor conference room

July 18 @ 11, EARPDC 3rd floor conference room

⇒ Southern Counties

Chambers, Coosa, Randolph, Tallapoosa

January 24 @ 10, ALDOT Alexander City Office, Section 1

April 25 @ 10, ALDOT Alexander City Office, Section 1

July 25 @ 10, ALDOT Alexander City Office, Section 1

Please send RSVPs to elizabeth.messick@earpdc.org or call

Libby Messick at 256-237-6741.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

The East Alabama Rural Planning Organization (RPO) has scheduled a staff supported public meeting to answer questions and solicit comments regarding the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) *Draft State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)*:

Public Meeting
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Thursday, May 2, 2019
Gadsden Chamber at 1 Commerce Square,
Gadsden, AL.

This is a handicapped accessible building and room.

A copy of the updated draft plan and comment form can be picked up and reviewed prior to the meeting at the East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission (EARPDC) offices during normal working hours or on the EARPDC website at www.earpdc.org. Copies of the draft will also be available for review and comment at the public meeting.

The comment period for which the draft document can be obtained and/or reviewed will begin during the public meeting. **Comments will be accepted for over a 21-day period ending June 14, 2019.** Public comments can be dropped off at the EARPDC office, submitted by mail to EARPDC at PO Box 2186, Anniston, AL 3620; faxed to (256)237-6763, or emailed to lattisha.royal@earpdc.org. All public comments will be reviewed by the ALDOT and included in the final plan document.

Persons needing special accommodations to attend this meeting should contact the EARPDC ADA Coordinator at (256) 237-6741 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. For more information, contact Lattisha Royal, Regional Planner at (256) 237-6741, lattisha.royal@earpdc.org, or visit www.earpdc.org.

Transportation Needs Survey

1. Do you believe that ALDOT's current Transportation Improvement Program addresses all of the transportation needs in your area?

- Yes
- No

2. Are there specific projects that you have in mind for your area?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please describe these projects:

3. What particular issues do you think are currently affecting your community?

- Safety
- Economic development
- Lack of affordable, accessible transportation
- Public involvement
- Environmental concerns
- Land use – access management
- Land use – unmanaged development
- Lack of pedestrian and bicycle facilities

4. Please prioritize this list of projects in the order of how beneficial they could be to your community, with 1 being the most beneficial, and 14 being the least.

- ___ Safety improvements
- ___ Safety audits
- ___ Safety awareness programs

**APPOINTMENT FORM
EAST ALABAMA RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Name of County or Municipality: _____

- **Head of Street/Highway Department** (county engineer, street superintendent, public works director, or similar position)

Representative

Name: _____

Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Alternate Representative (may be from the street/highway department)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Check if your county/municipality does not have a road maintenance department _____

- **Director of Section 5311 Rural Public Transportation System**

Representative

Name: _____

Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Alternate Representative (may be from the transit department)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

**APPOINTMENT FORM
EAST ALABAMA RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION
DISTRICT POLICY COMMITTEE**

Name of county or municipality: _____

County Commissions - appoint one commissioner as representative and appoint one alternate representative and provide their contact information.

Municipalities - complete the representative section with the mayor's contact information and appoint one alternate representative and provide that person's contact information.

Note: The Bylaws do not require that the alternate representative be an elected official or employee of your jurisdiction; however, that person should be able to effectively represent your jurisdiction.

Representative

Name: _____

Title: _____

Mailing address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Alternate Representative

Name: _____

Title: _____

Mailing address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail address: _____