



Central Arizona Governments
Central Yavapai Metro. Planning Org.
Flagstaff Metropolitan Planning Org.
Lake Havasu Metro. Planning Org.
Northern Arizona Council of Gov'ts.
Sierra Vista Metro. Planning Org.
Southeastern Arizona Governments Org.
Sun Corridor Metro. Planning Org.
Western Arizona Council of Gov'ts.
Yuma Metropolitan Planning Org.

RTAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 9, 2019 1:00 PM
League of Arizona Cities & Towns Bldg.
1820 W. Washington, Room #101
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Board members present:

Steve Miller (Chairman)	Supervisor, Pinal County (SCMPO)
Matt Ryan (Vice Chair)	Supervisor, Coconino County (FMPO)
Craig Brown	Supervisor, Yavapai County (CYMPO Alt.)
* Maria Cruz	Vice Mayor, City of San Luis (YMPO)
Paul David	Supervisor, Graham County (SEAGO Alt.)
Terry Nolan	Mayor, Town of Dewey Humboldt, (CYMPO)
* Charlie Odegaard	Councilmember, City of Flagstaff (FMPO Alt.)

Others in attendance:

Kevin Adam	RTAC
Travis Ashbaugh	CAG
Chris Bridges	CYMPO
* Chris Fetzer	NACOG
Vinny Gallegos	LHMPO
Randy Heiss	SEAGO
Irene Higgs	SCMPO
* Jason James	NACOG
* Gary Knight	City of Yuma, State Transportation Board
* Jeff Meilbeck	FMPO
Andrea Robles	CAG
* Steve Stratton	State Transportation Board

* Participated by phone.

1. Chairman Steve Miller called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM. Attendees introduced themselves.
2. Chairman Miller asked if anyone from the public wished to address the Board. No one requested to speak.
3. Chairman Miller called for a vote to approve the RTAC Board meeting minutes from October 16, 2019 which were approved unanimously.

4. Chairman Miller called on Mr. Adam to provide a state legislative update. He reiterated from the previous meeting that the primary transportation focus will be on legislation that will be introduced by House Transportation Committee Chairman Noel Campbell to raise revenues similar to the bill he introduced last year. He indicated that this year's version will likely be an eighteen-cent increase to fuel taxes as opposed to last year's twenty-five-cent proposal and will be classified as a user fee rather than a tax increase. This year's bill will also include indexing and comparable fees and taxes for alternative fuel vehicles. A draft fact sheet provided by Rep. Campbell was included in the Board agenda packet. Mr. Adam also indicated that state revenue collections were very strong and that a surplus was once again anticipated and there is potential for much of that revenue to once again be directed to infrastructure projects across the state.

5. Chairman Miller called on Mr. Adam to discuss a letter from FMPO, included in the Board agenda packet, recommending that the transportation focus for this year's session should be on indexing the existing fuel taxes. Coconino County Supervisor Matt Ryan stated that Representative Campbell has been our transportation champion at the Capitol and his efforts need to be supported. Flagstaff Councilmember Charlie Odegaard stated that we must also consider what is winnable and that indexing and tax parity with alternative fuel vehicles are this year's "low hanging fruit." Yavapai County Supervisor Craig Brown suggested that RTAC develop a resolution that all regions and local jurisdictions could adopt or use portions based on their regional or local priorities. It was specified that the resolution should contain three separate support recommendations for increasing fuel taxes, indexing and alternative fuel vehicle parity in the event that a jurisdiction did not wish to prioritize all three. Mr. Adam indicated that he would draft such a resolution. As far as prioritizing indexing, Mr. Adam also stated that he had talked to Rep. Campbell about amending out the user fee portion of the bill if it was not adequately advancing in order to preserve the ability of the indexing, and possibly the alternative fuel vehicle section, to advance.

6. Chairman Miller called on Mr. Adam to provide an update on the RTAC strategic planning effort. He provided an overview of the retreat synopsis provided by Kristin Darr, the retreat facilitator which was included in the Board agenda packet. Graham County Supervisor Paul David stated that the synopsis was not a strategic plan and that an update to the earlier circulated RTAC strategic plan needed to be updated. Supervisor Brown indicated that the RTAC mission statement needed to be included. Chairman Miller stated that communication needed to be emphasized in the plan. Mr. Adam stated that he would use the existing draft plan, the retreat synopsis and the feedback from the Board and Management Committee to update a strategic plan document which he would distribute in time for consideration at the next meeting.

7. Chairman Miller called on Mr. Adam to discuss RTAC efforts for greater coordination with the State Transportation Board. He indicated that one of the earlier strategic planning goals set forward by the Board was greater coordination with the State Transportation Board. He stated that he had reached out to all the of the state board members and had several follow up conversations where most had expressed mutual interest. Going forward, the Board will be invited to RTAC Board meetings including the legislative lunch on January 27th and receive copies of the RTAC Board meeting agenda packets. The Board members will take it upon themselves to coordinate on possible quorum issues which may result from their participation at RTAC events.

8. Chairman Miller called on Mr. Adam to provide a RTAC Management Committee report. He stated that the Management Committee met on November 1st and the setting up of a permanent planning structure and committee for future Rural Transportation Summits was the primary focus. It was decided that the Management Committee will meet regularly after the RTAC Board meetings, would be chaired by Mr. Adam and that a regular report on Management Committee activities would be a standing agenda item for the RTAC Board meetings.

9. Chairman Miller called for adjournment which was approved at 2:35 PM.