



# Rural Transportation Advocacy Council

Linking Arizona to the Global Economy

Central Arizona Governments  
Central Yavapai Metro. Planning Org.  
Lake Havasu Metro. Planning Org.  
MetroPlan Greater Flagstaff  
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  
League of Arizona Cities and Towns Building  
1820 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007  
Monday, March 27, 2023 1:00 PM

**Board members present:**

Paul David (Chairman)	Supervisor, Graham County (SEAGO)
Nancy Campbell (Vice Chair)	Councilmember, Lake Havasu City (LHMPO)
Tom Armstrong	Councilmember, Town of Chino Valley (CYMPO Alt)
Gary Knight	Councilmember, City of Yuma (YMP)
* Mary Mallory	Supervisor, Yavapai County (NACOG)
Steve Miller	Supervisor, Pinal County (SCMPO)
Jeronimo Vasquez	Supervisor, Coconino County (MetroPlan)

**Attending:**

Kevin Adam	RTAC
Travis Ashbaugh	CAG
* Brian Babiers	WACOG
* Dedrick Denton	Pinal County
* Cynthia Gentle	Yavapai County
* Chris Fetzer	NACOG
Crystal Figueroa	YMP
* Justin Hembree	LHMPO
* Irene Higgs	SCMPO
* Karen Lamberton	SVMPO
Jenn O'Connor	NACOG
Lynne Pancrazi	Yuma County Supervisor
Andy Smith	Pinal County
Sandra Tavel	MetroPlan
* Maury Thompson	Yavapai County

\* Denotes attendees who participated virtually

1. Chairman Paul David called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM. Attendees present introduced themselves and Liaison Kevin Adam read the names of those who had joined the meeting virtually.
2. Chairman David made a call to the public. No one wished to address the Board.
3. Chairman David called for a motion to approve the draft RTAC Board meeting minutes of February 27, 2023. Yuma Councilmember Gary Knight made the motion seconded by RTAC Vice Chair and Lake Havasu City Councilmember Nancy Campbell to approve the minutes which passed unanimously.

4. Chairman David called on Mr. Adam to discuss the proposed changes to the RTAC Board. Mr. Adam stated that with the end of former RTAC Vice Chair Regina Salas' term on the Flagstaff City Council, MetroPlan Greater Flagstaff has nominated to move Coconino County Supervisor Jeronimo Vasquez from the alternate to primary RTAC Board position representing MetroPlan and to appoint Flagstaff Councilmember Miranda Sweet to the alternate position. The appointments were approved unanimously.

5. Chairman David called on Mr. Adam to discuss the proposed RTAC budget for FY2023-24. Mr. Adam stated that approval of the budget is scheduled for March to provide member jurisdictions with advance notice of any assessment changes prior to the start of the next state fiscal year and their own budget-setting processes, and also to provide the Board with adequate time to consider and later approve any adjustments prior to the start of the new fiscal year. He also indicated that approval was timely as the Board had just approved adjustments to the budget related to the NADO service contract at the last meeting. The upcoming year's budget proposal was predominantly a continuation of the anticipated revenues and expenditure levels that were adjusted and approved at the February Board meeting for the remainder of the current year. He indicated that the primary change from the current year as amended in February was a \$3,000 increase to the travel budget in anticipation of NADO-related travel. He stated that it is the intent for such travel to be covered by the additional NADO revenues and that those increased expenditures would be continually monitored to insure that other revenue sources were not paying for the increased NADO-related activity. He also stated that there were no recommended changes to the assessment levels. Councilmember Knight made a motion to approve the proposed FY2023-24 RTAC annual budget seconded by Pinal County Supervisor Steve Miller which passed unanimously.

6. Chairman David called on Mr. Adam to provide a legislative update. Mr. Adam stated that the RTAC priority project legislation, HB2543, passed the House by a 50-8 vote and would be considered later that afternoon by the Senate Transportation and Technology Committee. He thanked those in attendance who planned to participate in the hearing immediately after the RTAC Board meeting. He stated that legislation to fill the \$360M funding gap to complete the I-10 widening between Casa Grande and Chandler was also progressing. He also stated that discussions were ongoing concerning the authority of Maricopa County to take to its voters an extension of the Prop. 400 one-half cent regional transportation sales tax set to expire after 2025. He indicated that limitations on the level of the funding that could be dedicated to public transportation were dramatically lower than what was in the approved MAG plan last year that passed the Legislature and was vetoed by Governor Ducey but that the number was moving closer to last year's levels as the negotiations continue.

7. Chairman David called on Mr. Adam to provide an update on the use of ADOT surplus millings. At the previous RTAC Board meeting, ADOT Director Jennifer Toth indicated that she remembered ADOT having the authority to provide surplus millings to local governments during her earlier tenure with the Department and thought that was the practice and would review current policies. Mr. Adam indicated that he has had several follow up discussions with her and she affirmed that ADOT has the authority and she is supportive of such transfers. Supervisor Miller stated that in order for the practice to be effective, ADOT needs to provide information on millings availability. Supervisor David added that their transport would likely need to be done by the contractors as local governments typically would not be able to do it. He suggested that we formalize a process with ADOT and that Councilmember Knight should be involved as the current Chairman of the State Transportation Board.

8. Chairman David called on YMPO Executive Director Crystal Figueroa to provide an update on the Rural Transportation Summit. Ms. Figueroa stated the Summit would be at the Hilton Garden Inn Yuma Pivot Point Conference Center on October 18-19 followed by the State Transportation Board meeting on October 20th. She asked the Board for topic and speaker ideas. She stated that U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Ken Salazar was unavailable and that we were still waiting to hear back from the NADBank Chairman, Governor Hobbs and U.S. DOT Assistant Secretary Arlando Teller. Erich Zimmermann from the National Association of Regional Councils has committed to attend.

9. Chairman David requested ideas for future agenda items and requested that the surplus millings remain a standing agenda item. Vice Chair Campbell stated that there were no restrictions on commercial driver licenses that were creating contractor problems that should be considered.

10. Chairman David called for a motion to adjourn the Board meeting which was approved unanimously at 1:43 PM.