

# MEETING MINUTES

## Central Louisiana Infrastructure Beltway Commission Meeting

**Date: September 23, 2014**

**Meeting Location: Rapides Area Planning Commission, Alexandria, LA**

### In Attendance

<b>Committee</b>	Mayor Jacques Roy, COA – Present Mayor Clarence Fields, COP – Present Mayor Jonathan Dean, Town of Ball – Present Mayor David Butler, Town of Woodworth – Present Mayor Jack Dewitt, Town of Boyce – Present (Alternate Bryan L. Bossier, Sr) – Absent Harry Silver, COA – Absent Joseph Bishop, Rapides Parish – Present Reldon Owens, Cenla CoC – Present (Alternate Deborah Randolph) – Absent Arnold Murrell, Grant Parish – Absent (Alternate Winston Roberts) – Present Charles Jones, Avoyelles Parish – Present Jon Grafton, England Authority -- Present Murphy LeDoux, LADOTD – Present Dr. Dan Howard, LSU-A – Absent (Alternate David Wesse) – Absent Dr. Joe Aguiard, Louisiana College – Absent
<b>Staff</b>	John Miller, RAPC Matt Johns, RAPC Sooraz Patro, RAPC Yuwen Hou, RAPC Jamie Wallace, RAPC Blake Powell, RAPC Carol Zhou, RAPC
<b>Others in Attendance</b>	Dawn Sholmire, LADOTD Jonathan Lachney, LADOTD Keith Sayer, LADOTD Brandon Buckner, FHWA Chandra Bondzie, FHWA

### **Agenda Item # 1**

*Call to Order by Mayor Jacques Roy*

### **Agenda Item # 2**

*Roll Call*

### **Agenda Item # 3**

*Approval of Minutes from March 24, 2014 Meeting*

- Motion by Mayor Jack Dewitt
- Second by Mayor Clarence Fields

**Passed Unanimously**

### **Agenda Item # 4**

*Updates on the Beltway Feasibility Study*

Mayor Roy briefly explained to the Committee about the presentation regarding the Beltway Study at the State Transportation Improvements Program public meeting held in Baton Rouge. He emphasized the significance of this opportunity provided it retains current top rating and receives funding as a Mega Transportation Project. Mayor Roy reminded the Committee that this project is more about infrastructure and connectivity than just transportation in this region.

Mayor Dean inquired appropriateness to inform the public of this project to encourage the support for this effort. Mr. Ledoux asked if the State Transportation Plan is nearing completion. Dawn Sholmire responded that the State Transportation Plan is pending approval upon the completion of the Task Force according to the State Legislature. The State is still trying to ascertain funding scenarios that will materialize. However, she said the funding of the Beltway Project is still positive. Mr. Ledoux added that it is not clear as of right now where this project would go in terms of the actual rating in the final plan.

Matt Johns presented the updates on the Beltway Feasibility Study to the Committee. He said it has spent 99% of the \$200,000 from March until present. He summarized the efforts RAPC staff had undertaken on the existing condition analysis including a summary of the Master Plans for Alexandria, Pineville and England Authority, some high-level environmental work, Travel Demand Forecasting, and the collected data on utilities (Cleco) etc. The purpose of this analysis is to identify any conflicting points.

Matt Johns solicited recommendations on criteria for grading the Developable Lands. Mayor Roy suggested that the techniques applied in the ThinkAlex (Alexandria Master Plan) Resiliency Analysis provides a good reference in this regard. Mayor Roy continued that the maps and analysis in the ThinAlex lay down a good framework in terms of grading lands.

Mr. Jon Grafton suggested to start from what has already existed. Additionally, he suggested to gather political views from individual member entities as each municipality is familiar with their jurisdiction and master plans provide useful information on where/ and what type of land development is proposed. Mayor Butler suggested not to overlook zoning when dealing with

Land Use. Mr. Reldon Owens asked if RAPC has come up with any recommended gradable criteria and made a motion:

For the Land Use Evaluation Criteria for all municipalities involved in the Central Louisiana Infrastructure Beltway Commission, the Steering Committee will meet to determine the additional grading criteria needed and provide recommendations to RAPC staff to formulate a plan to submit to the Beltway Commission for approval.

- Motion by Mr. Reldon Owens
- 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mayor David Butler

**Passed Unanimously**

**Agenda Item # 5**

*Other Business- Central Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Road Show*

Matt presented the existing language for the subject document to be presented to the State Road Show - the MPO and the Beltway Commission have opted to use the chamber's summary document to show support for the prioritization of highway projects in our area. Matt presented some updated language for the Beltway Commission's section of the document.

Motion to approve the updated language to be presented to the Road Show by Reldon Owens.  
-2<sup>nd</sup> by Mayor Jack Dewitt.

**Passed Unanimously.**

**Agenda Item # 6**

*Adjournment*

- Motion by Mr. Joe Bishop
- 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mayor Jonathan Dean

**Passed Unanimously**