



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, January 23, 2014**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dan Long, IDOT District #2; Wayne Vlk, Don Krizan, Winnebago County Highway; Patrick Zuroske, City of Rockford Public Works; David Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport; Jim Johnson, RMTD; Kathy Miller, Belvidere/Boone County Regional Planning; Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway; Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works; Mark Painter, Village of Winnebago; Dana Carroll, RRWRD; Dan Kane, Mick Johnston, Boone County Conservation District; Tim Bragg, Rockford Park District; Dennis Anthony, Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District; Mark Lynch, Village of Poplar Grove.

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** Village of Machesney Park, City of Loves Park Community Development, Village of Cherry Valley, City of Rockford Community Development, Winnebago County Planning & Economic Development, Village of Roscoe, Winnebago County Forest Preserve District.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jon Paul Diipla, Steve Ernst, Michael Hren, Colleen Hoesly, Colin Belle, Christina Washington, RMAP Staff; Doug DeLille, IDOT Division of Urban Program Planning; David Almy, Hanson Professional; Mark Rice, McClure Engineering; Bill Hoyt, MDES, Inc.; Brian Umbright, Bowman, Barrett & Associates; Brian Leaf, Rockford Register Star; Matt Cerutti, Citizen.

With a quorum present Mr. Diipla called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

**1. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2013 RMAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:**  
Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve the September 19, 2013 Technical Committee minutes. First motion made to approve David Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport, second motion made by Mark Painter, Village of Winnebago. Motion carried.

**2. AGENCY REPORTS:**

**2.01 Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2:**

Mr. Long reported that IL-173 Alpine to Rock Cut was let in November-2013. Award is awaiting completion of land acquisition.

IL-2 from Auburn to Riverside is anticipating 90% plans completed by May-2014. Target letting is April-2015  
US BUS-20 over the Rock River has been awarded to Civil Constructors and will be a two (2) year project using median cross-overs and head-to-head traffic starting Spring-2014.

IL-2 at Roscoe Road is scheduled for the February-2014 letting and is waiting for land acquisition to clear.  
US BUS-20 Day Avenue to Independence Avenue RSH has been selected to complete the Phase II engineering.

**2.02 Winnebago County Highway Department:**

Mr. Vlk reported that the Winnebago County's sign upgrade project is completed.

Mr. Vlk stated that work has been suspended due to the weather.

Mr. Vlk reported that bids will open next week for Tipple Road Bridge.

IDOT has opened bids for Telegraph Road Bridge.

The Perryville Road over the UP Railroad will go out to bid in April-2014.

The Bell School/State Street design continues and Winnebago County is responding to IDOT's comments on the first project report.

Mr. Vlk stated that design continues on various projects.

**2.03 City of Rockford, Public Works Department:**

Mr. Zuroske reported that the City of Rockford's CIP has not passed yet but is anticipating it to be passed by City Council in the next couple of weeks.

Currently there are a couple of residential roads ready to go out to bid.

**2.04 City of Loves Park, Public Works Department:**

Mr. Jacobson reported that IDOT's EDP Project Contractor was able to complete almost all of the paving regarding the Woodward expansion project.

Utility relocations have occurred.

**2.05 Village of Machesney Park:**

Not present.

**2.06 Chicago/Rockford International Airport:**

Mr. Lindberg reported their terminal expansion starts this summer and will be a two (2) year project.

They are currently in the third phase for the north/south runway project.

Mr. Lindberg stated they are anticipating the Falcon Road project to start in June/July-2014.

There will be a 2014 Airshow and is currently tentatively scheduled for the first weekend in June-2014.

**2.07 Rockford Mass Transit District:**

Mr. Johnson reported that the routes resulting from the Route Study are in place and the public seems to be satisfied with the changes.

They are starting design work on a small bus storage and pedestrian path at the RMTD Eastside Transfer Center.

RMTD is opening bids for an elevator upgrade for the existing building downtown.

Mr. Diipla stated that the new RMTD Route schedule booklets are available.

**2.08 City of Loves Park, Community Development Department:**

Not present.

**2.09 Village of Cherry Valley:**

Not present.

**2.10 City of Rockford, Community Development Department:**

Mr. Zuroske reported that the City of Rockford is working on issues involving Barber Colman building and is currently working with a site manager for the complex.

The City of Rockford Comprehensive Plan is subject for revisions this year since it's been twelve (12) years since it was last updated.

**2.11 Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department:**

Not present.

**2.12 Belvidere/Boone County Planning and Economic Development Department:**

No report.

**2.13 Boone County Highway Department:**

Mr. Lundin reported that IDOT opened bids in November-2013 for the Orth Road Bridge project. There is a pre-construction meeting scheduled for next Tuesday, January 25, 2014. They are anticipating the bridge to be open by June/July-2014.

The Illinois Tollway will be closing the Genoa Road Bridge on February 23, 2014.

**2.14 City of Belvidere, Public Works Department:**

No report.

**2.15 Village of Roscoe:**

Not present.

**2.16 Village of Winnebago:**

No report.

**2.17 Rock River Water Reclamation District:**

Mr. Carroll reported that RRWRD is in the middle of their budget and will be reporting the final budget to the Board.

**2.18 Winnebago County Forest Preserve District:**

Not present.

**2.19 Boone County Conservation District:**

No report.

**2.20 Rockford Park District:**

No report.

**2.21 Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District:**

Mr. Anthony reported that the EPA has new permit requirements for construction.

A group is being developed to look at post development and storm water control.

**2.22 Village of Poplar Grove:**

Mr. Lynch reported that the milling at the Countryside Mall is completed.

The Village has repaved a portion of Poplar Grove Road off of IL-173.

Mr. Lynch stated that the Village continues to receive complaints regarding the speed limit by the Countryside Mall. Currently the speed limit is 55. Mr. Lynch stated they are routinely seeing accidents occurring and there is a great concern with pedestrian crossing. The Village President has written letters regarding the lowering of the speed limit before a fatality occurs. Mr. Long stated he would pass along their concern to the appropriate department at IDOT.

Mr. Lynch provided a brief presentation regarding the Village of Poplar Grove.

Currently the Village President is John Neitzel and there are six (6) Trustees. The Village of Poplar Grove as established on October 20, 1859 and incorporated in 1859. The 2010 Census indicates the Village of Poplar Grove's population at 5023. 67% of the houses in Poplar Grove were built in the 1960's and currently the village is experiencing a lot of foreclosed homes in the area. Poplar Grove has the largest privately owned airport in Illinois. Poplar Grove holds an annual Mid-Summer Wheels Festival. Boone County Conservation has the Long Prairie Trail in Poplar Grove which is 14.2 miles of trail.

**2.23 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency:**

Not present.

**2.24 Illinois Tollway:**

Not present.

**2.25 IDOT, Division of Public Transportation:**

Not present.

**2.26 IDOT, Division of Urban Program Planning:**

Mr. DeLille reported that they are anticipating the Bike Plan to be completed in the next few weeks.

They are still waiting to hear back from FHWA on Performance Measures. The next Performance Measures meeting will be held in late February or early March.

Mr. DeLille indicated that the award of ITEP award is anticipated for a February timeframe and will notify members as soon as possible.

**2.27 Ogle County Highway Department:**

Not present.

**2.28 Boone County Council of Aging:**

Not present.

**2.29 State Line Area Transportation Study:**

Not present.

**2.30 Federal Highway Administration, Illinois Division:**

Not present.

**2.31 Rockford Area Economic Development Council:**

Not present.

**2.32 Growth Dimensions:**

Not present.

**2.33 Stateline Mass Transit District:**

Not present.

**2.34 Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning:**

Mr. Diipla reported that RMAP received a letter from IDOT asking what the Region's direction was with choosing a designated recipient for FTA 5310 funding. RMAP has replied to that letter stating the RMTD is the organization that should be the designated recipient. Following that RMTD approved a letter through their Board and formally submitted the letter to the Governor's Office requesting 5310 designated recipient status. RMTD has not received a response yet from the Governor's Office.

Mr. Diipla stated in regards to the FTA 5307 funds RMAP has received a letter that RMTD is the designated recipient for the 5307 funds from the Governor's Office.

Mr. Diipla reported that RMAP attended a Performance Measures meeting in early December-2013 to discuss topics that might involve pavement conditions as well as safety issues. In talking about Highway Safety, RMAP hosted a meeting with IDOT to talk about Regional Highway Safety Plans that IDOT has been putting together for Boone and Winnebago Counties. IDOT has released the full plan for Winnebago County and data table for Boone County. IDOT would like to have another meeting in the near future to look at some of the data they have presented as well as receive some feedback. The overall goal is to establish a Safety Committee within the region to look at highway issues and accident data. RMAP is currently reviewing the documents and we hope to have some word back from IDOT within the next couple of weeks when they'd like to meet again. Mr. Diipla stated what RMAP envisions happening is a similar meeting that was held last year. The Highway County Department as well as all local jurisdictions would come together to talk about some of the safety issues and the data that IDOT has collected. This will then tie into the Performance Measures but FHWA has yet to release the final guidelines for the Highway Safety performance component.

Once regulations are available IDOT will have more of a direction on how to proceed developing measures on a statewide basis. Then based on the data that we have from the two counties on the strategic plans that are being developed by IDOT, we will then look at targets within the RMAP region to see what we can do to increase high safety.

Mr. Belle reported that he has received some inquiry regarding that status of the RMAP Greenways Plan. Mr. Belle stated that it has been on the back burner due to some of the other projects that RMAP has been working on but we are contemplating in the next couple of months to meet again. Mr. Belle stated that RMAP would like to have the Greenways Plan completed by the time RMAP starts the new LRTP which will probably be by late fall. Mr. Belle stated he anticipates the Greenways Plan to be completed by late-summer and that he has gotten a good start on the update. Mr. Belle stated that he is looking for any land acquisitions or property that organizations do not own anymore and have been relinquished to other people so that we can update that to our GIS files for the map. Mr. Belle stated that Ms. Hoesly has been working on some of the data and the graphics for the back of the map with some narrative. Once that is completed, RMAP would like to schedule a meeting which will provide more information to discuss and review at the meeting.

Mr. Hren reported since it has been a few months since the last Technical Committee meeting; there have been a couple of changes to the TIP regarding Advance Construction. Mr. Hren stated that this does not require a TIP amendment to occur but a number of questions have come up regarding Advance Construction and these projects have been coming out to the communities and the lead agencies for the projects. Mr. Hren provided a brief explanation of what an Advance Construction notice means and what should happen if a member receives a notification directly. Mr. Hren stated that Advance Construction projects are basically a notification that federal monies are not available to be used for a project yet, but are programmed and can then be done on a reimbursement basis such that there are other funding sources available to be used allowing the project to be constructed. When any notices of Advance Construction are received by a lead agency, please forward on to Mr. Hren and he will handle the project necessities regarding the TIP. Mr. Hren stated that projects that have occurred and received Advance Constructions notices are IL-2 intersection at Roscoe Road, the US-20 Bypass Bridge west and east channel of the Rock River east of IL-w have begun Advance Construction and safety improvements from the Wisconsin line to US Route 20 all of these being IDOT projects. The safety improvements have ended the Advance Construction. All of these changes have been made to the TIP itself through an Administrative Modification and RMAP is required to let members know of these Administrative Modifications.

### **3. RMAP METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA AND ADJUSTED URBANIZED AREA BOUNDARIES – RMAP RESOLUTION 2014-1:**

Mr. Diipla stated that the RMAP Metropolitan Planning Area and Adjusted Urbanized Area Boundaries is the culmination of work that been done over the last several months regarding the response to the 2010 Census Defined Urbanized Area. Once that is released the region needs to reassess the Adjusted Urbanized Area which is the red boundary in the map exhibits and that area is anticipated to be urbanized within the next 5-10 years. Our 20-30 year planning boundary, which is the Metropolitan Planning Area, is the thicker green line. Mr. Diipla stated that this topic has been discussed at several previous Technical Committee meetings as well as RMAP holding individual meetings with our partner agencies. This information was posted to the RMAP website last week to give members the opportunity to review. No further comments have been received by RMAP other than what RMAP had originally received several months ago from the Technical Committee as well as partner agencies.

The boundaries all look fine to members in Winnebago County, Boone County as well as Ogle County. Adding Ogle County was one of the major differences to boundary for the 2014 Metropolitan Planning Boundary. Mr. Diipla opened the floor to members for any comments or concerns and stated that RMAP is looking for a recommendation from the Technical Committee at today's meeting to move Resolution 2014-1 forward to the Policy Committee for adoption.

A brief discussion took place among members regarding other the RMAP Metropolitan Planning Area and Adjusted Urbanized Boundaries as well as other municipalities joining the Technical Committee as voting members in the future.

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve the recommendation of Resolution 2014-1. The first motion was made by Mr. Zuroske, City of Rockford; second motion was made by Mr. Jacobson, City of Loves Park. Motion carries.

#### **4. FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM – RMAP RESOLUTION 2014-2:**

Mr. Diipla stated that while working on the boundaries for the region RMAP has also been reassessing the Functional Classification for roadways within the adjusted urbanized area.

Mr. Belle stated that this agenda item has been discussed extensively at other previous Technical Committee meetings. Mr. Belle thanked members for their patience and cooperation as the process took a little longer than anticipated.

Mr. Belle stated that the percentages for road classifications within the Rockford Adjusted Urbanized Area estimated to be interstate, freeway, expressways total about 3.3%. Other principal arterials and major arterials are 16.2%. Major collectors and minor collectors add up to 12.2% and local roads obviously are the largest proportion which of 68.3%. All these values are well within the thresholds and actually are very good. Mr. Belle referred to the maps on the wall for members to view and stated that a link was sent to the pdf full version online. The maps that are currently hung up are simply the new classification systems and there are also maps up that show what the old classifications were and there is a map that highlights any of the additions, deletions or changes to this system. Mr. Belle stated that it is very easy to see what has been done from the old to the new by looking at these maps.

Mr. Belle stated the reason the process took a little longer is because RMAP did a little more extensive work for the City of Rockford area and presented to their City Council the procedures RMAP worked through and the City Council appreciated all the work RMAP had done. Mr. Belle provided members a list with all the additions, deletions and changes to Boone and Winnebago County.

Mr. Diipla referred to RMAP's Requested Change of Functional Classification Form which RMAP is proposing be used for future changes, additions or deletions regarding Functional Classified roads within the region. This is a data form; information on this form would be similar to information asked by other MPO's within the state. Mr. Diipla asked that members review and would like to receive feedback from members regarding the use of this form in the future.

Mr. Diipla opened the floor to members for any comments or concerns and stated that RMAP is looking for a recommendation from the Technical Committee at today's meeting to move Resolution 2014-2 forward to the Policy Committee for adoption.

A brief discussion took place among members regarding the additions, deletions or changes to the Functional Classification System.

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve the recommendation of Resolution 2014-2. The first motion was made by Mr. Zuroske, City of Rockford; second motion was made by Mr. Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport. Motion carries.

**5. TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP):**

Mr. Diipla stated that for the first time RMAP has received a regionally allocated amount of roughly \$625,000 for alternative forms of transportation programs (which were formally called ITEP) and would fall in that same category. The RMAP application has been available since October 1, 2013 and the deadline to submit that application into RMAP is Friday, January 31, 2014 by 4:30pm

Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP is putting together a review committee for that application process.

Mr. Diipla stated that there is a scoring criteria located in the back of the application which will be used to score the actual applications once received.

Mr. Diipla stated that it would be good to align RMAP's selection process with the awards that will be coming from the state's ITEP projects and hopefully that will align. Member are able to apply for the RMAP pool of funds as well as the State's, but you can on receiving funding from one of them. Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP will be coordinating with IDOT on who was awarded projects through the State applications process as well.

A brief discussion took place among members regarding RMAP's TAP process.

**6. FY-2015 UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM (UWP):**

Mr. Diipla stated that it is that time of year where RMAP starts the development of the FY 2015 UWP. For a bulk of the year RMAP staff will be working on updating the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) which is due in July-2015. RMAP is currently developing an internal timeline and once that is available RMAP will bring it forth to the Technical Committee members for the review. RMAP will also be updating other MPO documents. Hopefully with regulations being issued for MAP-21 we will know some of the new requirements in terms of RMAP's Public Participation Plan, Human Services Transportation Plan, etc.. There has been a new circular issued by FTA for Title VI and Environmental Justice. RMAP has been working with RMTD to update their document, which is due to FTA by June 1, 2014. Mr. Diipla stated there are a lot of updates to the current MPO documents but the big one is the update to the LRTP.

Mr. Diipla stated additionally RMAP will be looking to see how to fold a lot of the Sustainability Plan efforts within the MPO and how that will be moving forward.

Mr. Diipla stated that the Travel Demand Model (with the recent purchase of the REMI software) will have three (3) main items occurring; the obvious expansion into Ogle County, the addition of REMI which is the economic modeling software and the transit mode split. Previously it was just the highway element within the transportation model; RMAP is now adding public transportation. It will take about a year to develop the base data for those three (3) elements and expand the model. Hopefully after the initial year of collecting the base data, RMAP can move forward and provide outputs from the REMI software.

Mr. Diipla stated that in developing the work program in past years, interested agencies have applied for SPR funds. If you intend to do that this year, RMAP asks that you prepare the scope and necessary information so that it can be reviewed by RMAP; but the bulk of the writing would have to be done by the interested agencies given the fact that RMAP will be updating the LRTP and a lot of the MPO documents. RMAP also has the

Federal Certification in 2015 and RMAP is making sure we have all of our documents together and our LRTP done before the Federal Certification takes place.

Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP is anticipating in having a draft UWP FY2015 document ready by March with final approval of the document by May.

**7. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:**

**7.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis:**

No report.

**7.02 Amtrak Service to Rockford Metro Area:**

No report.

**7.03 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband:**

Mr. Ernst reported that they are very close to lighting the fiber up and that all of the underground work is completed.

Mr. Jacobson stated that they are working on the final agreements with other members.

**7.04 RMAP Mobility Subcommittee:**

Mr. Diipla stated that the next RMAP Mobility Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 2014 at 10:00am and held at the RMTD East Side Transfer Center. Mr. Diipla informed Technical members that Chairman Steve Haight will continue as Chairman of the RMAP Mobility Subcommittee.

FTA has released a new circular regarding the 5307 funding and RMAP is reviewing and conversing with RMTD and will provide a more thorough update at a future Technical Committee meeting.

**7.05 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS):**

Covered in agenda item #9.

**7.06 ComEd Smart Grid/Smart Meters:**

No report.

**7.07 HUD Sustainability Grant:**

Covered in agenda item #9.

**7.08 Regional School Planning:**

Mr. Ernst stated he was hoping to show some of the work RMAP has been working on with school planning with School District #205. Unfortunately there are technical difficulties and we are not able to provide an update at this time but anticipates to be able to provide an update at the next Technical Committee meeting.

**7.09 Chicago/Rockford International Airport Part 150 Noise Study:**

Mr. Lindberg reported that this agenda item has been completed and can be removed from Progress Reports.

Ms. Hoesly stated that a notice was published in the Federal Register yesterday by FAA that the noise exposure map was in compliance. If you have not seen those maps they are available of [flyrfd.com](http://flyrfd.com).

**8. COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**9. OTHER BUSINESS**

**WATER SUPPLY PLANNING**

Mr. Ernst referred to the Water Supply Planning Area map and stated that RMAP was approached in the fall of 2013. The IDNR Office of Water Resources has divided the state up into water supply planning areas. The areas in blue have long range water supply plans in place already. Northeast Illinois was mandated by the Governor's Office due to issues with Lake Michigan.



There are two other basins which funding was offered by the IDNR to complete plans. The IDNR approached RMAP about leading the process for this entire boundary which includes portion of the Quad Cities that is in the Rock River Basin and a majority of rural area that is in the multi-county outline. RMAP did some investigating and had some conversations with our counterparts at Bi-State Regional Commissions in the Quad Cities and some conversations with RMAP Policy Committee Chairman Bob Walberg but we have not had the opportunity to discuss with the other Policy Committee members. In general the RMAP staff reaction is probably more than we can handle as a staff even if funding was given by the IDNR. Mr. Ernst indicated that in order to do a really good job a consultant will probably need to be hired to do the entire planning work and then RMAP would be responsible for the outreach. Mr. Ernst indicated that during the conversations with the IDNR they suggested that RMAP brings together the agriculture community and all of the water producing organizations and companies in the region. Mr. Ernst stated that he feels that is a little more than RMAP can handle at this point. A brief discussion took place among members regarding the IDNR's proposal for Water Supply Planning in this region. Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP is not recommending at this time in moving forward but will stay in touch with the IDNR and will also seek the Policy Committee members input as well as Technical members.

#### RMAP 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year and is looking to schedule a small reception to celebrate RMAP's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary after the Technical Committee meeting on Thursday, May 22, 2014. More information will follow in the coming months.

#### 2014 TRI-STATE ALLIANCE SUMMIT

Mr. Ernst stated that the 2014 Tri-State Alliance Summit is scheduled for Friday, May 16, 2014 and will be held at the Chicago/Rockford International Airport. Registration and Agenda will be forwarded as event dates gets closer.

#### GO GLOBAL

Mr. Ernst stated that the RAEDC will hold its Go Global 2014 on Wednesday, May 7, 2014 and will be held at Giovanni's Restaurant & Convention Center. Registration and agenda is available on the RAEDC website [www.rockfordil.com](http://www.rockfordil.com).

#### RMTD / POLICY COMMITTEE

Mr. Ernst stated that he wanted to alert the Technical members that through various forms of communications with our federal partners we have finally received a final determination that RMTD is eligible and should be afforded membership on the Policy Committee as a representative of Public Transit. Mr. Ernst stated that

RMAP will be alerting the Policy Committee and looks forward to having conversation on how to make that happen. This might trigger some issues on voting.

#### ROADWAY LAYER INTO GIS

Ms. Hoesly stated that through IDOT, RMAP was able to get some roadway layers and was able to do some work on developing maps depicting roadway jurisdictions. Ms. Hoesly stated that there are all sorts of interesting categories in data and will be working more to bring some of those projects forward in the future.

#### REGIONAL PLAN FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP is in the final stages of completing the Sustainability Grant, the three year period of performance ends on the last day of January 2014 and then we will have ninety (90) days to go through grant closeout. The last product that RMAP will be producing is the Regional Plan for Sustainable Development. This is the culmination of all the work that has been done over the last three (3) years. RMAP's goal is to have a draft available by mid-February and then go through a thirty (30) day comment period and be on the agenda in March for Technical recommendation and Policy approval of the plan. Mr. Ernst stated that the reason he held off on talking about the CEDS process is that based on the last travels to DC to meet with HUD and in talking with other peer grantees they have wrapped their CEDS plan as component of their regional plan and some also wrapped their Long Range Transportation Plan into this document. Mr. Ernst stated that it is kind of a silo busting mentality of all these different federal plans and now there is just one plan you approve and it covers all of these disciplines. That is the direction that RMAP would like to start moving towards. Mr. Ernst provided a brief glimpse into the draft Regional Plan for Sustainable Development and members held a brief Q&A.

#### WINNEBAGO COUNTY MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN & 319 WATER QUALITY

Mr. Vlk stated that a kickoff meeting was recently held at the Highway Department earlier this week and they have been working towards updating the County's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan which has been delayed because FEMA and other disasters going on. Mr. Vlk stated that Mr. Don Krizan is heading up the process and the County is working on submitting grant application for implementation for 319 Water Quality projects on two basins they have been working on.

Mr. Krizan referred to the important of hazard mitigation planning and the funds for mitigation projects are only available to communities that produce plans that FEMA approves. Mr. Krizan provided a brief summary on the Winnebago's County Multi-Hazard Mitigation plan and their plan to move forward with this update. A brief discussion took place among members regarding Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan and 319 Water Quality.

#### STRONG CITIES STRONG COMMUNITIES GRANT

Mr. Zuroske stated that the City of Rockford has received the Strong Cities Strong Communities grant and asked Mr. Ernst to provide a brief update at next month's Technical Committee meeting since Mr. Ernst has been part of the initiative. Mr. Zuroske stated Strong Cities Strong Communities is not necessarily limited to the City of Rockford and people have input they would welcome the input. There are a lot of agencies involved. This is supposedly a process that will help streamline the red tape we have to go through when dealing with federal agencies.

#### POPLAR GROVE CITY HALL / MEETING SPACE

Mr. Lynch offered the Village of Poplar Grove's meeting space for future Technical Committee meetings.

The Technical Committee has out grown the current conference room and suggestions have been made of other meeting spaces that could be used for future meetings to accommodate the number of persons attending the Technical Committee meetings. Meeting spaces that have been suggested are:

- Regional Design Center / 315 North Main Street, Rockford
- Chicago/Rockford International Airport / Rockford
- RMTD Eastside Transfer Center / Rockford
- Village of Poplar Grove / Poplar Grove

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Mr. Lundin, Boone County Highway and seconded by Mr. Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport. Meeting adjourned at 11:57 a.m. with a unanimous voice vote.