

**Transportation Resource Oversight Committee Meeting  
(Lake and Porter County)  
Tuesday, April 29, 2025  
Minutes**

Charles Bradsky called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was streamed live on YouTube. In attendance were Mark O'Dell (Chesterton), David Wright (GPTC), Dean Button (Hammond), Duane Alverson (Lake County), Jeff Huet (Schererville), Sandy McDaniel (Portage), Martin Bobcek (Porter County), George Topoll (Union Township), Bob Thompson (Valparaiso), Max Rehlander (Valparaiso), Ryan Lisek (DCI), Tim Hollandsworth, Jake Dammarell, Eric Wolverton, Alex Olesker, Trisha Nugent, Christopher Murphy, and Beth Shrader.

NIRPC staff included Charles Bradsky, Tom Vander Woude, Stephen Hughes, Scott Weber, and Candice Eklund.

**Approval of Minutes**

The November 19, 2024, TROC meeting minutes were approved on motion by Max Rehlander and seconded by Jeff Huet.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Program of Projects**

Charles Bradsky reported that some TIP projects had to be moved to a future year to balance the budget.

The committee had no questions. It was also reported that the local quarterly meetings are currently taking place.

**New Business**

- Amendments for Additional Services: Charles said there are two reasons to request an emergency amendment: one, for public safety, and two, funds lapsing; INDOT doesn't consider funds lapsing an emergency. The deadline to submit an emergency is now March 1<sup>st</sup> (previously April 15). The State Board of Accounts (SBOA) has made some changes because the federal spending has not been transparent to the public. This means they no longer accept Federal Emergency Management Information System (FEMIS) requests for additional funding for Construction Engineering (CE) and Preliminary Engineering (PE) without reflecting the same amount in the TIP or an approved amended contract. If a Local Public Agency (LPA) requests additional funding for an amended contract, it has to go through the following agencies for review and approval: INDOT Office, INDOT Contracts, INDOT Findings, Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA), Attorney General, and the SBOA.

The SBOA wants the TIP to be more accurate, especially for PE and right-of-way phases. The new requirement by Governor Braun has given the SBOA an additional 15 days for their

approval, allowing 45 days total to approve an emergency amendment. Since emergency amendments need to be submitted by March 1<sup>st</sup>, lettings will need to be let in the first two quarters of a fiscal year because it would be challenging to program funds after that date. NIRPC, the LPA, and the consultant will need to work closely to ensure the additional funds are in RTIP and match the amended contract. The FY 2026-2030 TIP will go before the NIRPC Commission on May 15, 2025, for a vote.

- Charles discussed how INDOT occasionally provides additional funds at the end of the fiscal year, and they have to be used by September 30. If INDOT provides additional funds, they must be used towards an approved contract. The funds cannot be used towards construction, but they can be used for PE and CE.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:36 a.m. The next meeting will be held on August 26, 2025.

*The livestream video recording for this meeting is available on NIRPC's YouTube Channel at [TROC Lake & Porter 4.29.25 \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4.29.25)*