

**IOWA NORTHLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
MEETING NOTICE**

**INRCOG BOARD ROOM
229 EAST PARK AVENUE
WATERLOO, IA**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2024, 1:00 PM

AGENDA

Actionable Items

1. Approval of the agenda.
2. Review and consider approval of the minutes for the September 19, 2024 meeting (pages 3-4).
3. Review and consider approval of a Letter of Support for the Grundy County Conservation Board's application to the Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) Program for the Pioneer Trail Reinbeck Gap project (page 5).

Discussion Items

1. Review the [draft 2024 Public Participation Plan](#).
2. Tutorial of the Iowa Crash Analysis Tool and PathWeb interactive tools.
<https://icat.iowadot.gov/>
<https://rams.iowadot.gov/pathweb/>
3. Project updates (TA SA/TAP and STBG).
4. General discussion.
 - a. Iowa DOT Appia®
5. Adjournment.

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Everyone can come to this meeting. If you need special help to join, call INRCOG at (319) 235-0311 at least two days before the meeting.

Policy Board Members (Term Ending 12/31/2024)

Representing	Name	Title
Black Hawk County	Dan Trelka	Supervisor
Bremer County	Duane Hildebrandt	Supervisor (Vice Chair)
Buchanan County	Clayton Ohrt	Supervisor
Butler County	Greg Barnett	Supervisor (Chair)
Chickasaw County	Matthew Kuhn	Supervisor
Grundy County	Mark Schildroth	Supervisor
City of Waverly	James Bronner	City Administrator
City of Independence	Brad Bleichner	Mayor
City of Denver (Small City At Large)	Joel Wikner	Councilmember
City of Readlyn (Small City At Large)	Dan Wedemeier	Mayor
City of Plainfield (Small City At Large)	Tom Geise	Mayor
City of New Hampton (Small City At Large)	Steve Geerts	Mayor

Transportation Technical Committee Members (Term Ending 12/31/2024)

Representing	Name	Title
Black Hawk County	Cathy Nicholas	County Engineer
Bremer County	Landon Moore	County Engineer
Buchanan County	Brian Keierleber	County Engineer
Butler County	John Riherd	County Engineer
Chickasaw County	Roman Lensing	County Engineer
Grundy County	Gary Mauer	County Engineer
City of Waverly	James Bronner	City Administrator
City of Independence	Matthew Schmitz	City Manager
City of Denver (Small City At Large)	Joel Wikner	Councilmember
City of Readlyn (Small City At Large)	Dan Wedemeier	Mayor
City of Plainfield (Small City At Large)	Tom Geise	Mayor
City of Dunkerton (Small City At Large)	Michael Schares	Mayor

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Members (Term Ending 12/31/2024)

Representing	Name	Title
Black Hawk County Conservation	Mike Hendrickson	Executive Director
Bremer County Conservation	Andrew Hockenson	Director
Buchanan County Conservation	Dan Cohen	Executive Director
Butler County Conservation	Matt Morris	Executive Director
Chickasaw County Conservation	Chad Humpal	Director
Grundy County Conservation	Nick Buseman	Executive Director
City of Waverly	James Broner	City Administrator
City of Independence	Matthew Schmitz	City Manager
City of Denver (Small City At Large)	Joel Wikner	Councilmember
City of Readlyn (Small City At Large)	Dan Wedemeier	Mayor
City of Plainfield (Small City At Large)	Tom Geise	Mayor
City of Dunkerton (Small City At Large)	Michael Schares	Mayor

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IOWA NORTHLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

MINUTES

Chair Barnett called the meeting of the Iowa Northland Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) to order at 1:00 PM.

Meeting Attendees:

Name	Title	Representing	Role
Duane Hildebrandt	Supervisor	Bremer County	Policy Board Member (Vice-Chair)
Clayton Ohrt	Supervisor	Buchanan County	Policy Board Member
Greg Barnett	Supervisor	Butler County	Policy Board Member (Chair)
Joel Wikner	Councilmember	City of Denver	Policy Board Member
Steve Geerts	Mayor	City of New Hampton	Policy Board Member
Cathy Nicholas	County Engineer	Black Hawk County	TTC Member
Landon Moore	County Engineer	Bremer County	TTC Member
Alex Davis	Assistant Engineer	Buchanan County	Attendee
Marty Camarata	Maintenance Superintendent	Grundy County	Attendee
Jeff Skalberg	County Engineer	Grundy County	Attendee
Krista Billhorn	District Transportation Planner	Iowa DOT	Attendee (Online)
Aldina Dautović	Transportation Planner	INRCOG	RTA Staff (Secretary)
Kyle Durant	Transportation Planner	INRCOG	RTA Staff

The first item on the agenda was approval of the agenda. It was moved by Hildebrandt, seconded by Geerts to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Next was to review and consider approval of the minutes for the July 18, 2024 meeting. It was moved by Ohrt, seconded by Wikner to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Next was Discussion Items:

1. Draft 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
 - a. Review [Chapter 2](#), [Chapter 6](#), and [Chapter 7](#)

Durant went through draft chapters with the committee. The full plan is due for adoption by December 2025. Chapters are being worked on individually and can be viewed on the RTA page of the [Black Hawk County MPO website](#). When ready, the entire draft document will be available for the committee and public to review and comment on.

2. Project Updates (TASA/TAP and STBG)

Buchanan County

David said the Quasqueton Diagonal Blvd project is undergoing comments for a January letting. The right of way and roadway clearance have been purchased. Bids came in much higher than anticipated for the county's bridge restoration project at Taylor's Ford Bridge. The project has TASA funds through the RTA. The county is revisiting options on how best to proceed.

Bremer County

Moore said the deck for the C50 bridge was poured yesterday. The county is closing their third remaining HPB bridge.

There was no general discussion.

There being no further business, it was moved by Ohrt, seconded by Wikner to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Aldina Dautović
Secretary



INRCOG

Iowa Northland Regional
Council of Governments

November 21, 2024

Enhance Iowa Board
Iowa Economic Development Authority
1963 Bell Ave, Suite 200
Des Moines, IA 50315

Dear Enhance Iowa Board:

I am writing on behalf of the Iowa Northland Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) to express our enthusiastic support for the Pioneer Trail project spearheaded by the Grundy County Conservation Board. This vital initiative seeks to complete the 1.3-mile gap between the City of Reinbeck and the adjacent 6-mile section of the trail.

The RTA has reviewed the project for consistency with its 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Bikeway Plan subcomponent. Based on this review, we confirm that the proposed project aligns with and supports the goals and objectives of the LRTP and Bikeway Plan. The project has strong local and regional support, and your assistance will help advance this identified regional priority.

The construction of this segment of the Pioneer Trail is critical for enhancing safety and accessibility for trail users who currently face significant risks with truck and auto traffic on Iowa 175. This project will provide a safer route, encouraging outdoor activities without highway hazards. Full completion of the Pioneer Trail will link four rural communities, three city parks, and six county wildlife areas in Grundy County, enriching recreational opportunities and boosting local businesses and tourism. This application will bring the County within reach of completing the Pioneer Trail, leaving just one gap remaining.

For over four decades, the Grundy County Conservation Board has worked tirelessly to realize the vision of a fully connected Pioneer Trail. Their commitment, combined with the support of local communities and stakeholders, has been pivotal in reaching this stage of development.

The Pioneer Trail is a great project for promoting economic development, public health, and outdoor activity in Grundy County. We urge your strong consideration to award funding to the Grundy County Conservation Board.

Sincerely,

Supervisor Greg Barnett
Chair, Iowa Northland Regional Transportation Authority

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