IOWA NORTHLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
POLICY BOARD

THURSDAY, October 15, 2026

MINUTES

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

Meeting Attendees:

Name	Title	Representing	Role
Steve Geerts	Mayor	City of New Hampton	Policy Board Member
Joel Wikner	Council member	City of Denver	Policy Board Member
Michael Schares	Mayor	City of Dunkerton	Policy Board Member
Keith Wieland	Supervisor	Buchanan County	Policy Board Member
Mark A. Schildroth	Supervisor	Grundy County	Policy Board Member
Duane Hildebrandt	Supervisor	Bremer County	Policy Board Member (Vice Chair)
Ritch Kurtenbach	Supervisor	Black Hawk County	Policy Board Member
Greg Barnett	Supervisor	Butler County	Policy Board Member (Chair)
Cathy Nicholas	County Engineer	Black Hawk County	TTC Member
Landon Moore	County Engineer	Bremer County	TTC Member
Roman Lensing	TTC Member	Chickasaw County	TTC Member
Matthew Schmitz *	City Manager	City of Independence	TTC Member (Online)
John Riherd*	County Engineer	Butler County	TTC Member (Online)
Krista Billhorn*	District Planning Supervisor	IDOT	Attendee
Oghogho Oriakhi	Transportation Planner I	INRCOG	RTA Staff
Sanzida Rahman Setu	Transportation Planner II	INRCOG	RTA Staff

*Online Attendees **

The meeting started with the approval of the agenda. Motion was made by Kurtenbach, seconded by Geerts to approve the agenda. Motion carries unanimously.

Next was to review and consider approval of the minutes for the September 17, 2026, meeting. Motion was moved by Hildebrandt, seconded by Schildroth to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

Up next Barnett commenced the discussion items.

Discussion Items

1. **Project updates (TASA/TAP and STBG).**
    - Black Hawk County's highway bridge project letting has been scheduled for February 2027. The BHC Board of Supervisor has approved 55 MPH speed limit on secondary roads in Black Hawk County. They are also preparing to submit for a federal grant for wildlife crossing.
    - Bremer County has two CHBP funded bridge projects scheduled for November 2026 letting. Additionally, the STBG funded V21 project is scheduled for January 2027 letting.
    - Buchanan County's STP funded W45 repaving project has been completed.
    - City of Denver's asphalt reconstruction project on the State street resurfacing project has been completed, and they had bid letting for Brandt Park Bike Lane construction project, construction work will begin soon.
    - City of New Hampton's South Linn Avenue construction project is underway.

- Butler County's federal funded bridge project concrete resurfacing work on 121 St has been completed.
- City of Independence Enterprise Drive Trail Phase II project is currently under design. The BUILD grant application for 1st St West was unsuccessful, and the City is awaiting a debrief with the Federal Department of Transportation before determining whether to re-apply.

2. **FHWA Highway Cost Allocation Study (HCAS) and Transportation Pooled Fund (TPF)**
   Setu and Oriakhi noted that FHWA is launching a new study to modernize highway cost allocation methodologies to reflect changes in vehicle types, travel patterns, and transportation technologies, including electric vehicles and heavy trucks. States, MPOs, and local agencies are encouraged to share data, review findings, and participate in the study. The study is expected to support more equitable highway cost allocation and inform future transportation planning and infrastructure investment decisions.

General Discussion
No other matters were discussed.

Barnett asked for any additional business or concerns. Hearing none, he called for a motion to adjourn. Hildebrandt moved the motion, seconded by Schildroth. The meeting adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

Sincerely,
Sanzida Rahman Setu
RTA Staff