

**Transportation & Infrastructure Policy Committee***InterContinental Hotel – St. Paul, Minnesota***February 27, 2020****DRAFT MINUTES****MEMBERS PRESENT:**

John Allen, Dodge County  
Brad Anderson, Goodhue County  
Jake Bauerly, Benton County  
Barb Becker, Todd County  
Robert Burns, Houston County  
DeRon Brehmer, Lac qui Parle County  
Raeanne Danielowski, Sherburne County  
Ben DeNucci, Itasca County  
Robert Deschampe, Cook County  
Thomas Egan, Dakota County  
Doug Erickson, Renville County  
Jake Gillen, Rice County  
Marion Greene, Hennepin County  
Roger Imdieke, Kandiyohi County  
Don Jensen, Pennington County  
Wayne Johnson, Otter Tail County  
Tim Kalina, Douglas County

Stan Karwoski, Washington County  
Bob Kopitzke, Stevens County  
Brad Krause, Waseca County  
Rafael Ortega, Ramsey County  
Bill Pratt, Aitkin County  
Mike Robinson, Chisago County  
Dean Simonson, Brown County  
Doyle Sperr, Grant County  
Bill Stearns, Wadena County  
Vance Stuehrenberg, Blue Earth County  
Mark Thell, Carlton County  
Bob Van Hee, Redwood County  
Gordy Wagner, Pope County  
Dennis Welgraven, Murray County  
Matthew Widboom, Nobles County  
Mike Wilson, Morrison County

**GUESTS:**

Jeff Marlowe, Renville County  
Ryan Odden, Wadena County  
Andy Sander, Swift County  
Ted Schoenecker, Ramsey County  
Jodi Teich, Stearns County  
Rick West, Otter Tail County

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Stuehrenberg called the Transportation & Infrastructure Policy Committee meeting to order at 9:35 AM. The committee took introductions and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Kandiyohi County Commissioner Roger Imdieke made the motion to approve the December 9, 2019 minutes, second by Aitkin County Commissioner Bill Pratt. Motion approved.

**II. Pathways to Decarbonizing Transportation Report**

The committee heard a presentation from Tim Sexton, MnDOT's Chief Sustainability Officer,

regarding the department's Pathways to Decarbonizing Transportation Report. Tim informed the committee that as of 2016, transportation is the number one source of greenhouse gas emissions in the state. MnDOT's Pathways report focused on what the agency should be looking at to decrease this statistic in order to meet the statutory goal of 80% reduction by 2050, including: improving fuel economy, reduce miles traveled, increase electric vehicle use, reduce carbon intensity of biofuels, and increase lower-carbon electricity standards. Tim took questions from committee members and there was a lively discussion on electric vehicle use in rural Minnesota as well as the potential impact to the gas tax with increased electric vehicle use.

**III. BWSR Update on the Local Government Roads Wetland Replacement Program**

BWSR Executive Director John Jaschke stopped by the committee to provide an update on the Local Government Roads Wetland Replacement Program and current efforts at the Legislature to secure funding this year. John gave a detailed update on the credit levels for each of the ten bank service areas and what the need is for both cash funding and general obligation bonds this year. There was a good discussion among members as to how we could find a new way to fund this program going forward.

**IV. County Day at the Capitol Recap**

Committee members shared thoughts on their visits with legislators the previous day, including discussions relating to bonding and transportation funding this session.

**V. Update from the DEED Office of Broadband Development**

Angie Dickison, with the DEED Office of Broadband Development presented to the committee on current updates from the Office as well as the latest grant round for the Border-to-Border grant program. The Office has been working on mapping and it shows that the state is making progress towards its 2022 goals. Discussion and questions from members relating to mapping accuracies in certain parts of the state, particularly at the township level, and discussion regarding the differences in broadband technology options.

**VI. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn by Otter Tail County Commissioner Wayne Johnson, second by Carlton County Commissioner Mark Thell. The Transportation & Infrastructure Committee adjourned at 11:25 AM.