



RICHLAND COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING

RICHLAND COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION AND TRANSPORTATION COORDINATION COMMITTEE MINUTES OF May 27, 2026

REGIONAL PLANNING		COORDINATING COMMITTEE	
Julianna Akuchie	PRESENT	John Adams	PRESENT
Louis Andres	PRESENT	Aurelio Diaz	PRESENT
Bob Bianchi	PRESENT	Dan Fletcher	
Josh Bradley	PRESENT	Lawrence Hall (Non voting)	
Teri Brenkus		Randy Lane (Non voting)	
Julie Chaya		Cheryl Meier	
Donnie Clark	PRESENT	Scott Ockunzzi	PRESENT
Tom Craft		Jason Sutherland	
Caussandra Fryman		Nate Vogt (Non voting)	
Paul Gleisinger	PRESENT	PLANNING ADVISORY COUNCIL	
Adam Gove	PRESENT	Tim Bowersock (Non voting)	
Jessica Gribben	PRESENT	Joe Gies	PRESENT
John Joholnycky	PRESENT	Ellen Haring (Non voting)	
Bob Jarvis	PRESENT	Chriss Harris (Non voting)	
Steve McLaughlin		Brian McCartney (Non voting)	
Cliff Mears		Charles Pscholka (Non voting)	
Michael Morton	PRESENT	Marion Zaugg (Non voting)	
Deborah Mount	PRESENT		
Jason Opal	PRESENT		
Jodie Perry		Guests	
Ed Pickens	PRESENT	Kimberly Stover	PRESENT
Sarah Potes	PRESENT	Dave Seaman	PRESENT
Sam Sauder			
Steve Schag	PRESENT		
Matthew Stanfield	PRESENT		
Lee Tasseff	PRESENT		
Trae Turner			

Staff Member: Betsy Chapman, Jean Taddie, Jotika Shetty, Carol Coover, Jason Werner, Pong Wu, John Sutliff

1. Roll Call: Meeting called to order at 11:46 am by Adam Gove. Roll Call was confirmed and introductions were made.
2. Approval of Minutes of the February 25, 2026 Full Commission Meeting – A (See document 2.1 from packet)

Lee Tasseff made a motion to approve the Minutes from the February 25, 2026 Full Commission Meeting. Deborah Mount seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE

(Business of the Metropolitan Planning Organization MPO)

1. Public Transportation Report – presented by Jean Taddie
 - 1) Update on MATI Grant
 - A. Stakeholder meeting was held at NECIC on March 16th, next one scheduled for June 16th
 - B. RCT Flex launched in early May running from 4:30-7:30am and 6:15-11pm
 - 2) Richland County Transit will be offering free shuttle services for Summer Final Fridays again this year, servicing residents of Lexington, Madison, Ontario, and Mansfield.
2. Technical Advisory Committee Report – presented by Pong WU (document 3.1 from packet)
 - 1) Resolutions:
 - A. Resolution 26-12: Amending the FY2026-FY2029 TIP - Roadway (document 3.1.1 from packet)
 - a. Amending the 2026-2029 TIP - Mickey Road Project RW
 - b. Passed by Executive Committee in March
 - B. Resolution 26-13: Approving the Certificate of Appreciation to Jeff Kennedy for his Years of Service on Mansfield MPO Technical Advisory Committee (document 3.1.2 from packet)

Donnie Clark made a motion to approve Resolution 26-13 as presented. Ed Pickens seconded. Motion carried.

- C. Resolution 26-14: Certifying the Urban Planning Process (document 3.1.3 from packet) – Routine Resolution
- D. Resolution 26-15: Reaffirmation of the Direction on Adopted MPO 2025-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (document 3.1.4 from packet) – Routine Resolution
- E. Resolution 26-16: Approving the Overall Work Program for FY2027 (document 3.1.5 from packet)
 - a. Includes \$980,000 in STBG and CPG funds
- F. Resolution 26-17: Authorizing the Filing of Applications with ODOT (document 3.1.6 from packet) – Routine Resolution
- G. Resolution 26-18: Amending the FY2026-FY2029 TIP – Roadway (document 3.1.7 from packet)

- a. US 30 major rehabilitation from 5th Avenue to Ashland County line
 - b. Old concrete needs replaced/rehabilitated
 - c. ODOT was awarded funding for this project in FY2028 to hire consultant for the design.
- H. Resolution 26-19: Amending the FY2026-FY2029 TIP – Transit (document 3.1.8 from packet)

Bob Jarvis made a motion to approve Resolutions 26-12 and 26-14 through 26-19 as presented. Michael Morton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- 2) Information Updates: May is National Bicycle and Safety month and RCRPC will be represented at the Mansfield Police Department “Bike-A-Palooza” event. MPO will start work to create a new 4-year TIP program, and the schedule has been shared for review and comment.

3. Other Transportation Updates from the Floor - None

4. REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

- 1. Executive Director’s Report present by Jotika Shetty (document 4.1 from packet)

- 1) ZSL Report (document 4.2 from packet)

- A. Provided recommendation of approval to the Township Zoning Commission that parcel on Poth Road in Madison Township be re-zoned from R-3 Residential to I-2 Industrial.
- B.

Lee Tasseff made a motion to approve the ZSL Report as presented. Bob Jarvis seconded. Motion carried.

- 2) RCRPC staff is focusing on finishing up FY26 projects while preparing for FY27 to begin.

- 3) Comprehensive Plan Update

- A. Advisory group meets every other week
- B. Received initial existing conditions findings report from American Structurepoint this week
- C. Steering Committee to meet on June 10th
- D. Public Survey went live – asked Commission members to share with their mailing lists and followers on Social Media

- 4) OPWC information will be sent out in July - \$10 Million reserved for Township projects under Small Government.

- 2. President’s Report presented by Adam Gove

- 1) Roundabout work on Lexington Springmill and Home Roads will begin soon – Bike trail in that area will have to be closed for 90 days as a result.

- 2) Nomination Committee – Appointment of Jessica Gribben the newly appointed President and CEO of the Richland Area Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development to the Regional Planning Commission.

Steve Schag made a motion to approve the appointment of Jessica Gribben to the Full Commission, Lee Tasseff seconded. The motion carried.

- 3) Establishment of the By-laws Special Committee
 - A. Special Committee would focus on taking the separate bylaws for Regional Planning and the Coordinating Committee into one document.
 - B. Special Committee members nominated include Adam Gove, Joe Gies, Bob Bianchi, and Julianna Ackuchie

Deborah Mount made a motion to establish the By-Laws Special Committee with the members nominated. Aurelio Diaz seconded. The motion carried.

5. Program Speaker – “State of Agriculture in Richland County: Challenges and Opportunities” presented by Donnie Clark
 1. More than half of Richland County's land is Ag ground bringing in \$215 million total market value
 2. North Richland County – Flat, deeper topsoil with large producers working on 10K acres
 3. Southern Richland County – More Appalachian topography (rock, clay, sand) with large producers working on less than 1,000 acres
 4. Challenges:
 - 1) Land Value Disparity
 - 2) Working to Break Even
 - 3) Perceptions & Trust
 - 4) Succession Planning
 5. Opportunities:
 - 1) Fantastic entrepreneurial springboard
 - 2) True “side hustle” potential
 - 3) Ag tech industry receiving renewed interest
 - 4) Recent grad will soon have opportunity to by big time land
6. Community and Member Updates – None shared
7. Others from the Floor and Comments – No reports
8. Adjournment

Lee Tasseff made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:07pm. Jessica Gribben seconded the motion. The motion carried.

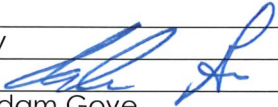
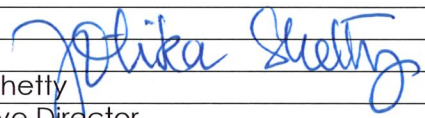
Date of Next Meetings:

Executive Committee:

June 10, 2026

Full Commission:

August 26, 2026

By		Attest	
Adam Gove		Jotika Shetty	
President		Executive Director	