IOWA NORTHLAND REGIONAL TRANSIT COMMISSION (RTC)
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
229 EAST PARK AVENUE
WATERLOO, IOWA 50703

Meeting Minutes from
Thursday, March 19, 2026
10:30 a.m.

A regular meeting of the Iowa Northland Regional Transit Commission (RTC) Advisory Committee was scheduled for Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. in the INRCOG offices, located at 229 East Park Avenue in Waterloo. A virtual Teams Meeting link was also made available to those who could not attend in-person.

Hildebrandt announced that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Members present: Duane Hildebrandt-Chair, Bremer County; Mark Schildroth-Vice-Chair, Grundy County; Keith Wieland, Buchanan County; Steve Geerts, City of New Hampton; Greg Barnett- Secretary/Treasurer, Butler County. Members attending virtually were Scott Cerwinske, Chickasaw County; Brad Bleichner, City of Independence; and James Bronner, City of Waverly.

Also present were Linda Sires and Nick Fratzke from INRCOG.

Approval of Thursday, March 19, 2026, agenda was moved by Gertz, seconded by Schildroth. The motion carried unanimously.

No public comments were made.

2026 Election of Officers: Motion to carry forward with officers from 2025 was made by Geerts, seconded by Wieland. The motion carried unanimously. **Duane Hildebrandt-Chair, Bremer County; Mark Schildroth-Vice-Chair, Grundy County; Greg Barnett- Secretary/Treasurer, Butler County.**

Approval of September 18, 2025, meeting minutes moved by Schildroth, seconded by Barnett. The motion carried unanimously.

Fratzke presented the INRTC Consolidated Transit Funding Application for FY 2027. He noted that funding from both state and federal agencies is down considerably from the previous fiscal year. Sires questioned whether the agency should request capital funding for replacement of four vehicles, which had been customary in the past. Fratzke noted that this would be carried forward in the application for future years.
Approval was by Barnett, seconded by Geerts. The motion carried unanimously.

Fratzke reviewed the February 2026 Financial Report. He noted that revenues and expenses are tracking per the budget. Approval was moved by Barnett, seconded by Wieland. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Fratzke gave an update on the acquisition of new vehicles. 4 vehicles ordered during Fiscal Year 2025 have been delivered. Two vehicles had been ordered from Hogland Bus Sales for which RTC used local capital funds; 2 vehicles had been ordered to replace existing fleet #1001 and #1201 using Iowa DOT contract funds. Acquisition of these new vehicles will help lower current maintenance costs on the current aging fleet.

Sires noted that Beyer Motorsports is being utilized for vehicle servicing and some lift work. They have been doing a good job and staff are happy with their work.

Fratzke gave an update on the Trip Master scheduling software noting that things are running smoothly and that now multiple staff can manipulate schedules as necessary in real time. Hildebrandt requested that a demo be provided at a future meeting.

New Business:

Sires gave a Personnel update announcing that we are nearing capacity and that staff will begin tracking the necessity of hiring any new drivers.

Fratzke discussed that there are several vacancies on the INR Transit Advisory Committee. He requested that current members provide potential appointees from their respective jurisdictions. Current vacancies exist in Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, and Grundy County. There is also a vacancy in the INRCOG Chair Appointments.

Operations Report:

Sires noted there was nothing more to report beyond what was already discussed.

Operating Statement(s):

Fratzke spoke on the Operating Statement provided to the Committee. A total of 2,650 to 3,500 rides are being provided each month.

There being no further business, motion by Barnett, seconded by Schildroth, to adjourn the meeting at 11:23 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Fratzke, INRCOG

Nick Fratzke

Acting Secretary