IOWA NORTHLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
POLICY BOARD

THURSDAY, May 21, 2026

MINUTES

Hildebrandt (Vice 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
Ritch Kurtenbach	Supervisor	Black Hawk County	Policy Board Member
Duane Hildebrandt	Supervisor	Bremer County	Policy Board Member (Vice Chair)
Joel Wikner	Councilmember	City of Denver	Policy Board Member
Keith Wieland	Supervisor	Buchanan County	Policy Board Member
Mark A. Schildroth	Supervisor	Grundy County	Policy Board Member
Scott Cerwinske*	Supervisor	Chickasaw County	Policy Board Member (Online)
Alex Davis	County Engineer	Buchanan County	TTC Member
John Riherd	County Engineer	Butler County	TTC Member
Cathy Nicholas	County Engineer	Black Hawk County	TTC Member
Michael Schares	Mayor	City of Dunkerton	TTC Member
Roman Lensing*	County Engineer	Chickasaw County	TTC Member
Matthew Schmitz *	City Manager	City of Independence	TTC Member (Online)
Krista Billhorn*	District Planner Supervisor	IADOT	Attendee (Online)
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 Wikner, seconded by Schildroth to approve the agenda. Motion carries unanimously.

Next was to review and consider approval of the minutes for the April 16, 2026, meeting. Motion was moved by Kurtenbach, seconded by Wieland to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

Up next, Hildebrandt called for a motion to open the public hearing for the FY 2026 RTA Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP). Motion was moved by Kurtenbach, seconded by Wikner and the motion carried unanimously. Setu noted that FY 2026 TPWP is the work plan for the state fiscal year running from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. It outlines the transportation projects and planning activities planned in the financial year within the region. The draft FY 2026 TPWP was open for public input and received no feedback from the public. Hearing no comments or concerns, Hildebrandt called for a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was made by Schildroth, seconded by Wieland. The motion carried unanimously.

Next Hildebrandt, called for a motion to approve the FY 2026 RTA Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP). A motion was made by Kurtenbach, seconded by Wikner. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items

1. **Project updates (TASA/TAP and STBG).**
    - Black Hawk County in partnership with the City of Waterloo is paving Donald St between Sage Rd and Raymond Rd. The roadwork is expected to be completed in May 2026.
    - Buchanan County is expecting to wrap up the W-45 project in a couple of months. Additionally, Additionally, the foot bridge project with six other counties was let.
    - Chickasaw County is developing the concept for the STBG funded V56 project in FY27. They are also preparing two bridge projects letting in June and July 2026.
    - Iowa DOT's five-year draft program is expected to be adopted in June 2026.
2. **General Discussion**

    Setu shared update on the City of New Hampton 2026 Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) award in the Local Development Projects category. In February 2026, INRCOG submitted a RISE application to the Iowa DOT on behalf of New Hampton. The City received $860,542 as grant money for extending a driveway in their South Industrial Park to provide access to vacant industrial lots and to make the sites shovel-ready for new industries. Oriakhi also mentioned about the list of available grants at https://bhcmpo.org/funding-opportunities/. The regional partners were encouraged to reach out to INRCOG early in their planning process to discuss the appropriate grant.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

Sincerely,
Sanzida Rahman Setu
RTA Staff