

KYOVA INTERSTATE PLANNING COMMISSION  
POLICY MEETING

400 Third Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25701

May 01, 2026  
12:00 P.M.

MINUTES

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order and Introductions – DeAnna Holliday, Chair

- ❖ Attendees present for the Policy Board Meeting (via Zoom Video Conferencing) are as follows:

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Barry Adkins       | Ralph Kline       |
| Howard Anderson    | Patrick Leighty   |
| Mark Bates         | Chad Nelson       |
| Liza Caldwell      | Tyler Ohrn        |
| John Callihan      | Robert Pennington |
| Brian Carr         | Kendra Schenk     |
| Brian Chapman      | Thomas Smith      |
| Paul Davis         | Kelli Sobonya     |
| Bill Dingus        | Kevin Sullivan    |
| Michael Dodd       | James Turner      |
| Michael Dombrowski | Charles Walker    |
| Kejal Doshi        | Thomas Witt       |
| Beau Evans         | Jennifer Woodall  |
| DeAnna Holliday    | Tim Wright        |
| Jason Kelley       | Beth Zerkle       |

AGENDA ITEM #2: Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting (February 27, 2026)

- ❖ Motion Bates / Caldwell to approve as presented by affirmation; motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Presentation of Fiscal Year 2025 Audit – Jason Kelley, Hess, Stewart & Campbell, PLLC

- Mr. Kelley gave members a brief overview of the audit conducted for FY 2025. The audit was deemed satisfactory in all aspects; no findings were presented.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Executive Director's Report – Chris Chiles, KYOVA

- Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill Update
  - Mr. Chiles informed members IIJA was a 5-year bill that Congress is in the process of

reauthorizing. He stated Reauthorization shapes how federal transportation funds are allocated.

- Hydrogen Hub Appalachia Survey
  - Mr. Chiles explained that H2 Hub Appalachia is an ARC Grant, in coordination with Regional Planning and Development Council partners at Regions 1,2,4, and 7, that is conducting research on the emerging hydrogen energy industry.
- Greenup Avenue (US 23) Corridor Study
  - Mr. Chiles discussed an ongoing study on the Greenbrier Avenue (US 23) Corridor in Ashland, KY.
- Appalachia's Front Porch Tri-State Tourism Initiative
  - Mr. Chiles presented an update on a new Tri-State tourism initiative called Appalachia's Front Porch, which aims to collaborate on attracting and retaining tourists in the region by partnering with local CVBs and the Foundation for the Tristate. Mr. Chiles invited everyone to visit:  
<http://www.appalachiasfrontporch.com/>  
<http://www.facebook.com/AppalachiasFrontPorch>
- Huntington 3rd Avenue Highlawn Improvements Project
  - Mr. Chiles informed members of the current project along 3rd Avenue in the Highlawn neighborhood of Huntington. It will accommodate transportation, bicycle, and pedestrian activity around the future Kroger's and ACF property development.
- Downtown Huntington Streetscape Project
  - Mr. Chiles updated members on the Downtown Huntington Streetscape Project plans to revitalize the central business district in downtown Huntington. The project includes public engagement opportunities through an interactive website.
- Charley Creek Safety Project
  - Mr. Chiles informed members that this project was ready to begin construction in the Summer of 2026.
- Update on KYOVA Transportation Studies
  - Mr. Chiles briefly mentioned the various transportation studies KYOVA staff are currently involved with and directed members to KYOVA's YouTube channel for more information.
    - KYOVA Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant
    - Cabell-Wayne County Transportation Land Use Study
    - Bus Stop Inventory and Assessment
    - Beech Fork Connector Road Study
    - US 52/SR 93 Storms Creek Feasibility Study
    - Barboursville CSX Underpass Drainage Study
    - KYOVA Regional Freight Plan
    - KYOVA Congestion Management Process & Travel Forecast Model
- Upcoming FY 2027 Activities
  - 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update (Draft due December 2026)
  - FY 2028–2031 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Update (Draft due February 2027)

AGENDA ITEM #5: WVDOH STIP Update – Brian Carr, WVDOH

- Mr. Carr presented on the State of West Virginia’s Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), explaining the process and funding categories, while noting the need to update the program due to expiring federal authorization in September.

AGENDA ITEM #6: Presentation of Final FY 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Chris Chiles, KYOVA

- Mr. Chiles explained to members that the UPWP lays out all KYOVA activities for Fiscal Year 2027, including the budget and project information.
- Final FY 2027 UPWP
  - ❖ Motion Sobonya / Caldwell to approve as presented; motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM #7: Transportation Performance Targets Update for Ohio– Bethany Wild, KYOVA

- Updated Ohio Statewide Performance Targets for 2026–2029
  - Ms. Wild briefed members on the updated performance targets for Ohio.
    - Resolution #2026-017
    - Resolution #2026-018
  - ❖ Motion Caldwell / Utsinger to approve as presented; motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Report – Patrick Leighty, TAC Vice-Chair

- Transit Systems Update
  - Mr. Leighty, TAC Vice-Chair, gave a Transit update for the Huntington area. He discussed KYOVA’s Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting held on Tuesday, April 27, 2026. He described various presentations they discussed including information about transportation studies, the upcoming availability of cutaway vehicles under the 5310 Program, and the TIP Amendment.
- Amendment #4 to the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program
  - Resolution # 2026-019
    - ❖ Motion Leighty / Davis to approve as presented; motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM #9: Federal and State Updates

- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – none provided
- West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOH) – Brian Carr
  - Mr. Carr discussed several on-going projects including the FY27 State Freight Plan, Bike-Ped Plan, SS4A Grants, and the Long-Term Transportation Plan.
- Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) – Thomas Witt
  - Mr. Witt discussed the Biannual Highway Plan, Safe Streets for All grant application cycle, KY STIP Program, and The Kentucky Industrial Access and Improvement Grant Program. He made members aware of the new Secretary of Transportation, Rebecca Goodman.
- Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) – Mike Dombrowski
  - Mr. Dombrowski shared details of ongoing construction projects in Lawrence County, with the Chesapeake Bypass being the largest.

AGENDA ITEM #10: Old Business

- None

AGENDA ITEM #11: New Business

- Beech Fork Connector Road Study Public Open House
  - May 6, 2026, 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Wayne County Courthouse
- KYOVA Safety Action Plan Stakeholder Meeting
  - May 27, 2026, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., KYOVA Conference Room
- Future KYOVA Policy Committee Meeting Dates
  - Friday, July 31, 2026 (tentative, if necessary)
  - Friday, September 25, 2026
  - Friday, December 11, 2026

AGENDA ITEM #12: Adjournment