



# Polk County Transportation Planning Organization (TPO)

Polk County Administration  
330 West Church Street  
Bartow, Florida 33830

## Meeting Minutes - Final

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April 09, 2026 Regular TPO Board Meeting

1. Call to Order - 9:00 a.m. (Sara Roberts McCarley, Polk TPO Chairwomen)

**Minutes:** Chair Sara Roberts McCarley called the TPO Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Confirmation of Quorum

**Minutes: Voting Members Present: Representing:**

Commissioner Martha Santiago	Polk County BoCC
Commissioner Bill Braswell	Polk County BoCC
Commissioner Rick Wilson	Polk County BoCC
Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley, <b>Chair</b>	City of Lakeland
Mayor Pro Tem Guy LaLonde, Jr.	City of Lakeland
Commissioner Mike Musick	City of Lakeland
Commissioner Terry Coney	City of Lakeland
Commissioner Ashley Troutman	City of Lakeland
Mayor Brian Yates	City of Winter Haven
Vice Mayor Jordan Helms	City of Auburndale
Commissioner Omar Arroyo	City of Haines City
Vice Mayor Vernel Smith	City of Haines City
Commissioner Trish Pfeiffer	City of Bartow
Vice Mayor Nancy Daley	City of Lake Alfred

**South County Bloc Members:**

Commissioner Dawn McDonald (Voting Member)	City of Mulberry
Council Member Adam Greenway, <b>Vice-Chair</b>	City of Frostproof

**Central County and Ridge Bloc Members:**

Mayor Phyllis Hall (Voting Member)	Town of Lake Hamilton
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**Advisory Members Present:**

Wayne Gaither	<b>Representing:</b>
Ryan Kordek	FDOT, District One
Dane Norman	Polk TPO Director
	TPO Legal Advisor

**Other Persons Present:**

**Representing:**

Angela Kaufman	Polk TPO Staff
Tracy Mullins	Polk TPO Staff
Cindy Mitchell	Polk TPO Staff
Lorenzo Thomas	Polk TPO Staff
Darryl Richard	FDOT
Myrtice Young Preservation	Polk County Historic
Dave Newell	FDOT Freight Coordinator
Matt McIntosh	FDOT Consultant/GFT
Andy Nicol	FDOT Consultant/GFT
Edith Perez	FDOT
Robert Lee	Member of the Public
Sharon Garrett	Member of the Public

### 3. Opportunity for Public Comment

**Minutes:** Chair Roberts McCarley opened the floor for public comments.

Robert Lee expressed concerns about the projected Central Polk Parkway East location and provided a petition opposing the project.

Sharon Garrett expressed concerns about the potential loss of her family's land related to the planned Central Polk Parkway.

Chair Roberts McCarley closed public comment.

### 3. Public Comment

**Attachments:** [CPP East Petition at 4-9-2026 TPO Board Meeting](#)

### 4. Agenda Review - Ryan Kordek, Polk TPO Executive Director

**Minutes:** Ryan Kordek, Polk TPO Director, introduced the agenda overview and noted it had been revised with minor corrections. He explained there were several administrative items including resolutions, grant contracts, and budget items. The agenda also included a TIP Amendments related to I-4 Moving Forward, the proposal to designate Sate Road 60 as a scenic highway, and the I-4 Corridor Intermodal Planning and Feasibility Study contract with HDR Engineering, Inc.

## CONSENT AGENDA (TAB 1)

These action items are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items. A Board member may request an item be moved to the regular agenda for discussion.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** [A15-A1 Draft TPO Board Meeting minutes 2.12.26](#)

Motion: Motion made by Vice-Chair Greenway, seconded by Commissioner A. Troutman. Motion carried without dissent.

6. Approve Polk TPO Executive Director Quarterly Timesheets and Expense Reimbursements

**Attachments:** [A16-A1 Director Timesheets](#)

Motion: Motion made by Vice-Chair Greenway, seconded by Commissioner A. Troutman. Motion carried without dissent.

7. Approve the Polk TPO Certification Review

**Attachments:** [A17-A1 Final Polk TPO 2025 JC apprvd package](#)

Motion: Motion made by Vice-Chair Greenway, seconded by Commissioner A. Troutman. Motion carried without dissent.

8. Approve Draft TPO Resolution 2026-03 Authorizing Chairman to File a Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund Planning-Related Activities Grant Application

**Attachments:** [A18-A1.Draft Resolution 2026-03 -FY 2026-27 TD Planning Grant](#)

Motion: Motion made by Vice-Chair Greenway, seconded by Commissioner A. Troutman. Motion carried without dissent.

9. Approve the Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement with the Central Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Alliance (CFMPOA)

**Attachments:** [A19-A1 Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement FINAL 2026](#)

Motion: Motion made by Vice-Chair Greenway, seconded by Commissioner A. Troutman. Motion carried without dissent.

10. Approve Selection Committee's Recommended List of General Planning Consultant Firms in Response to the TPO's Request for Proposals (RFP No. 25-687)

**Attachments:** [A110-A1 RFP 25-687 Minutes from Interviews & Ranking](#)

Motion: Motion made by Vice-Chair Greenway, seconded by Commissioner A. Troutman. Motion carried without dissent.

**OTHER ACTION ITEMS (TAB 2)**

11. Public Hearing on Draft Amendment to FY 2025/26 - 2029/30 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

**Attachments:** [A111-A1 TIP Amendment](#)

**Minutes:** Angela Kaufman provided a summary of the amendment allowing for an additional lane on the west side of I-4 between US 27 and County Road 532 (Osceola Polk Line Road). The public hearing notice was published, and no public comments were received.

Chair Roberts McCarley opened and closed the floor - no comments.

**Motion:** Made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner A. Troutman.

**Roll Call Vote:** **Approved without dissent.**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rick Wilson and seconded by Commissioner A. Troutman.

Roll Call vote was taken and approved without dissent.

12. Review/Approve Draft Polk TPO Resolution 2026-04 Supporting the Designation of State Road 60 as a Scenic Highway

**Attachments:** [A112-A1 Draft Resolution 2026-04 SR 60 Scenic Hwy Proposal](#)

**Minutes:** Darryl Richard (FDOT) provided a summary of the designation process.

Myrtice Young discussed the benefits and attributes related to scenic highway designation. A video highlighting local landmarks was presented.

**Motion:** Motion was made by Commissioner LaLonde, Jr. and seconded by Commissioner A. Troutman.

Key discussion points included:

- Commissioner Pfeiffer expressed support and noted her long-term involvement.
- Vice-Chair Greenway expressed safety concerns but supported the project, asking whether the designation would prevent future expansion.
- Director Kordek clarified it would not hinder improvements.
- Commissioner Wilson stressed the need for expansion and coordination with Osceola County.
- Chair Roberts McCarley expressed personal connection and support.

Motion: Motion was made by Commissioner LaLonde, Jr. and seconded by Commissioner A. Troutman

The motion carried unanimously.

13. Review/Approve Consultant Services Authorization (CSA) TPO-25-686-01-01 with HDR Engineering, Inc. to prepare the I-4 Intermodal Passenger Rail Station Planning and Feasibility Study at a Cost Not-to-Exceed \$500,000.00

**Attachments:** [AI13-A1 I-4 Intermodal Passenger Rail Station Planning & Feasibility Study CSA](#)  
[AI13-A2 CSA TPO-25-686-01-01 Scope of Services](#)  
[AI13-A3 I-4 Intermodal Passenger Rail Station Planning & Feasibility Study Agreement](#)

**Minutes:** Cindy Mitchell provided a description of the study and requested approval.

**Motion:** Made by Vice-Chair Greenway, seconded by Commissioner A. Troutman.

Key discussion points included:

- Commissioner Braswell expressed concerns about SunRail and financial responsibility.
- Director Kordek clarified the study is for high-speed rail, not SunRail.
- Commissioner Musick raised concerns but supported proceeding.
- Chair Roberts McCarley discussed lessons from Brightline and the value of early planning.
- Financial viability of Brightline was discussed.
- Commissioner Coney expressed support.

Motion: Made by Vice-Chair Greenway, seconded by Commissioner A. Troutman.

Motion passed: 15 in favor, 2 opposed (Commissioner Braswell, Mayor Hall).

14. Review/Approve Draft TPO Resolution 2026-05 Approving the Amended FY 2024/25 - 2025/26 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and MPO Funding Agreement

**Attachments:** [AI14-A1 Draft Resolution 2026-05 PL Agreement UPWP Amendment](#)  
[AI14-A2 UPWP Amendments Package 040926](#)

**Minutes:** Director Kordek introduced agenda items 14 and 15 together and each requires a separate action. He explained the amendment to shift designated funds for the I-4 Intermodal Passenger Rail Station Planning and Feasibility Study will be moved to the new FY 2026/27 - 2027/28 UPWP and to approve the new FY 2026/27 - 2027/28 UPWP. Current and future projects were identified. The Adviser Network was notified and provided input on the new UPWP.

Motion: Made by Commissioner A. Troutman, seconded by Commissioner Santiago.

Motion carried without dissent.

15. Review/Approve Draft TPO Resolution 2026-06 Adopting the Draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and MPO Funding Agreement

**Attachments:** [AI15-A1 Resolution 2024-06 PL Agreement New UPWP](#)  
[AI15 A2 Final Draft Polk TPO UPWP FY2026-28 040226](#)  
[AI15 A3 FDOT-Polk TPO UPWP PL Agreement FY26-28 pdf](#)

**Minutes:** See agenda item 14.

Motion: Made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Coney.

Motion carried without dissent.

## **PRESENTATIONS AND STATUS REPORTS (TAB 3)**

### 16. FDOT Freight Study

**Minutes:** Wayne Gaither introduced Dave Newell (FDOT).

Matt McIntosh presented the study purpose, methodology, and recommendations identifying critical freight needs.

Chair Roberts McCarley commented on freight's importance and its impact on mobility.

### 17. Working Towards Target Zero

**Minutes:** Wayne Gaither introduced John Kubicki.

Mr. Kubicki presented safety data sources and statistics. Eleven projects totaling about \$15 million are planned for FY 2026-2031. The safety strategic plan includes public education efforts.

Key questions and comments:

- Commissioner Santiago noted driver behavior issues.
- Commissioner LaLonde inquired about Memorial Boulevard safety project.
- Commissioner A. Troutman asked about educational outreach beyond K-12 and involving private partners
- Mr. Kubicki described partnerships with law enforcement, AARP, health care providers, and businesses.

## **REPORTS (4)**

### 18. Executive Director's Report

**Minutes:**

#### **a. Meeting Packets**

Director Kordek explained recent logistical issues delivering meeting packets and reminded members of the digital versions provided via email.

#### **b. Central Florida MPO Alliance (CFMPOA) Meeting - April 10, 2025**

Director Kordek encouraged designated members to attend..

#### **c. Joint SCTPA/CFMPOA Meeting (Sun Trax) - June 5, 2026**

Director Kordek described the event and Polk TPO's hosting responsibilities.

19. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Report

**Minutes:** Edith Perez stated:

- TA/CM application cycle closed March 31; six applications were submitted.
- The FY 26/27-27/28 UPWP allocation totals \$2,730,292; adoption due May 15.
- A future amendment will add \$500,000 in carryover once the new contract is authorized.
- Development of the next 5-year TIP is underway; adopted TIP is due July 15.

Chair Roberts McCarley asked for clarification regarding the UPWP amendment; Director Kordek explained the necessary steps.

20. Opportunity for Public Comment

**Minutes:** Chair Roberts McCarley opened and closed the floor-no comments.

21. Board Member Comments

**Minutes:** Commissioner Arroyo announced he will no longer serve on the TPO Board and thanked everyone.

22. Adjournment - Next TPO Board Meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2026.

**Minutes:** Adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Coney, seconded by Commissioner Santiago

**Respectfully transcribed by KC Rivera, TPO Office Manager IV**

**Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, states that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based..**

April 9th, 2026 Polk TPO Board Meeting PowerPoint Presentation

**Attachments:** [TPO Final Slides 4-9-2026](#)