

**GREATER EGYPT REGIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
December 9, 2025**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Jeff Robinson, Chair, presided and called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. A roll call was done, and a quorum was established.

Members Present:		Members Absent:	
Name:	Represents:	Name:	Represents:
Cindy Humm	Franklin Co.	Liz Allen	Franklin Co.
Kevin Weston	Franklin Co.	Robert Spencer	Pinckneyville
Julie Peterson	Jackson Co.	Neil Hargis	Franklin Co.
Lee Messersmith	Benton	Cody Lueker	Carbondale
Steve Damron	Jefferson Co.	Ryan Guthman	Murphysboro
Jason Ashmore	ALG	Brian Otten	Perry Co.
Tim Atkisson	Williamson Co.	John Rendleman	Jackson Co.
Jeff Robinson	Williamson Co.	Glenn Clarida	Marion
Mark Kronos	Carterville	Steve Draege	Jefferson Co.
Kathy Lively	Herrin	Cliff Lindemann	Jefferson Co.
Bruce Morgenstern	Perry Co.	Fisher Overstreet	Jefferson Co.
George Shepard	Williamson Co.	Nathan McKenna	Mt. Vernon
		Josh Smith	Williamson Co.
		Josh Gross	Perry Co.
		Duncan Britton	Perry Co.
		Ruth Hale	Du Quoin
		Greg Legan	Kinkaid-Reeds CD
		Abra Phillips	West Frankfort
		Gary Williams	Rend Lake CD
Staff Present:			
Cary Minnis	Executive Director		
Sarah O'Dell	Administrator		

2. Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Cindy Humm and seconded by Tim Atkisson to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

3. New Business

a) **Nominating Committee Report**

The Nominating Committee report was shared with the group. The Committee recommended retaining the current officers in their existing roles for the upcoming calendar year. A motion to approve the Committee's recommendation was made by Jason Ashmore and seconded by Lee Messersmith. The motion carried.

b) **2026 Meeting Schedule**

The 2026 Commission meeting schedule was provided to the group. The schedule follows the same format as previous years, with all meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month and Executive and Full Board meetings alternating each month.

c) **Miscellaneous**

Staff reported receiving a \$38,000 DRA grant to expand outreach, allowing the agency to engage new communities and partners. DRA also awarded about \$1.5 million throughout Southern Illinois, and all six

applications submitted by Greater Egypt were funded, with over \$5 million still pending in the Community Infrastructure Fund.

Staff also updated the board on transportation planning challenges following the loss of the MPO. With IDOT discontinuing external project calls, existing planning funds will run out by June. Greater Egypt is exploring a pilot Rural Transportation Planning Organization model to continue this work and noted federal efforts to require and fund such organizations nationwide. Staff highlighted that past planning efforts have supported more than \$100 million in projects over the last decade and expect current studies including bike plans, a Safe Routes to School study, and the Jackson-Union port study to be completed by June.

4. Upcoming Meetings

Executive Committee – January 13, 2026 – 12:00 Noon, Greater Egypt Office

Full Board Meeting –February 10, 2026 – 6pm, Greater Egypt Office

7. Adjournment

A motion was made by Tim Atkisson and seconded by Cindy Humm to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Copies of documents furnished to the Commission in connection with this meeting are on file at the Greater Egypt office in Marion, Illinois.