

Minutes
Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council (SIMPCO)
Board of Directors Meeting (#558)
Thursday, March 12, 2026, 12:00 p.m.
SIMPCO, 6401 Gordon Drive, Sioux City, Iowa

Members Present:

Jon Winkel, <i>Chair</i>	P & Z Commissioner	Sergeant Bluff, IA
Kelly Kreber, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Mayor	Hinton, IA
Shane Bellefy	Supervisor	Cherokee County, IA
Ken Beaulieu	Supervisor	Dakota Dunes CID, SD
Rob Bixenmann	Mayor	Le Mars, IA
Keith Bohle	City Council	Kingsley, IA
Pat Bunt	Mayor	Marcus, IA
Jim Gunsolley	City Council	South Sioux City NE
Don Kass	Supervisor	Plymouth County, IA
Tom Kimmel	Commissioner	Union County, SD
Vince Phillips	Supervisor	Monona County, IA
Bob Scott	Mayor	Sioux City, IA

Non-voting Members/Staff/Guests Present:

Lance Hedquist, <i>Treasurer</i>	City Administrator	South Sioux City, NE
Katie Towler	Director	NECC, South Sioux City, NE
Michelle Bostinelos	Executive Director	SIMPCO
Joshua Bush	Finance Director	SIMPCO
Corinne Erickson	Regional Planning Manager	SIMPCO
Brian Pearson	Transit Dir./Facilities Mngr.	SIMPCO/SRTS
Sharon Burton	Executive Assistant	SIMPCO

Chair Jon Winkel called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

- 1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Chair Winkel asked if there were any additions or corrections to the March 12, 2026 regular meeting agenda.

Ken Beaulieu moved to approve the March 12, 2026 regular meeting agenda as presented, seconded by Pat Bunt. Motion carried. [Unanimous]

- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

a. Board of Directors Regular Meeting #557, January 15, 2026: Chair Winkel asked if there were any additions or corrections to the regular meeting minutes.

Kelly Kreber moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 15, 2026 as presented, seconded by Ken Beaulieu. Don Kass abstained due to not being in attendance. Motion carried. [Unanimous]

- 3. DIRECTOR REPORT:** Executive Director Michelle Bostinelos provided an overview of the report included in the meeting packet.

4. FINANCIAL UPDATE:

a. February 28, 2026 Financial Reports: Finance Director Joshua Bush provided an overview of the financial reports included in the meeting packet. Revenues for all SIMPCO Divisions total \$1,358,799 and expenditures \$1,364,720 for a balance of (\$5,921) as of February 28, 2026. Discussion followed.

The Executive/Finance Committee has reviewed the February 28, 2026 financial reports and recommend approval as presented.

Ken Beaulieu moved to accept the recommendation of the Executive/Finance Committee and approve the February 28, 2026 financial reports as presented, seconded by Tom Kimmel. No further discussion. Motion carried. [Unanimous]

b. FY 2027 Proposed Salary Schedule: Mr. Bush referred to the proposed salary schedule for fiscal year 2027, which was included in the meeting packet. He reviewed the recommended salary ranges for the SIMPCO divisions of Administration, Regional Planners, Housing Development and Transportation Planning (MPO/RPA). The Iowa's West Coast Initiative (IWCI) and Siouxland Regional Transit System (SRTS) sections of the schedule are reviewed and approved by their respective Board of Directors.

The Executive/Finance Committee has reviewed the proposed FY 2027 salary schedule and recommends approval as presented.

Keith Bohle moved to accept the recommendation of the Executive/Finance Committee and approve the FY 2027 salary schedule as presented, seconded by Ken Beaulieu. No further discussion. Motion carried. [Unanimous]

c. FY 2027 Proposed Budget: Mr. Bush referred to the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2027 (July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027), which was included in the meeting packet. The total projected budget includes \$7,473,215 in revenues and \$7,444,562 in expenditures, with numbers based on current state and federal funding levels. Mr. Bush provided an overview of the overall budget, including proposed employee wage increases. He noted the Executive/Finance Committee elected to table approval of the proposed budget at their March 11, 2026 meeting to facilitate further discussion with the Board of Directors. The Board reviewed the proposed budget and wage options.

Ken Beaulieu moved to approve the proposed FY 2027 budget as initially presented, seconded by Jim Gunsolley. No further discussion. Motion carried. With 10 ayes and 2 nays (Don Kass and Kelly Kreber).

d. FY 2027 Proposed Cost Allocation Plan: Mr. Bush referred to the proposed FY 2027 Cost Allocation Plan, which was included in the meeting packet. He reported that the recommended indirect cost rate for July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 is 69.68% of direct salaries, wages and benefits. He noted this is an increase from the FY 2026 indirect cost rate of 64%.

The Executive/Finance Committee has reviewed the proposed cost allocation plan and recommends approval as presented.

Kelly Kreber moved to accept the recommendation of the Executive/Finance Committee and approve the FY 2027 Cost Allocation Plan as presented, seconded by Keith Bohle. Motion carried. [Unanimous]

5. COMMUNITY SERVICES CONTRACTS:

a. City of Sioux City to establish the city's cash match payments to the SIMPCO MPO to complete Phase II of the South Lakeport Road Corridor Study, Total Cost \$50,000

Ms. Bostinelos reported contract a. establishes the City's (\$50,000) cash match to the SIMPCO MPO for Phase II of the South Lakeport Road Corridor Study. She noted the Executive/Finance Committee has reviewed and recommends approval as presented.

b. Region IV Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) to complete Phase 1 of Comprehensive ESF-10 Updates (Cherokee County, Ida County and Plymouth County), Total Cost \$15,000

Ms. Bostinelos reported contract b. is in response to an RFQ received from Region IV LEPC for Phase 1 of their Comprehensive ESF 10 Updates in Cherokee, Ida, and Plymouth counties. She noted the Executive/Finance Committee has reviewed and recommends approval as presented.

Pat Bunt moved to accept the recommendation of the Executive/Finance Committee and approve contracts a. and b. as presented, seconded by Keith Bohle. Motion carried. [Unanimous]

6. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT:

a. Burns & McDonnell to complete Phase II of the South Lakeport Corridor Study, in the City of Sioux City, Total Cost \$250,000

Michelle Bostinelos reported Burns & McDonnell completed Phase 1 of the South Lakeport Corridor Study and contract a. is an addendum to the first contract to complete Phase II. She noted the Executive/Finance Committee has reviewed and recommends approval as presented.

Keith Bohle moved to accept the recommendation of the Executive/Finance Committee and approve contract a. as presented, seconded by Jim Gunsolley. Motion carried. [Unanimous]

7. RESOLUTION 2026-2 SIOUXLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ASSOCIATION (SRTPA) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT (STBG) PLANNING APPLICATION:

Approval to submit a Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) application to the Siouxland Regional Transportation Planning Association (SRTPA) for Fiscal Year 2030. Total project cost is \$62,500 with a 20% match. Funding will be used to develop and complete planning activities required by the Iowa DOT for the Rural Planning Affiliation (RPA) area and provide planning assistance to SRTPA members.

The Executive/Finance Committee has reviewed Resolution 2026-2 and recommends approval as presented.

Tom Kimmel moved to accept the recommendation of the Executive/Finance Committee and approve Resolution 2026-2 as presented, seconded by Pat Bunt. A roll call vote was conducted with 12 ayes and 0 nays. Motion carried. [Unanimous]

8. **OTHER COMMENTS:** The next meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held on Thursday, June 18, 2026 at 5:30 p.m., Akron Golf Club, 941 Country Club Drive, Akron, Iowa, with the Teams option.
9. **ADJOURNMENT:** *Ken Beaulieu moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Keith Bohle. Motion carried. [Unanimous]* Chair Winkel adjourned the meeting at 1:26 p.m.