

WATS Coordinating Committee Members

Williamsport City Council
Mayor, City of Williamsport
River Valley Transit Authority
Williamsport Regional Airport
SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority
PennDOT Engineering District 3-0
Lycoming County Board of Commissioners
Lycoming County Borough Representative
Lycoming County Association of Township Officials
PennDOT Center for Program Development & Management



WATS Technical Committee Members

STEP, Inc.
City of Williamsport
River Valley Transit Authority
Williamsport Regional Airport
SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority
PennDOT Engineering District 3-0
Lycoming County Planning Commission
Lycoming County Planning & Community Development
PennDOT Center for Program Development & Management

Williamsport Area Transportation Study Technical Committee Teleconference Public Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2026 Technical Committee Teleconference Public Meeting: held at 33 W. Third Street, Lyco. Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Williamsport, PA 17701 and various locations via teleconference.

CALL TO ORDER (Regular WATS Technical Committee Public Meeting)

At 10:02 AM Justin Batiuk called the meeting to order. He mentioned that the meeting is being recorded. Attendees included:

- Justin Batiuk: PennDOT Center for Program Development and Management
- Chris King: PennDOT District 3-0
- Gerald Wertz: PennDOT District 3-0
- Jenny Picciano: Lycoming County Planning Director
- Ed Feigles: Lycoming County Planning Deputy Director
- Bill Scott: City of Williamsport Engineer
- Scott Williams: City of Williamsport Community and Economic Development
- Sal Vitko: RVTA Planner
- Eric McKitish: Williamsport Regional Airport Executive Director
- Dan Merk: STEP Inc Transportation Manager
- Steven Beattie: Joint Rail Authority (JRA) Director
- Gene Porochniak: Federal Highway Administration
- Emily Mrochko: WATS Secretary/Transportation Planner
- Pat Crossley: Williamsport SunGazette
- Bob Brown: Lycoming County Boroughs Representative
- Dori Rankinen: Duboistown Borough

MINUTES

Justin asked if there were any issues with the minutes from the previous meeting on November 17, 2025. No issues were found. Motion to approve was by Steven Beattie, 2nd by Scott Williams. Motion carried to approve the minutes.

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

2024-2025 WATS Annual Report Adoption:

Emily explained that the document is being presented later than usual due to not having the numbers from the County's financial department. It is similar format of previous annual reports. It is available to view on the WATS website. Motion to approve by Sal Vitko, 2nd by Dan Merk.

Recommend 2027-2030 WATS Draft TIP to Coordinating Committee:

Justin explained PennDOT District Offices across the state have until the end of December to program projects for the TIP. There was a lot of coordination between Chris as Dist 3-0, Justin at PennDOT Central Office, Emily with WATS MPO, and Sal at RVTA to put the TIP packet together for draft review. Chris explained a few of the significant projects to the region. Justin explained we are still waiting on a few things such as RVTA documents, the public comment advertisement, the TIP Selection Matrix. All missing items will be added before the TIP is on display for public comment. Emily explained how the final document that will be sent to the WATS Coordinating Committee will also be sent to the WATS Technical Committee to ensure the members see the final document. Motion to approve by Gerald Wertz, 2nd by Eric McKitish.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2027 TIP Update:

The next steps will be the WATS Coordinating Committee voting on the recommendation to open public comment from March 1-March 31, 2026. The Public Hearing will be held on March 10, 2026. Justin stated if anyone has any public comments please attend the public meeting to voice them.

Modal Updates:

Eric McKitish updated the committee on the airport. The airport has a new tenant – Stallion Oilfield Services. In the future, he is optimistic they will be working with JRA with the adjacent spur. The airport and Montoursville Borough came to an agreement to vacate Airport Road from S. Loyalsock to the terminal building. The decade long Montour Street Connector project is now underway. This project will now provide a second entrance to the airport. Airport passengers increased during the 4th quarter of 2025. Total passengers for the year was approximately 6,000. The airport continues to have meaningful conversations with multiple carriers and he hopes to have an announcement in the upcoming weeks regarding additional air service.

Sal Vitko updated the committee on RVTA. The Transit Development Plan has kicked off. Public outreach will begin in February. 2 of the 3 Gillig buses have arrived. The third should be arriving by the end of February. At Trade and Transit I, a paving project is being planned from Third and Laurel and Transit Drive behind the building. At Trade and Transit II, the underground boiler snow melt system needs to be replaced and RVTA is working with Larson Design Group. Token Transit is expected to roll out in July and February public outreach/education will occur. The 3rd and Chestnut Streets bus stop project meetings will be occurring with PennDOT and the City of Williamsport to discuss right of way issues.

Dan Merk updated the committee on Step Inc. From July 1 through the end of December 2025 the trip count was approximately 40,000 which is slightly less than last year. The transportation garage facility is expected to be finished in April and a June ribbon cutting. They are expecting 6 new vehicles from their vehicle supplier.

Steven Beattie updated the committee on the Joint Rail Authority. The LVRR carloads was down about 15%, much due to Marcellus shale activity maintaining their production, not expanding. Mixed freight, everything not Marcellus shale, was up between 3 and 5%. There not any active capital projects in Lycoming County at this time.

Management Action Report:

Chris King stated an increase in the Rt 54 bridge rehab in Montgomery. A list in the packet included projects where the type of funding was changed, no impact to the cost. The Lycoming Mall Road interchange lighting project was added through the use of CRP funds. The Warrensville Road slide project was LET. Justin stated \$327,000 PROTECT funds were awarded from Central Office. The PROTECT funds freed up District 3-0 highway funds to be used elsewhere.

Justin asked if there was any other business or public comment. Emily asked if the City of Williamsport wanted to provide an update since 2 individuals were present. Scott explained how the City was selected by Smart Growth America on how to do “quick builds”. This allows the City to try out different road configurations before committing to a permanent change. Sal stated between himself, Justin, and Emily all being new to their rolls, it was a successful TIP development process. Dan Merk motioned to end the meeting, and Sal Vitko 2nd, motion carried and the meeting ended at 10:31am.

Respectfully, Submitted,

Emily Mrochko
WATS Secretary