



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING MINUTES**

June 17, 2020

Osage Centre - Cape Girardeau, MO

Board Voting Members Present:

Mr. Bob Fox, City of Cape Girardeau  
Mr. Dwain Hahs, City of Jackson  
Mr. Scott Meyer, City of Cape Girardeau  
Mr. Tom Mogelnicki, Cape Girardeau County Transit Authority (CTA)  
Mr. Jeremy Tanz, Southeast Missouri Regional Planning & Economic  
Development Commission (SEMO RPC)

Board Non-Voting Members Present:

Ms. Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) IL Division (via phone)

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Members Present:

Ms. Katrina Amos, Cape Girardeau Regional Airport (Cape Airport) (via phone)  
Mr. Rodney Bollinger, City of Jackson  
Mr. Mike Brandon, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via phone)  
Mr. Tom Caldwell, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) (via phone)  
Mr. Drew Christian, Southeast Missouri Regional Planning & Economic  
Development Commission (SEMO RPC)  
Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via phone)  
Mr. John Mehner, Cape Girardeau Area MAGNET  
Mr. Brian Okenfuss, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via phone)  
Mr. Ryan Shrimplin, City of Cape Girardeau

Staff Present on Call:

Mr. Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau

Program Administration/Support Consultant Present:

Ms. Marla Mills, KLG Engineering

Call to Order

Chairman Fox called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

### Introductions

The group went around the room, each person giving a brief introduction.

### Adoption of Agenda

The agenda of the June 17, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting was unanimously approved upon a motion made by Mr. Tom Mogelnicki and seconded by Mr. Dwain Hahs.

### Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 20, 2020 Board of Directors meeting were unanimously approved upon a motion made by Mr. Dwain Hahs and seconded by Mr. Tom Mogelnicki.

### Communications from the Chairman

Chairman Fox reserved his comments for member reports.

### Public Comments Regarding Items Not on the Agenda

Chairman Fox asked if there were any comments from the public regarding items not on the agenda. There were none.

### New/Unfinished Business

- **Traffic study at the Intersection of North High Street (US 61) and Deerwood Drive**

Mr. Hahs reported that information about the intersection was taken to the Technical Planning Committee (TPC) by Mr. Bollinger and the City of Jackson wanted to bring it to the Board of Directors as well. He noted that Lochmueller did the study for the intersection and it will likely be Jackson's next priority intersection project. He reported that Lochmueller indicated that a traffic signal was not yet needed but a roundabout would manage traffic well at this time. This information has been provided to MoDOT. It was noted that this could dovetail with their intention to expand US 61 by the courthouse to 3 lanes. This roundabout is Jackson's priority and would require little land acquisition.

Mr. Okenfuss discussed the improvements on US 61 at Mary St. and additional places. The project was close to being added to the STIP but now the STIP is not being updated this year so that project did not get added. While in the scoping phase, MoDOT would identify when the 3<sup>rd</sup> lane would be necessary. MoDOT's design staff has already looked at it. Most intersections along US 61

already have the left turn lane so it wouldn't take much to add the third lane throughout the corridor.

Mr. McElroy noted that it was important for the Board to be informed as this may come back in the form of a resolution if needed for funding pursuit.

- **Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update**

Mr. McElroy noted that the MTP is a multimodal plan and although it looks out 20 years, it is updated every 5 years. The update will include data modeling, forecasting, public input, and much more. From the update, two project lists will be created, a fiscally constrained (identified funding) list and an illustrative (not funded) list. This process does require public input. Mr. McElroy noted that the TPC has identified a subcommittee to look at the process, develop any RFQs, review applicants, and bring recommendations to Board. The deliverable is due February 2021.

- **Election of Officers for FY 2021**

The Board of Directors held its annual election of officers. Mr. Fox noted that there are positions on the Board that alternate every 2 years and those will switch this year. The Cape County Special Road District will take a voting position with the Cape Girardeau County position moving to non-voting. Southeast Missouri State University will take a non-voting position while Cape Girardeau County Transit Authority will take the voting position. The Board unanimously passed a motion to elect Mr. Hahs as Chairperson and Mr. Tanz as Vice Chairperson, with both terms beginning on July 1, 2020.

### Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. Fox noted the City recently held a ribbon cutting for the new splash pad at Capaha Park and a ground breaking at the new city hall. He further reported that street repairs are going well and TTF5 will be winding down over the next year or so. He went on to report that the TTF6 vote passed and he is thankful to the citizens for its passage. That will become the city's transportation agenda for the next 5 years unless something unforeseen comes up. The City will start prioritizing those projects.

City of Jackson – Mr. Hahs reported that the Shawnee and Main Roundabout Project should be complete by July 10. They are in the process of bidding their asphalt program, a major part of which will be Farmington Street which is in need of repair after water and other improvements were made. He reported that Mr. Andy Meyer from MoDOT came to their meeting and went through completion of cost sharing and reviewed US 61 North issues with a short-term plan to patch. Mr. Hahs was happy to report that there will be a ribbon cutting tomorrow at 11:00 for Best Western at Center

Junction and a ribbon cutting at the police station sometime in July. They have moved into the new station and are working out the bugs. He reported progress on the Cape County Rd 330 improvement project in the industrial park, noting that a DRA grant is funding  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the project with the City of Jackson and Cape Girardeau County paying the other  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

CTA – Mr. Mogelnicki noted that their Cares Act funding has finally been approved and they can start drawing on those funds this week. This is needed as they are doing a lot of extra cleaning, resulting in additional costs. They are still at about 60% ridership. He noted that many of the state offices just opened Tuesday and that might improve their ridership numbers.

Cape Airport – Ms. Amos reported that their passenger count is still down. They will be going back to a 2-flight schedule in July which should help. They gave a presentation on the terminal area master plan at the Council meeting. It is still in early stages. Planning involves making a forecast for the next 20 to 30 years. With the recent announcement from Southeast Missouri State University that they are starting a pilot program in 2021, they need to relook at the numbers and increase their operations. These numbers will be sent to FAA and directly impacts the funding that is available. Ms. Amos reported that they are having some delays on the wildlife perimeter fence because of the archeological survey. The fence is put on hold until 2021 which in the end gives them time to complete other needed items.

SEMO RPC – Mr. Christian noted that they had a planning partner conference call with MoDOT regarding the state budget. On the call, the Director reported MoDOT had a \$45 million loss and that it may be up to a \$90 to \$100 million shortfall by the end of year. Mr. Tanz reported that the RPC had acquired some traffic counting equipment and it is available if anyone has the need for it. Their TAC meeting is next Thursday. They have decided to begin the prioritization process. At the next TAC meeting they will come back with each county's list to prioritize. Even though there is a lot of uncertainty in funding, they want the priorities to be in place so they can be ready if things should change and more funding becomes available. Additionally, this puts them in a better position when MoDOT eventually gets back on track.

Cape Area MAGNET – Mr. Mehner gave an update on the legislative session and the bill he reported on at the last meeting that changed the way TTD and CIDs are formed. The Governor has done nothing yet. Unless he vetoes, it will go into law. The passing of this bill spurred a local developer to move forward with starting a TTD for an area on North Kingshighway (by First Midwest Bank). The developer has a majority of the land owners on north side ready to sign petitions and wants to install a traffic signal and other improvements.

MoDOT – Mr. Okenfuss discussed further the conference call with the partners. Revenues are down with less people driving and sales tax on vehicles down. In April, the federal fuel tax was down about 45% which is concerning for the Federal Highway Trust Fund. It was anticipated that it would take 24 months to get to a critical level but

based on more recent numbers it may get to a critical level as early as November of this year. The state's fuel tax reporting is about 2 months behind so they are still trying to identify accurate numbers and may not know where things really are until August. The traffic volume has rebounded significantly and they are only about 15 % down right now.

IDOT – Mr. Caldwell noted that IDOT can empathize with MoDOT. Illinois had a fuel tax increase last year but revenues in Illinois are still down because of lack of travel. He did note that the lettings are proceeding.

FHWA – Ms. Tracy had nothing to report.

### Staff Report

Mr. McElroy noted they have all six interns have been hired for the ADA assessment. They started with all SEMO construction management students but one dropped out and they found a replacement through the City of Cape Girardeau Parks Department. They started June 8 and expect to have field work complete by August 1 with all work done by January 2021.

There was an inquiry about whether a new District Engineer had been named. Mr. Okenfuss reported that the process was on hold until they can do in person interviews. In the interim, the two assistants, Mr. Andy Meyer and Mr. Chris Rutledge, have split duties. There is no time line for the process to be complete.

Mr. Tanz reported that the Bootheel Regional Planning Commission has named Ms. Kelly Mitchell as Director. She is the replacement for Ms. Hannah Barnett who left at the end of May.

### Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

### Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 2:38 p.m. upon motion made by Mr. Meyer and seconded by Mr. Hahs.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Mills