



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES**
November 18, 2020
Via Zoom

Board Voting Members Present via zoom:

Mr. Bob Fox, City of Cape Girardeau
Mr. Dwain Hahs, City of Jackson
Mr. Scott Meyer, City of Cape Girardeau
Mr. Mark Phillips, Cape Special Road District
Mr. Jim Roach, City of Jackson
Mr. Jeremy Tanz, Southeast Missouri Regional Planning & Economic
Development Commission (SEMO RPC)

Board Non-Voting Members Present via zoom:

Mr. Tom Caldwell, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
Ms. Eva Steinman, Federal Trans Administration - Region 7 (FTA)

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Members Present via zoom:

Ms. Katrina Amos, Cape Girardeau Regional Airport (Cape Airport)
Mr. Mike Brandon, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. Chris Crocker, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. John Mehner, MAGNET
Ms. Britni O'Connor, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. Ryan Shrimplin, City of Cape Girardeau
Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)

Other:

Mr. Jay Wolz

Staff Present via zoom:

Mr. Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau, SEMPO

Program Administration/Support Consultant Present via zoom:

Ms. Marla Mills, KLG Engineering

Call to Order

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

Introductions

Those present made an introduction, identifying themselves and their organization.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda of the November 18, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting was unanimously approved upon a motion made by Mr. Phillips and seconded Mr. Tanz.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 21, 2020 Board of Directors meeting were unanimously approved upon a motion made by Mr. Tanz and seconded by Mr. Phillips.

Communications from the Chairman

Chairman Hahs reserved his comments for member reports.

Public Comments Regarding Items Not on the Agenda

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

New/Unfinished Business

- **MoDOT STIP 2022-2026 Identification and prioritization of Road & Bridge and Multimodal needs** – Mr. McElroy explained that this prioritization process is done annually for MoDOT and includes road, bridge, and multimodal. The TPC had already reviewed the list. Mr. McElroy reviewed the list with the Board, noting there was a change on the road and bridge priorities to include the addition of US 61 at Deerwood Dr. It was given a ranking in case grant or other opportunities should arise.

Mr. Mehner asked the Board to look at one of the new road entries on the list, referring to what would be a piece of the TransAmerica Corridor within SEMPO boundaries. He suggested the Board consider adding a line in the notes. He noted he was not asking to change its priority status. He went on to explain that the project was identified in the Missouri Chamber's 2030 Report on Transportation Systems as priority #10. The independent review group that authored the report said the project would not only be good for Missouri but for the entire country. Given the change in administration coming in January and the release of this report, a note

saying that this will be monitored at the national level and should a change occur, we are ready to look at what that change would mean to our MPO. Upon a motion by Mr. Meyer, seconded by Mr. Phillips, the Board approved adding this note to the list.

Mr. Brandon wanted to confirm that if funds become available for the backfill projects that the Mary Street Intersection and replacement of the Hubble Creek bridge were still the priority projects for these funds. Mr. Brandon explained that this is different than the STIP as it is money that will become available because of the Governor's Focus on Bridges project. MoDOT had put money in the MoDOT budget for bridges. Then the Governor and legislature developed a program that paid for bridges out of general revenue dollars, which freed up MoDOT money for other projects on the partners' needs list. Because of the pandemic, there was no STIP last year, so this has not been addressed yet. The money has not been approved by the Commission yet so there is time to make changes. He wanted to make sure the priorities they show are still good. Mr. McElroy noted that there was a budget restraint and last year the Board identified these projects as best use for the funds, considering the restraint. Upon a motion made by Mr. Meyer and seconded by Mr. Fox, the Board unanimously approved keeping these projects as priority for the money, should it be approved.

Under multimodal, Mr. McElroy noted that the aviation top five priorities were recommended by Ms. Amos. A number of these are already under way.

Mr. McElroy noted that the Bike/Ped priorities were listed by community and were taken from SEMPO's Bike/Ped Plan. Cape Girardeau city priorities were the same as identified as high priority last year. Jackson city did add the intersection at Rt D and N Farmington (known locally known as West Independence N Farmington). Also added was the intersection by the Jackson Middle School at W Independence and Broadridge intersection.

Under transit, Mr. McElroy noted that the priority projects were identified by CTA.

Mr. McElroy said that the Port priorities were offered by the Port Authority, noting that the 3 were big projects and they felt they did not need additional at this time.

Mr. McElroy offered the Board the opportunity for additional input on any of the listed priorities but there was none.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Fox and seconded by Mr. Meyer, the MoDOT STIP 2022-2026 Identification and Prioritization of Road & Bridge and Multimodal needs was unanimously approved by the Board as amended.

- **Americans with Disabilities Act Pedestrian Transportation Infrastructure Condition Assessment** – Mr. McElroy noted that the Lochmueller group presented on this at the last Board meeting. The Assessment has also been presented to the TPC for any comments. Comments will be accepted through December 2. The

recognition of completion of work on the Assessment will be made in January. This is not a formal adoption but recognition of completion of work.

- **Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update** – Mr. McElroy noted that the survey for the update is out. He went on to say every attempt was made to get the survey out to the public. He recognized that we were fortunate to have an article in the Southeast Missourian on the update of the plan that included the survey link. To date, there were 140 responses received and the survey will close at the end of day on November 30. The plan is to submit Sections 1,2,4,5, and 7 for review by mid-December. In addition, there has been a meeting with FHWA about implications of going past deadline of February 17. Strategy has been developed on how to address these implications. He noted the plan is to have a draft at the February Board meeting and then forward to ONE DOT for review. FHWA has reiterated that they do not actually approve the plan but will make sure it is in conformance with federal regulations. The Board will the formally adopt the Plan in April.

Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. Fox noted there are still a few projects from TTF5 that are in process. Mr. Meyer noted the delays were a result of property acquisition and Corps of Engineer issues on these projects.

City of Jackson – Mr. Hahs noted that the repair programs continue. He reported that the Jackson city budget runs January through December and so they are working on the budget to be approved in December. In the proposed budget is construction of a low water bridge in the park and an engineering study for the replacement of a second low water bridge on Mary Street. In addition, he said it will include the East Main Street work at the railroad tracks, with water line, sewer, and storm sewer construction along with the maintenance program.

Cape Special Road District - Mr. Phillips noted their current major project is in the city of Cape on Old Sprigg Rd. between Bertling and Lexington. He noted they are under contract with Penzel and hope to be done in 4 to 6 weeks, depending on weather.

Airport – Ms. Amos noted they are moving forward with their current projects with nothing new to report. Ms. Amos reported that they did meet with US Aviation which is the vendor that will handle the flight school for University. They did a tour of airport and will begin moving in March of 2021.

SEMO RPC – Mr. Tanz noted they had their TAC mtg on October 29 and with limited attendance, they extended voting on their prioritization. The results are in and they have a follow up TAC meeting on December 10 where they will finalize prioritization and forward to MoDOT.

MAGNET – Mr. Mehner suggested that those who have not had a chance to review the Missouri Chamber report on Transportation should do so. He noted this was authored

by the same consultants who did their LEAD 2030 plan, outlining what the state of Missouri should be doing over the next 15 years (at that time) to best position itself. Mr. Mehner was extremely encouraged that this independent group looked at transportation recommendations for the State of Missouri and came up with good recommendations, including that the TransAmerica corridor be looked at nationally. It was good to have this project validated. Mr. Mehner noted that MoDOT is also looking at future transportation needs. Mr. Hahs asked if this might be picked up on the legislation side. Mr. Mehner noted that the Missouri Chamber is probably the top business lobby group in Missouri and there will be discussions at the top level with MoDOT and legislators. There are additional recommendations, but many are not actual projects that look at transportation over the next few years. Mr. Meyer asked Mr. Mehner to send the report to Mr. McElroy to forward to board and TPC.

MoDOT – Mr. Brandon noted they are working to develop the STIP and looking at plans for winter with contingency plans with Covid shutdowns.

Mr. Crocker noted that he runs the LPA program and passed along that there will be a TAP call this fall, though the details have not been worked out. It will be a one-year call for projects.

FTA – Ms. Steinman noted there was no report.

Staff Report

Mr. McElroy noted that he had followed up with the Alternative Fuels Corridor. He contacted the FHWA representative who referred him to the Clean Cities Coalition. He also registered for a December 9 seminar to learn more about the process. Mr. McElroy shared a website that lists alternative fuels locations. He noted that it was updated already with the recent addition of a charging station at Schnucks. The only Missouri corridor identified so far is in the St. Louis area. The program is establishing the designations because the FAST Act required it, but it is currently an unfunded program. The designation might not mean much now but worth pursuing so we will be in a good position if funding becomes available in future. Also, it is a way to communicate that our area has that option for freight and passenger traffic.

Mr. Hahs noted that Mr. McElroy had sent out meeting schedule for 2021.

Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 2.39 p.m. upon motion made by Mr. Fox and seconded by Mr. Phillips`.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Mills