



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES**

April 21, 2021

Osage Centre

1625 N. Kingshighway, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Board Voting Members Present:

Mr. Bob Fox, City of Cape Girardeau
Ms. Beth Glaus, Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO University) (via Zoom)
Mr. Dwain Hahs, City of Jackson
Mr. Scott Meyer, City of Cape Girardeau
Mr. Mark Phillips, Cape Special Road District
Mr. Rodney Bollinger, City of Jackson
Mr. Jeremy Tanz, Southeast Missouri Regional Planning & Economic Development
Commission (SEMO RPC)

Board Non-Voting Members Present:

Mr. Kelley Watson, Cape Girardeau County Transit (CTA)
Ms. Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration – Illinois Division (FHWA) (via Zoom)

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Members Present:

Ms. Katrina Amos, Cape Girardeau Regional Airport
Mr. Mike Brandon, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via Zoom)
Mr. Thomas Caldwell, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) (via Zoom)
Mr. Drew Christian, SEMO Regional Planning Commission (SEMO RPC)
Mr. Mike Brandon, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via Zoom)
Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via Zoom)
Ms. Britni O'Connor, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via Zoom)
Mr. Brian Okenfuss, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via Zoom)
Mr. Ryan Shrimplin, City of Cape Girardeau

Staff Present:

Mr. Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau, SEMPO

Program Administration/Support Consultant Present:

Ms. Marla Mills, KLG Engineering

Others Present:

Ms. Kelly Green, KLG Engineering

Call to Order

Chairman Hahs called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

Introductions

Those present introduced themselves and those via zoom were identified by Mr. McElroy.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda of the April 21, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting was unanimously approved upon a motion made by Mr. Fox and seconded by Mr. Meyer.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 17, 2021 Board of Directors meeting were unanimously approved upon a motion made by Mr. Meyer and seconded by Mr. Tanz.

Communications from the Chairman

Chairman Hahs had no communication at this time.

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

- **Public Hearing on FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program** – Mr. Hahs opened the public hearing on the FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program. With no one present to speak, the hearing was closed.
- **Resolution No. 2021-06, A Resolution adopting the 2021-2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan** – Mr. McElroy gave a recap of the 7-month process. He noted that a steering committee was formed and held several meetings. An on-line survey was hosted with over 143 responses. Nine individual focus group meetings were hosted virtually covering emergency management, freight, transit, economic development and tourism, bike/pedestrian, accessibility, neighborhoods, aviation, and a general session. There were approximately 60 individual participants. In addition, two virtual open houses were held with 30 individual attendees. The plan was released for public comments until March 16 with a public hearing on March 17. The TPC recommended adoption at its April 7 meeting. Upon a motion made by Mr. Fox and seconded by Mr. Phillips, Resolution No. 2021-06 adopting the 2021-2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan was approved.

Mr. McElroy reported that he did receive some last-minute comments from FHWA so there will be some minor amendments to come. He noted the requested edits were nothing that would prevent passage of the document.

- **Resolution No. 2021-07, A Resolution authorizing the execution of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Certification** – Mr. McElroy explained that the resolution states that SEMPO complied with federal regulations as they pertain to the update process. Upon a motion made by Mr. Fox and seconded by Mr. Tanz, Resolution No. 2021-07 authorizing the execution of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Certification was passed.

- **Resolution No. 2021-08, A Resolution approving Amendment No. 6 to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program** – Mr. McElroy reported that this resolution is for a project with Cape Girardeau County Transit for a land acquisition and facility construction project with a budget of \$3 million. This would amend the TIP for inclusion. Upon a motion by Mr. Meyer seconded by Mr. Fox, Resolution No. 2021-08, approving Amendment No. 6 to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program was approved.

Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. Fox reported the city reviewed their pending projects to see if they could include some safety projects. As a result, the city has revised some of the project budgets for TTF5. The Independence project from Gordonville to Caruthers was originally \$3.5 million and is now \$5.25 million. He noted that Main St. from Roberts to E. Cape Rock was \$1.1 million is now \$1.4 million. Sprigg is still at \$1.7 million. And West End Blvd was adjusted as well. The Fountain St. project has been abandoned due to geotechnical issues with the budget being allocated to other projects. There is still about \$1 million in paving overlay and concrete street repair left to do. He noted that there is still a lot of work to do in TTF5, but all are moving forward. Safety projects identified include signals by the diverging diamond at the sports plex, Minnesota at Hwy 74, Nash Railroad crossing and traffic signal upgrades, TAP Grant and traffic study at Cape Rock and Kiwanis, and others totaling about \$2.5 million. Mr. Fox reported that the city is now collecting dollars for TTF 6 but delaying projects until some of the pending TTF5 projects are further down the road. Some of the early TTF 5 projects came in under estimate. There is a natural carry over on the work with a pay as you go system.

City of Jackson – Mr. Hahs noted that they have the design for the replacement of the first low water bridge replacement in park. It was approved by the park board and the aldermen and they are working on the final design so it can go out to bid. The Main St. construction will go out to bid soon. Mr. Hahs noted they hope to resurface Old Cape Road later this year, depending on timing of other projects. He noted they will continue discussions on traffic due to development, specifically around residential/duplex developments on Bent Creek and Old Toll Road.

Cape Special Road District – Mr. Phillips noted that Apex Paving is doing their asphalt overlay. They began Monday with S Sprigg St. and will be starting Old Sprigg from Lexington to Bertling, maybe as early as next week.

Cape County Transit – Ms. Watson noted that ridership continues to rise but they are not yet up to pre-covid numbers. She also noted they are working with FTA on paperwork for the land acquisition and facility. Ms. Watson went on to note that they are having issues hiring drivers.

SEMO University – Ms. Glaus noted they too are having trouble hiring drivers and ridership is increasing.

Airport – Ms. Amos reported their numbers are up but not yet pre-covid. She said they are running about 57 percent below 2019 numbers. The essential air service bid is up for renewal. Contract with SkyWest ends on November 30 of this year. The Department of Transportation has issued an order to start carrier bidding. The terminal area master plan has been approved and so they are moving forward with the t-hanger project, terminal, and fuel farm. She noted that they had an owners representative RFP out and selected Burns and McDonnell who will help develop design build documents for the terminal and other projects.

SEMO RPC – Mr. Tanz reported the next TAC meeting May 6.

Mr. Christian went on to report there will be TIP amendments and administrative modifications made with MoDOT changes. He said they would likely be presented in the June meeting.

MoDOT – Mr. Okenfuss reported that MoDOT has been working on a cost share project with the city of Cape on Minnesota Avenue where it meets Rte 74. The project would create a right in-right out on Minnesota and would close the existing cross over access on Hwy 74. Mr. Okenfuss went on to give an update on Center Junction. He noted that next Monday through Friday, April 26 – 30, Hwy 61 will be closed in the evening/night from 8:30 p.m. through 6:00 a.m. The contractor will be setting beams and deck panels directly over Hwy 61, requiring the closure.

IDOT- Mr. Caldwell – Mr. Caldwell noted he was appreciative of the completion of the MTP and UPWP and felt these were big steps.

FHWA-IL - Ms. Tracy wanted to make the group aware of the open applications for RAISE funds, Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity. This applies to road, rail, transit, and port projects, previously referred to as BUILD and TIGER projects. Closing date is July 12. Mr. McElroy noted that it is a maximum of \$25 million per project and there are informational webinars scheduled next week.

Staff Report – Mr. McElroy noted that the June 16 and July 24 Board meetings will be held at the Jackson Civic Center.

Mr. McElroy reported that the new website design is still in process. He noted that the photographer will be starting next week, and he wanted to remind the organizations that he might reach out to arrange a time. Mr. McElroy received an invite from the Cape Girardeau Parks and Recreation regarding a ride your bike to work and school day on May 7. This is being coordinated during May as part of National Bicycle Month.

Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 2:28 p.m. upon motion made by Mr. Meyer and seconded by Mr. Phillips.

Respectfully submitted,
Marla Mills