



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES**

June 16, 2021

Jackson Civic Center

381 E Deerwood Drive, Jackson, MO 63755

Board Voting Members Present:

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. Jim Roach, City of Jackson
Mr. Jeremy Tanz, Southeast Missouri Regional Planning & Economic Development
Commission (SEMO RPC)

Board Non-Voting Members Present:

Mr. Thomas Caldwell, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) (via Zoom)
Mr. Mark Croarkin, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. Tom Mogelnicki, Cape Girardeau County Transit (CTA)
Ms. Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration – Illinois Division (FHWA) (via Zoom)

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Members Present:

Mr. Mike Brandon, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via Zoom)
Mr. Drew Christian, SEMO Regional Planning Commission (SEMO RPC)
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)

Staff Present:

Mr. Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau, SEMPO

Program Administration/Support Consultant Present:

Ms. Marla Mills, KLG Engineering

Other:

Mr. Jay Wolz, Southeast Missourian

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 June 16, 2021, Board of Directors Meeting was unanimously approved upon a motion made by Mr. Meyer and seconded by Mr. Roach.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 19, 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 noted his condolences to the family and to the community on the passing of Barb Lohr, past Jackson Mayor.

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

- **Election of Officers for Fiscal Year 2022** – Mr. McElroy noted this election is held yearly with terms starting July 1. Current chair is Mr. Hahs and Vice Chair is Mr. Tanz. Upon a motion made by Mr. Meyer and seconded by Mr. Roach, Mr. Tanz was nominated as chair. Motion passed unanimously. Upon a motion made by Mr. Meyer and seconded by Mr. Tanz, Mr. Fox was nominated as Vice Chair. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. McElroy also noted that he provided a handout showing all the membership and terms including the alternate 2-year terms of the University and Transit.

- **Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan Request for Qualifications Draft Review** – Mr. McElroy noted that he sent a draft Request for Proposal to the TPC. The Committee selected three individuals to help with the RFP process including Mr. Ryan Shrimplin, Mr. Kirk Sandfort, and Ms. Kelley Watson. This group is currently reviewing the draft and will be providing feedback. Mr. McElroy said his goal is to issue the RFP in early July and be ready to start in August. Mr. Hahs asked if Mr. McElroy had any ideas who might apply. Mr. McElroy noted he has seen interest from electric companies but not necessarily because they want to partner but just for general interest. He said he does have examples from other MPO's and will be reaching out to them to see what their experience was.
- **Unfunded Needs Tier 3 and Multimodal Guidance** – Mr. McElroy noted that this is a late addition to the agenda, but he added it because he just received information from Mr. Brandon

regarding Tier 3 funding and what that might look like. It appears the Tier 3 funding will be \$2 billion statewide. This will translate to \$175.87 mill for the Southeast District. Multimodal will be \$1 billion statewide with \$87.93 million for the Southeast District. Mr. McElroy noted that Mr. Bandon said prioritization recommendations would be due in the Central Office by September 30. Mr. Brandon noted that they also have Tier 1 and Tier 2 in process as well. He noted that Mr. Croarkin might want to add some comments. Mr. Croarkin noted that this is the first time for the large multimodal plan. The desire to seek recommendations is being driven by the success of the unfunded needs list being submitted to the legislature, who find it very useful. The multimodal includes anything not road and bridge related. Mr. McElroy noted a discussion concerning the funds and a prioritization list will be on the next TPC agenda and will be discussed at the next few meetings.

- **Website Design** - Mr. McElroy reported that the new website will likely go live by end of week and if not by end of month. He noted they are just doing clean up right now and he feels the partnerships have been good with the local design firm and photography firm.

Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. Meyer noted the street projects are moving forward including concrete and asphalt maintenance. He noted the city is also working on stormwater and parks projects.

Mr. Hahs noted that this will be Mr. Meyer's last SEMPO Board meeting and congratulated him on his upcoming retirement from the City of Cape.

City of Jackson – Mr. Hahs reported that the city is getting their concrete program ready to go out to bid. The asphalt bids are being evaluated and should be awarded over the next month. The Corps of Engineers has approved the low water bridge plan at Hubble crossing, so they are moving on to getting the package together. Mr. Hahs said the city continues working on the Main St project. He noted that they continue to have discussions with the county regarding Harmony Lane. This is about a mile of road where the city maintains half, and county maintains half. Mr. Hahs said he has had discussions with MoDOT representative Pam Masterson regarding the process of moving forward with development in that area.

Cape County Transit – Mr. Mogelnicki had nothing to report

SEMO University – Ms. Glaus noted that the University Board of Regents signed easement documentation for the MoDOT 177 project (#J9S3452)

Cape Airport - Mr. Meyer reported on progress at the Cape Regional Airport.

SEMO RPC – Mr. Christian reported they would be sending amendments to the TPC next month for conditional approval and then they would come to this Board.

MoDOT – Mr. Okenfuss reported they will be closing the onramp on I55 at Center Junction on Monday the 21st. Mr. Okenfuss introduced Mr. Mark Croarkin, District Engineer for the Southeast District. Mr. Croarkin discussed the transportation tax of 2.5 cents for 5 years. He noted it is expected to raise \$500 million with \$100 mill to cities, \$100 mill to counties and \$300 mill to MoDOT.

MoDOT has been working \$100 mill in deficit, so that leaves a \$200 mill statewide increase. He noted the local district is doing scoping and working to get projects ready to move when the additional dollars are appropriated.

IDOT- Mr. Caldwell reported that the multi-year program was announced by the Governor a few weeks ago and glad to get that out. He noted that it is available on the website.

FHWA-IL - Ms. Tracy had nothing to report.

Staff Report – Mr. McElroy noted that the July 21 meeting will be in Jackson again.

Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 2:25 m. upon motion made by Mr. Roach and seconded by Mr. Meyer.

Respectfully submitted,
Marla Mills