



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

September 15, 2021

Osage Centre

1625 N. Kingshighway, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Board Voting Members Present:

Ms. Beth Glaus, Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO University) (via Zoom)
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:

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

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Members Present:

Ms. Katrina Amos, Cape Girardeau Regional Airport (Cape Airport) (via Zoom)
Mr. Rodney Bollinger, City of Jackson
Mr. Mike Brandon, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via Zoom)
Ms. Mandi Brink, Southeast Missouri Regional Port Authority (SEMO Port)
Mr. Drew Christian, Southeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission (SEMO RPC)
Mr. John Mehner, Cape Girardeau Area MAGNET
Ms. Britni O'Connor, Missouri Department of Transportation (via Zoom)
Mr. Ryan Shrimplin, City of Cape Girardeau

Staff Present:

Mr. Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau

Program Administration/Support Consultant Present:

Ms. Kelly Green, KLG Engineering (via Zoom)
Ms. Marla Mills, KLG Engineering (via Zoom)

Others:

Mr. John Thompson, Cape Girardeau Area MAGNET

Call to Order

Chairman Tanz 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 September 15, 2021, Board of Directors Meeting was unanimously approved upon motion made by Mr. Roach seconded by Mr. Phillips.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the July 21, 2021, Board of Directors Meeting were unanimously approved upon motion by Mr. Phillips seconded by Mr. Roach.

Communications from the Chairman

Chairman Tanz stated that he will reserve his communications for Member Reports.

Public Comments

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

New/Unfinished Business

- **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12, A Resolution expressing support of a Cost Share application by the City of Jackson for the US 61 and Deerwood Drive Roundabout Project – Reading and Passage**

Mr. McElroy reported that the City of Jackson had a traffic study performed by Lochmueller Group at this intersection. One of the solutions was a roundabout. This solution resulted in a Level of Service A at most, if not all, of the approaches. The City of Jackson has been in conversations with MoDOT regarding their cost share application. The Jackson Board of Alderman has passed a similar resolution. A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Roach to support a cost share application by the City of Jackson for the US 61 and Deerwood Drive Roundabout Project, which passed unanimously.

- **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-13, A Resolution approving 2021-2045 MTP Amendment No. 1 – Reading and Passage**

Mr. McElroy stated that this amendment is a housekeeping item. FHWA had pointed out that some funds were scheduled for construction of the air traffic control tower in 2026-2030. This was an error, and the funds should be allocated in 2025. In addition, a funding source was not identified under the MoDOT projects. The amendment now shows the funding source as 'MoDOT'. A motion was made by Mr. Roach and seconded by Mr. Phillips to release FY 2021-2045 MTP Amendment No. 1 for public comment, which passed unanimously.

- **2021 General Services Agreement Request for Qualifications – Discussion**

Mr. McElroy reported that this is for the five-year general services agreements that were completed in 2016. It is time to advertise for another five-year term. New local firms will be given an opportunity to be considered for the work. The responses will be due on September 29th.

- **Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan – Discussion**

Mr. McElroy reported twenty-three firms were solicited for this plan and there were no responses received. A survey was distributed to all firms with four responses as to why they did not respond to the solicitation. Most of the firms responded that they had limited knowledge. Mr. McElroy reported that he has been contacted by three entities who are interested in helping with the plan. The steering committee recommended to release the Request for Proposals again and so he has. The proposals are due at the end of the month. Mr. Mogelnicki stated that when CTA builds a new building, they intend to have electric charging stations there because electric vehicles will be mandated by the government for public transit. Mr. Mehner stated that at the TPC meeting they discussed that SEMPO is ahead of the curve with this plan. This technology is occurring now.

- **MoDOT Needs List Tier 3 Road & Bridge and Multi-Modal - Discussion**

Mr. McElroy reported that SEMPO submitted their prioritized list to MoDOT already. MoDOT returned the statewide list and had included some budget estimates. The Deerwood Project and adding the lanes on to I-55, from Exit 96 to Exit 99, are included on the Tier 3 list. The I-55 project is estimated to be between 16 and 17 million dollars. Initially, SEMPO wanted this to be a two-phase project, but it may turn into a three-phase project. To make this work, MoDOT will need to use some of SEMO RPC's allocated funds. Mr. Brandon reported that the Deerwood project is still on the list due to the timing of the Cost Share application process. Mr. Brandon stated that he will likely keep this project on this unfunded needs list but it may get funded on cost share list first. For the multimodal projects, Mr. Brandon stated that MoDOT has looked at three funding scenarios. In the past MoDOT has recommended that there are allocated pots of money for the different modes of transportation which allow for more flexibility. MoDOT is looking at recommending this for transit funds. A similar funding scenario could be used for bike/ped programs. MoDOT Central Office may take the money and then allocate it in a grant type fashion. Lastly, is the TransAmerica Bike Trail program. This would cross three planning partner areas and MoDOT has run some cost estimates for this. Perhaps, MoDOT funds would be used as a contribution to this program. Mr. Brandon stated that the estimates are not finalized yet. He said he introduced the idea of 20 million dollars for each of the bike ped projects and around 10 million dollars for transit to SEMPO. This would still allow for 38 million dollars to be distributed to some of the other modes such as the Port and the Airport. MoDOT has a meeting set with the planning partners on September 21st to discuss these ideas further and finalize the lists. MoDOT will be having public meetings to present the unfunded needs list. These meetings will likely be a formal public meeting style. The meetings may include commissioners or other politicians. Currently, the meetings are scheduled for mid to late October or November. There will be more information and details to come. Mr. Christian said that the counties in the SEMO RPC certainly need funds for their transit needs.

Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. Shrimplin reported that under TTF5 the city is finalizing the design and is in the acquisition phase on the Independence Street project. Mr. Shrimplin noted that the city is still in acquisition on the Main Street project and the consultant is finalizing the design. On the Sprigg Street project, staff has met with property owners to finalize the details and the acquisition exhibits are completed and the consultant will be incorporating some ADA parking stalls. On the West End Boulevard project, the consultants are revising the plans to address sanitary sewer issues and several easements have been accepted. The TTF6 consulting agreements are in place, so these projects will begin.

City of Jackson – Mr. Bollinger reported that the city is underway with their annual concrete and asphalt projects along with some in house patching operations.

Cape Special Road District – Mr. Phillips reported that they are under contract with JW Strack to realign CR 206 behind Notre Dame Regional High School. They are moving approximately 18,000-19,000 cubic yards of dirt. They did encounter a little rock. They should be completed in a couple weeks.

CTA – Mr. Mogelnicki reported that ridership is up but not quite where it was pre COVID. They are still looking for a building site. He noted they are having issues with getting replacement vehicles. Supply chain is an issue.

SEMO University – Ms. Glaus had nothing new to report.

SEMO Port – Ms. Brink reported that the BUILD project is underway. The track contractor began on September 7th. They are currently advertising for the design of the river road and utility extension project. They are in the design phase of the transload conveyor loadout facility. The EDA project is underway. This is the project that will raise the railroad about three feet and bridge component upgrades. They were a recipient of state funding this year. They received a little over \$2 million. This money will be used to match the BUILD grant.

Cape Airport – Ms. Amos reported that enplanements are holding steady. If this continues, she hopes that they will have 8,000 passengers for the year which will allow for \$600,000 from the FAA. The design consultant, Burns and McDonnell, will be coming to the airport tomorrow for a site visit. The flight school started on August 23rd, and they have already increased their daily operations 50%. The program is doing very well, and they are flying 5 aircraft every single day. The program took off a little faster than they anticipated so they are having to look at adjusting some of the airport operations.

SEMO RPC – Mr. Tanz had nothing to report.

MAGNET - Mr. Mehner reported that he is working with a developer for redevelopment at Bloomfield Road and Kingshighway. There will likely be an application for a TDD at this location. He attended Larry Payne's celebration of life and they discussed his appreciation for transportation improvements.

MoDOT – Mr. Croarkin reported that Mr. Okenfuss will no longer be the Area Engineer. He will be managing the Chester Bridge design/build project. MoDOT will be making announcements regarding the opening for area engineer position. The paving crews will be paving all this weekend and nights at the DDI.

Ms. Hatfield reported there will be some major updates with the BRO program. The BRO program is basically a program that counties use to replace off-system bridges using federal money. The definition of an eligible structure is changing. This means approximately 300 bridges will no longer be eligible. LPA training is coming available so please look for more information on that. The 2022 LPA Advisory application is due October 1st. The group meets quarterly and there are five positions to be filled. These will be 3-year terms. MoDOT received three TEAP applications that they are currently reviewing. City of Mansfield, City of Cape Girardeau, and City of Houston applied. The MO 74/Minnesota Avenue Cost Share Agreement has been sent to review team. Once MoDOT completes their review, they will send this on to the City of Cape Girardeau for review. With regard to the TAP project at US 61/Kingshighway/Maria Louise, MoDOT received the Engineering Services Contract and has sent for obligation of funds. A Notice to Proceed is forthcoming.

IDOT – Mr. Caldwell had nothing to report.

FHWA – Ms. Tracy had nothing to report.

Staff Report

Mr. McElroy reported that he will be attending Missouri's 2021 Highway Safety and Traffic Conference next week. He has been asked to sit on a panel for electric vehicles at a MML meeting on September 28th. Mr. McElroy received a call from MoDOT stating that they will let the MO 177 project in December and then construction will begin in March. More information regarding traffic control will be forthcoming.

Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

Adjournment Motion

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 11:39 p.m. upon motion made by Mr. Roach and seconded by Ms. Phillips.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Green