



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

May 17, 2023

Osage Centre

1625 N. Kingshighway, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Board Voting Members Present:

Mr. Dwain Hahs, City of Jackson

Mr. Charlie Herbst, Cape Girardeau County

Mr. Tom Mogelnicki, Cape County Transit (CTA)

Mr. Jim Roach, City of Jackson

Mr. Jeremy Tanz, SEMO Regional Planning Commission (SEMO RPC)

Board Non-Voting Members Present:

Mr. Andy Meyer, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)

Ms. Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration – IL Division (via Zoom)

Mr. Daniel Weitkamp, Federal Highway Administration – MO Division (via Zoom)

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Members Present:

Ms. Katrina Amos, Cape Girardeau Regional Airport

Mr. Rodney Bollinger, City of Jackson

Mr. Michael Brandon, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via Zoom)

Mr. Tom Caldwell, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)

Mr. Drew Christian, SEMO Regional Planning Commission (SEMO RPC)

Mr. Chris Crocker, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)

Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)

Ms. Eva Steinman, Federal Transit Administration (via Zoom)

Staff Present:

Mr. Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau

Program Administration/Support Consultant Present:

Ms. Marla Mills, KLG Engineering

Other:

Mr. Jeff Long, Southeast Missourian

Call to Order

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

Introductions

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

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda of the May 17, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting was unanimously approved upon motion by Mr. Hahs seconded by Mr. Mogelnicki.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 19, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting were unanimously approved upon motion by Mr. Mogelnicki seconded by Mr. Hahs.

Communications from the Chairman

Chairman Tanz noted that he would save 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

- **Election of Officers for Fiscal year 2024** – Mr. McElroy noted he had provided the Board with a list of officers for previous years. Mr. Tanz suggested Mr. McElroy speak with Mayor Kinder to see if she was interested in the chair position and if not, he would take it again. Mayor Hahs said he would volunteer for the role of Vice Chair again unless Mayor Kinder wanted the position instead of Chair.
- **MoDOT Unfunded Needs List** – Mr. McElroy noted that MoDOT was working to reduce costs on the list. He went on to explain that recently the Board approved moving Exit 93 from Tier 1 to Tier 2, considering the findings that the bridge could be rehabilitated instead of requiring a replacement. The approval included moving two Tier 2 projects to Tier 1. The two projects are the addition of shoulders to Rt 25 in Jackson from Hwy 61 to Rt K and reducing the width from 10 ft to 6 ft. and the Shawnee Blvd/US 61 intersection. He said Tier 3 currently shows the additional lanes on I 55 but splitting the project in two phases with Exit 96 to Exit 99 for phase 1. Mr. McElroy noted that MoDOT is asking for a further reduction in costs for Tier 3. He said that at their last meeting, the Planning Committee did not have a quorum to make a recommendation which leaves it to the Board to discuss. Mr. Brandon suggested a reduction in the length of the phase from Exit 93 to 96 and making it a 3-phase project. A motion to approve the revised plan was approved by the Board upon a motion made by Mr. Herbst and seconded by Mr. Mogelnicki.
- **RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02, A Resolution Expressing Support of a Regional Bridge Program application by the City of Jackson** – Mr. McElroy noted that the City of Jackson would like to participate in the Regional Bridge Program with the Sunset Blvd bridge. Upon a motion made by Mr. Herbst and seconded by Hahs, Resolution No. 2023-02, A Resolution Expressing Support of a Regional Bridge Program application by the City of Jackson, was unanimously approved.

DRAFT Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan - Mr. McElroy noted the planning committee reviewed the draft and released it for public comment. He noted that comments are still being accepted and should be submitted to himself or Ms. Mills. He noted there is nothing new to discuss in the plan at this time, but he will be asking for a public hearing at the next Board meeting with approval to follow.

- **DRAFT 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program** – Mr. McElroy noted the draft TIP has a similar adoption schedule, but it comes with a 25-day comment period. It was reviewed by the planning committee, and they have released it for public comment, and it is on the SEMPO website.
- **Schedule Public Hearing for TIP and PT-HSTCP for June 21, 2023** – Mr. Tanz asked for a motion to set the public hearings for the TIP and the PT-HSTCP for June 21, 2023. Upon a motion made by Haas and seconded by Mogelnicki the Board unanimously approved the setting of a public hearing for the TIP and PT-HSTCP on June 21, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. McElroy noted that he had nothing specific to report but referred the group to the city's website for an update.

City of Jackson – Mr. Hahs reported that the Mary St bridge opens at 5:00 p.m. today. He said they continue to work on the Concrete and Asphalt programs and the city has approved an application for a bridge in Sunset Hills as discussed earlier.

Cape County - Mr. Herbst reported they are doing 18.7 (as corrected after the meeting) miles of overlay and 1.5 miles of new road.

Transit – Mr. Mogelnicki noted that ridership is picking up, but they are still having difficulty hiring drivers.

Airport – Ms. Amos reported projects are moving forward. She said the T hangar project will start in July and air traffic is picking up though it is still down about 8%. She said advance bookings are looking up.

SEMO RPC – Mr. Tanz noted the RPC is about to start the process of developing the next 5-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Plan with EDA and asked for volunteers to help in the process.

MoDOT – Mr. Meyer reported that on May 12 the legislative session ended. He noted that they approved I 70 funding of \$1.4 billion in general revenue and \$1.4 billion in bonding to add another lane in each direction for a 200-mile length of the corridor. He said this is a historic step and is a statewide priority. In addition, \$5 million was set aside for the US 63 corridor from Cabool to Houston for an environmental study, and \$10 million for US 67/future 57 phase 3 in Butler County for utility relocation and right of way acquisition. He noted that also included was a \$100,000 million set aside for rural roads, including \$12.8 million for the Southeast District. He said the majority of these will be lettered routes in rural counties. He said they are working on those now as they would like the projects to be awarded this fall. He noted that all of this is subject to the governor's signature. He said the Chester bridge was designated the Don Welge Memorial Bridge.

Mr. Crocker noted that the City of Cape's TAP at Kiwanis Dr and 61/Kingshighway finally has authority to advertise. He said they are waiting on executed engineering service contracts with the City on the other 2 TAP projects. Mr. Crocker went on to say that the MoDOT construction staff will be working on Rt 177 in June. He said the Rt 61 project is coming out for bid on Friday. He said the CCTV Camera project is also in the May letting. This would put cameras at the roundabout in Jackson on 61 and the 34/72 interchange, MO 61 and Mt. Auburn and I55 and 74.

He noted these are live stream cameras only. He said the Rt W overlay will be in the June letting. He added that the project to replace the Interstate signage along the I55 corridor is tentatively set for October 2023 and they are currently working on the lighting project on the 72 corridor for specific intersections. He noted it is not a continuous project. He went on to say that legislation was passed that involves hands free driving.

Mr. Killian said that as part of the general revenue, \$350,000 was set aside for the Cape Girardeau airport and \$23.7 million was set aside as a grant program for ports throughout the state and he noted there is a possibility some will come to the SEMO port. He said that June 7 the draft 2024 -2028 STIP will be released by the Highway Commission for public comment, taking comments through July 6.

FHWA - Ms. Tracy had nothing to report.

IDOT – Mr. Caldwell asked for contact for the Chester Bridge project.

Staff Report

Mr. McElroy reported that the FY24 workplan was approved. He said SEMPO has received notice to proceed on the Safe Streets for All project which covers the safety action plan. He said he is working on a draft RFQ.

Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

Adjournment Motion

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 2:50 p.m. upon motion made by Mogelnicki and seconded by Mr. Haas.

Respectfully submitted,
Marla Mills