



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

August 16, 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  
Ms. Stacy Kinder, City of Cape Girardeau  
Mr. Jim Roach, City of Jackson  
Ms. Kelley Watson, Cape County Transit (CTA)

### Board Non-Voting Members Present:

Mr. Andy Meyer, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)  
Ms. Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration – IL Division (via Zoom)

### Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Members Present:

Ms. Cecelie Cochran, Federal Highway Administration – MO Division (via Zoom)  
Mr. Chris Crocker, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via Zoom)  
Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)  
Mr. Daniel Weitkamp, Federal Highway Administration – MO Division (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 (via Zoom)

### Call to Order

In the absence of Chairman Tanz, Vice-Chair Hahs called the meeting to order at 2:02 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 August 16, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting was unanimously approved upon motion by Mr. Roach seconded by Mr. Herbst.

### Approval of Minutes

There was no Board meeting in July so the minutes of the June 21, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting were unanimously approved upon motion by Mr. Herbst seconded by Mr. Roach.

### Communications from the Chairman

Vice-Chairman Hahs had no communication at this time.

### Public Comments

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

### New/Unfinished Business

- **RESOLUTION NO. 2023-07, A Resolution Expressing Support of a Transportation Alternatives Program application by the City of Cape Girardeau for Cape LaCroix Trail Enhancements** - Mr. McElroy noted the enhancements in the application are based on recommendations in the 2014 Cape LaCroix Master Plan, the SEMPO Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, and input from the public. He noted that the plan includes widening the trail from Bloomfield Road to Shawnee Park from 8 to 12 feet. He said it also addresses public safety concerns by installing additional lighting. He said the project would also rectify ADA issues on the trail. City Council approved submission of the application on August 7 and the city has received a letter of consent from MoDOT as it touches MoDOT right of way. This Resolution is the last item needed for submission. Upon a motion by Mr. Roach, seconded by Mr. Herbst, RESOLUTION NO. 2023-07, A Resolution Expressing Support of a Transportation Alternatives Program, was unanimously approved.
- **RESOLUTION NO. 2023-08, A Resolution Approving FY 2024-227 Transportation Improvements Plan Amendment No. 1** - Mr. McElroy noted there are several changes in the plan and the Board was aware this was coming when the plan was adopted in June. He noted this was mostly changes in projects with a few additional projects added. The TPC recommended approval. Upon a motion by Ms. Kinder, seconded by Mr. Herbst, RESOLUTION NO. 2023-08, A Resolution Approving FY 2024-227 Transportation Improvements Plan Amendment No. 1, was unanimously approved.
- **SS4A Comprehensive Safety Action Plan RFP** – Mr. McElroy noted the request for proposal for professional services was released on July 6 and were due August 11. Mr. McElroy noted proposals were received by four very qualified firms. He noted a subcommittee is doing the initial scoring and this will be complete by August 25. He said the committee will meet and review scores and the TPC has the option to invite firms in for interviews. He noted this project was selected to go first as a draft action plan is due per the grant agreement on September 30, 2024, with final approval by December 24, 2024.
- **SEMPO Region Trail Connection Study** – Mr. McElroy noted this will start shortly after the firm is selected for the SSA project. In the meantime, he has identified representatives who will assist in development of the plan. There are two from Jackson City, including the city engineer, Anna Bergmark and Parks and Recreation Representative, Jason Lipe. He said Cape representatives include Kaed Horrell, Parks Division Manager, and city Planner Ryan Shrimplin. It is open to the planning committee to suggest additional representatives. He noted they have received copies of the Bicycle Pedestrian Plan to become familiar with previous endeavors. Mr. McElroy noted that he will be meeting with the subcommittee to outline the

scope. Mr. Hahs asked if this would go out as an RFP. Mr. McElroy noted it could or SEMPO could utilize one of the general service agreements, depending on who is best suited.

- **Intersection Studies** – Mr. McElroy noted that the planning committee has recommended two intersections for this study, 621/Perryville Road and Independence Street and Rt D corridor in Jackson, between Broadridge Drive and Rosebud Drive, along Broadridge Dr. between Rt. D and Lewis Dr. near the Jackson Middle school.
- **GIS Audit** - Mr. McElroy noted SEMPO is working with the RPC on interactive maps to especially use on the website. Mr. McElroy noted the website has been lacking in interactive maps. RPC has onboarded a new GIS specialist and is working on some current ideas. Mr. McElroy noted if the Board has any ideas of specific maps those can be added to let him know.
- **TIP Tool Selection** - Mr. McElroy noted SEMPO had a 5-year maintenance agreement that started in 2018 so it is time to review the current tool or find a new one. He noted the contract with the current provider is on a month-to-month basis. He said an RFP eventually will go out to identify a more user friendly or enhanced TIP tool.
- **Origin & Destination Analytical Tool** - Mr. McElroy noted that he is waiting for the SS4A plan proposals to be reviewed to see if those firms have the functionality SEMPO is looking for. If not, SEMPO may need to put out an RFP. He has had a demonstration by three companies but doesn't want to decide until after the SS4A consultant is chosen. He said there is a lot of information that can be gathered. He said it would be a SEMPO wide license with member organization access.

### Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Ms. Kinder noted that she had just submitted her monthly newsletter to the paper with an emphasis on infrastructure.

City of Jackson – Mr. Hahs reported Jackson received a bridge grant for the Sunset Hills bridge and will be the next bridge project. He noted they are working on design for the East Main Street project with MoDOT. Mr. Hahs suggested it would be good to have a meeting between MoDOT and Jackson schools to discuss the upcoming projects, if this has not happened.

Cape County – Mr. Herbst noted they are work on pavement and overlay of roads. He said recent rain events took out some culverts. He noted they have some bridge projects to rebid with extended time frames as they didn't get bids on these previously.

Cape Transit – Ms. Watson noted Mr. Mogelnicki is retiring. She said there is a new Board president, Kathy Mangels, and a new vice-chair, Calvin Garner with the Community Partnership of SEMO. She said they currently have a vacancy on the Board.

MoDOT – Mr. Meyer reported this is his last meeting as a representative of MoDOT as he is retiring at the end of the month. He said they have been reworking the Exit 93 scope to reflect funding available in the program. The new scope is slated to start in 2026. Tim Pickett is still the project manager and has been working with the consultants, starting the design process with the reduced scope. He noted this included three bridges, including the flyover bridge, and two bridges on Ramsey Creek on I55. He said it would also include an improvement at the Silver Springs intersection, where there is an elevated accident rate. He noted that as they work on this there will be a public meeting. Mr. Meyer noted there was an unfunded needs public meeting last night

at Dexter Bootheel Regional Planning Office as a kickoff, while taking comments through the end of the month. He noted comments could be made online. Mr. Meyer noted there are some flooding issues, especially in Bollinger County. He went on to say the utility relocations have started this week on the Jackson project between Hubble Creek and Mary Street.

Mr. Killian reiterated the high priority unfunded needs presentation and list is available on website and they are accepting comments through the end of month. He said the Jackson bridge selection will require another TIP amendment.

Mr. Crocker reported award announcements went out for the BRO program. He said they awarded seven applicants in the Southeast District with 4.3 million in funding and this did include the Sunset Creek bridge. He noted he had already been talking to Anna Bergmark about the best way to proceed as there is already a significant amount of design work complete, making sure the process meets the federal requirements. He said the Traffic Engineering assistance program funding is now available. Mr. Crocker noted that there is \$120,000 available statewide. He said only 1-2 is awarded in each district to be used for intersection studies or updating ADA transition plan and similar projects. He noted applications are due September 8. He said the TAP call is ongoing and those applications are due August 24. He noted that to date they have received eleven applications and have approximately \$6.3 million funding in the Southeast District with a maximum federal participation of \$500,000. He noted the program needs more applications to be submitted to fully fulfill the amount of funds given to the District. He reminded the group that the first round of State Cost share applications are due October 6 with the second due April 12. He said the total project costs must exceed \$200,000 and must be on system. He said there is an On Call project for repairs on I55 with Fronabarger. He noted that work will begin after Labor Day and involves night work. He said it should only take 2 to 3 weeks to complete but there will be delays and lane closures on the ramps near center junction and on I55 between Cape and Jackson. He said there is a conference coming up called MINK – Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, and Kansas - on the 13th and 14th covering traffic, maintenance, funding, and innovation topics etc. He said LTAP is hosting an LPA basic training on three dates, November 1, 9 and 16.

FHWA – IL Division - Ms. Tracy had no report.

FHWA – MO Division - Ms. Cochran wanted to thank those attending the federal training on urban area boundary adjustments on July 31. She extended the opportunity to SEMPO to provide additional training or resource guidance as needed. She asked for feedback. She noted she will be relocating to Missouri in September and will start attending SEMPO meetings in person.

#### Staff Report

Mr. McElroy had no additional communications.

#### Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

#### Adjournment Motion

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 2:51 p.m. upon motion made by Ms. Kinder and seconded by Mr. Roach.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marla Mills