



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

November 20, 2024

Osage Centre

1625 N Kingshighway, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Board Voting Members Present:

Mr. Rodney Bollinger, City of Jackson
Ms. Stacy Kinder, City of Cape Girardeau
Mr. Mark Phillips, Cape Special District
Mr. Trevor Pulley, City of Cape Girardeau
Ms. Ginny Smith, CTA (via Zoom)
Mr. Jeremy Tanz, SEMO Regional Planning Commission (SEMO RPC)
Matt Winters, City of Jackson

Board Non-Voting Members Present

Mr. Tom Caldwell, IDOT
Ms. Cecelie Cochran, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) MO Div (via zoom)
Mr. Cary Harbison, SEMO Port Betsy
Ms. Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) IL Div (via zoom)
Mr. Daniel Weitkamp, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) MO Div (via zoom)

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Members Present:

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Non-Voting Members Present:

Mr. Mike Brandon, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via Zoom)
Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)

Others Present:

Mr. Brandon Geber, IDOT (via Zoom)

Staff Present:

Mr. Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau

Program Administration/Support Consultant Present:

Marla Mills, KLG Engineering

Call to Order

Chairman Tanz called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Introductions

All those present introduced themselves and Mr. McElroy introduced those participating via zoom.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda of the November 20, 2024, Board of Directors meeting was amended to include a presentation by IDOT. Upon a motion by Mr. Phillips seconded by Mr. Bollinger, the agenda of the November 20, 2024, Board of Directors Meeting was unanimously approved as amended.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 16, 2024, Board of Directors Meeting were unanimously approved upon motion by Mr. Bollinger seconded by Mr. Winters.

Communications from the Chairman

Chairman Tanz had no communication.

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

- Mr. McElroy introduced Mr. Brandon Geber from IDOT to make a presentation regarding the PROTECT Discretionary Program that provides planning funds under the Bipartisan Infrastructure law. Mr. Geber explained that the Program provides funding to help protect vulnerable assets against extreme weather events and natural disasters. He said State DOTs get money through a formula. In addition, there is a discretionary aspect for planning, design, and implementation. He said the biggest gap they saw was that no one was ready to implement these projects. He noted that many communities have local hazard mitigation plans but no real large-scale plan. He went on to say that with some of the extreme weather happening more lately, they would like to address this gap. He said that out of fifteen MPOs that they work with, three were working on a plan. The others were aware but lacked the time or money to do it. He said they would like to pursue a singular planning grant to complete a plan for all MPOs who want to participate. He said that essentially the state would hire a consultant to assist SEMPO in preparing a plan. It works with local input and addresses the needs of the local MPO. He said they want to develop long term plans to look at what assets are vulnerable. The plan can include evacuation routes, documentation of hazards for other infrastructures like schools, etc. He said it is an opportunity for a group grant to help every MPO not doing their own. He said they have eleven of the twelve MPOs in the state of Illinois signed on and SEMPO is the final. He noted there is no match component, and they are not asking for money from SEMPO. He said this would Include engaging MoDOT and local participation but want SEMPO to be able to take advantage of the opportunity to develop a long-range plan to protect roadways and citizens. Mr. McElroy noted that the ask would be for SEMPO to participate in the grant. Mr. Geber identified some of the cities, several which cross the river, which have signed on and the fact that they are focusing on river cities as they are the ones that experience a lot of severe weather issues. Mr. Geber noted that at this point all they need is confirmation that SEMPO wants to participate and eventually maybe a letter of support. He reinforced that this does not require a match or other monies and all they need is some time and data and that they will be working across the river in several areas. Mr. McElroy noted that the SEMPO area would benefit from hazard planning. Upon a motion by Ms. Kinder,

seconded by Mr. Trevor, the Board unanimously agreed to participate. Mr. Phillips asked about the size of projects. Mr. Geber said that he wasn't sure on the implementation grants but with MoDOT and IDOT both getting formula funding, it should be a good situation for implementation grants. Mr. McElroy said he included a handout with the agenda that contained more information.

- **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-04, A Resolution Approving 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment No. 5** - Mr. McElroy noted this is a cost share project with City of Jackson and MoDOT for lighting on Jackson Blvd. Mr. McElroy included a handout in the agenda packet with additional information. Upon a motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Ms. Kinder, the board passed RESOLUTION NO. 2024-04, A Resolution Approving 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment No. 5.
- **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-05, A Resolution Approving MoDOT & IDOT 2025 Safety Performance Targets and Adopting Long-Term Safety Goals of Zero Fatalities and Serious Injuries** - Mr. McElroy said this Resolution is serving two purposes, the first of which is to set safety performance measures. He noted that historically SEMPO has supported MoDOT and IDOT set targets rather than setting additional targets. Mr. McElroy said he included a handout stating the targets and the Board needs to decide if they want to support MoDOT and IDOT targets or set their own. He suggested that if the Board was thinking of setting targets, it might be better to wait until some data is collected after the development of the safety action plan. He went on to say that the second purpose of the Resolution is to adopt toward zero per Federal requirements for the safety action plan to make SEMPO competitive for any implementation funding in the future. Upon a motion by Mr. Bollinger, seconded by Ms. Kinder, the board passed RESOLUTION NO. 2024-05, A Resolution Approving MoDOT & IDOT 2025 Safety Performance Targets and Adopting Long-Term Safety Goals of Zero Fatalities and Serious Injuries.
- **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-06, A Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate and Execute a Contract for Professional Services for the Development of a Metropolitan Transportation Plan** - Mr. McElroy noted that the update of SEMPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan is a big part of SEMPO's UPWP for year. He said an RFQ was put out on September 17. He said they directly solicited 24 firms, put the RFQ on AMPO and SEMPO's websites and received three proposals from three qualified firms. He said the selection committee reviewed and scored the qualifications and proposals and scored and CBB Transportation Engineers and Planners scored the highest. The planning committee recommended CBB for the project. Mr. McElroy noted this Resolution would allow him to negotiate a contract with CBB within our budgeted amount. Mr. McElroy thanked the review committee for their work. Upon a motion by Ms. Kinder, seconded by Mr. Winters, the board passed RESOLUTION NO. 2024-06, A Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate and Execute a Contract for Professional Services for the Development of a Metropolitan Transportation Plan
- **SS4A Comprehensive Safety Action Plan** - Mr. McElroy noted that the draft plan is on the website. He said the planning committee released the draft for public comment, having all the planning committee's comments incorporated. He said that based on the number of comments received, the plan could come to the Board for consideration of adoption in December or at the latest January as required by SEMPO's grant agreement. Comments can be submitted through the website.
- **SEMPO Region Trail Connection Study** – Mr. McElroy reported that the Planning Committee had another presentation by Planning Design Studio where they unveiled a third trail connection option. He said there will be another Open House to present the third option to the public on

December 4 from 4-7 at Osage, following the planning committee meeting, and December 11 in Jackson at the Civic Center. Mr. McElroy said he included a flier in the agenda packet. Members should promote the open house. He said that after the open house SEMPO will receive a draft report, followed by a final report.

Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. Pulley reported the city had hosted one of its last TTF 7 meetings last week. He said the committee made a determination of new projects and maintenance to be taken to Council. He noted the vote would be in April. He said there are some major projects moving under TTF5 and 6, with South Sprigg going out to bid next week and North Sprigg to go out the first of the year. He went on to say that they are currently asphaltting Lexington.

City of Jackson – Mr. Bollinger noted that the Planning and Zoning commission just adopted the city's new comprehensive plan. He said this replaces one that was adopted in 2009. He went on to say the city is pursuing a task order with an engineering firm for design on the Jackson middle school crosswalk and sidewalk improvement MoDOT TAP project. He said they are working through an agreement with MoDOT on the lighting project. He said the East Main Street sidewalk project will go out to bid in January. He noted that they are working with Koehler Engineering to finalize the plans and specifications on the MoDOT BRO bridge replacement at Sunset Hills. He said they are waiting for the Hwy 61 project to be completed before starting. He went on to say they found they needed additional small easements for the Roundabout at North High and Deerwood, and they are working with Lochmueller on utility coordination. He said staff is working with Springfield MO on a program agreement for the Safe Across pedestrian awareness program. He said they finalized and approved a memorandum of understanding with the Uptown Jackson Revitalization Organization for wayfinding and directional signage. He noted the street department is doing winter weather training and the fleet department is servicing all trucks with snowplows and salt spreaders.

Cape Special Road District – Mr. Phillips noted they completed Cape Rock bridge replacement a few weeks ago and they too are doing winter maintenance on their fleet.

SEMO Port – Mr. Harbison noted they have advertised their driveway and parking lot paving project. He said they hope to have it under contract in early January and must be done by the end of May due to funding.

SEMO RPC – Mr. Tanz noted they are working with MoDOT planning to incorporate additional multi modal in the TAC, reaching out to providers in the area, and hope to have their first meeting in January.

MoDOT - Mr. Killian reported the naming of Ed Hassinger, former chief engineer, as the new Director. He noted he has over 40 years of experience with MoDOT. He said they are finishing sidewalks, sod, striping, and seeding. He said they are doing pavement markings on 72 and signal work on 74. He said they are working on Rt. K pavement repairs. He said they will be working on the STIP over the next few months.

Mr. Brandon noted that the area engineer has not yet been named.

IDOT – Mr. Caldwell thanked SEMPO for participating in the resiliency planning grant and reinforced the need for it.

Federal Highway Administration – Mo Division – Mr. Weitkamp and Ms. Chochran had no report.

Federal Highway Administration– IL Division – Ms. Trach had no report.

Staff Report

Mr. McElroy reported he will be working on the IDOT on an unspent funds agreement. He said that in the last two fiscal years SEMPO has received additional funds from IDOT, noting that in 2026, SEMPO will receive \$54,528. He said that in past years, the funds were invested into the development of the trail study and the MTP update. He noted that since the MTP update will span two fiscal years, this would be another good investment for the funds.

Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

Adjournment Motion

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 2:41 p.m. upon motion made by Ms. Kinder and seconded by Mr. Phillips.

Respectfully submitted,
Marla Mills