

**MORGANTOWN MONONGALIA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
June 27, 2013 Minutes**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilman Wesley Nugent-City of Morgantown, Chairman Joe Statler-Blacksville, Perry Keller-WVDOH, Councilman Anthony Giambrone-Star City, Mayor Jim Manilla-City of Morgantown, Mike Kelly-Monongalia County Board of Education, Mayor Patricia Lewis-Granville

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilman Bill Byrne-City of Morgantown, Councilperson Janice Goodwin-City of Westover, Dave Bruffy-Mountain Line, Commissioner Eldon Callen-Monongalia County, Commissioner Tom Bloom-Monongalia County, Randy Hudak-West Virginia University

MPO DIRECTOR: Bill Austin

I. CALL TO ORDER: With a quorum present, Mr. Statler called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mrs. Lewis moved to accept the March minutes as submitted; seconded by Mr. Kelly. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS: Mr. Rice, Chair of the CAC, reported that the CAC had recommended approval of the draft Transportation Improvement Program without the proposed signal at Suburban Lanes. Mr. Keller stated that the Signal had originally been proposed to be funded with State funds and it would not have been necessary to include it in the TIP. Mr. Austin noted that even if the Signal were to be solely funded with State funds it could be included in the TIP as an informational item. Mr. Kelly noted that he felt it would be important to keep the item in the TIP as an informational item so the public would be aware what was going on. After this discussion Mr. Rice noted that the CAC unanimously recommended approval of the proposed TIP amendments. Mr. Rice also noted that he thought the Committee Reports should be after the approval of the Minutes and Finance Report. Chairman Statler concurred and asked Mr. Austin to make those changes in the future.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT: Mayor Lewis reported the MPO's May activities as follows:

March - Beginning balance \$11,006.21 with expenditures of \$30,882.01 and a deposit of \$24,672.99 leaving a balance of \$5,497.19. She did note that there was a thirty cent discrepancy between the April ending balance and the May beginning balance. This was due to an entry error in the checkbook which had been corrected. Mayor Lewis recommended approval of the Finance Report.

Mr. Nugent moved for approval of the financial report; seconded by Mr. Manilla. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

VI. DIRECTORS REPORT:

- a. Mr. Austin reported that as a result of Dr. Nichols presentation at the last meeting he had been contacted by property owners in the vicinity of WV 705 and Vanvoorhis and that he had arranged a meeting with the property owners WVDOH and the City of Morgantown on July 2. This was in accord with the Policy Board's recommendation at the last meeting.

- b. Mr. Austin stated that the Policy Board will consider prioritizing the projects included in the MPO's recently adopted Long Range Transportation Plan at the next meeting. He stated that Mr. Zhang had done a great deal of work on this and that the MPO's Committee's will be providing the Policy Board with input as well.
- c. Mr. Austin noted that the MPO's traffic count program had been completed and the Policy Board will be presented with a map and a book of the counts at the next meeting.
- d. Mr. Austin also reported that the MPO had prepared a draft report on the Boyers Avenue/University Boulevard intersection at the request of Star City. He noted that the report relied on data collected after the end of WVU's session as well as counts taken as part of the regular traffic count program. He stated that the report would not be final until the MPO could collect data during the WVU school year.
- e. Met with the Chamber of Commerce's Transportation Finance Group to discuss local funding issues; The group's recommendations are on hold until after the Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission reports their recommendations. He noted that the group is preparing to make comments at the public meetings announced this week by the Blue Ribbon Commission. Mr. Statler stated that he felt the MPO should also comment at these meetings. He asked Mr. Austin to work on this. Mr. Austin shared the Blue Ribbon Commissions meeting dates with the Board.

VII. 2013-2017 TIP:

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO is required to adopt a new TIP at a minimum every three years. The most recently adopted TIP is about to expire and the Policy Board should consider a new TIP at this time. He stated that the draft TIP had been duly advertised as required by the MPO's Public Involvement Policy and that the MPO had not received any comments on the TIP.

He noted that all of the projects, with the exception of the previously discussed Suburban Lanes signal, in the draft TIP that has been submitted to the Policy Board have previously been considered by the MPO's Committees and the Policy Board. He also stated that the TTAC had unanimously recommended approval of the TIP and that the CAC had unanimously recommended approval without the Suburban Lanes signal as previously reported by CAC Chairman Rice. After a short discussion, Mr. Kelly moved approval of the TIP seconded by Mayor Manilla. Mr. Nugent asked for clarification concerning the Suburban Lanes signal. It was agreed by the committee that the signal would be kept in the TIP as an informational item but that there would be no Federal funding shown for the project. The motion was unanimously approved.

VIII. TIP AMENDMENT

Mr. Austin stated that the MPO had received three TIP Amendments and proposed Administrative Adjustments after the deadline to include them in the draft TIP. He noted that the proposed project to Engineer repairs to the Rail Trail was time sensitive so it was the consensus of DOH Staff and MPO Staff that the projects should be advertised as amendments to the TIP. Mr. Austin reported that two of the TIP Amendments are to repair where the creek is undercutting the Rail Trail in Sabraton and the third project is to resurface the Rail Trail from Ruby Hazel McQuain Park to White Avenue. He also noted that the Administrative Adjustments which were duly advertised though there is no action required by the Policy Board were to use Federal Funding for the new I-79 Interchange. These funds are to be repaid to DOH by the TIF District. Mr. Keller noted that he had mentioned that it may be necessary to adjust the TIP in this manner at the last Policy Board meeting. After a short discussion Mayor Manilla moved

approval of the proposed TIP Amendment, seconded by Mayor Lewis. The motion was unanimously approved.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Austin noted that two Policy Board Members, Mayor Manilla, and Mr. Byrne, would be leaving the Board and he introduced two Resolutions into the record recognizing their contributions. The Resolutions were approved by consensus and will be included in the Minutes as such.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.