

MORGANTOWN MONONGALIA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY BOARD
JANUARY 22, 2015 MINUTES (DRAFT)

Members Present: Wes Nugent-City of Morgantown, Commissioner Eldon Callen, Anthony Giambrone-Star City, Mayor Jennifer Selin-City of Morgantown, , Councilperson Marti Shamberger-City of Morgantown, Commissioner Tom Bloom-Monongalia County, Commissioner Edward Hawkins-Monongalia County, Randy Hudak-WVU, Brian Carr-WV DOH, Councilperson Janice Goodwin-Westover, Dave Bruffy-Mountain Line, Mayor Patricia Lewis-Granville.

MPO Director: Bill Austin

Members Absent: Mike Kelly-Board of Education, Joe Statler-Blacksville

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Chairman Giambrone called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Chairman Giambrone welcomed Commissioner Edward Hawkins as a new Policy Board member, representing the Monongalia County.

2 Executive Session-Personnel Matters-executive Directors Annual Review

Chairman Giambrone called for a motion to go into the executive session for a personnel matter under WV Code 6-9A-4. Mr. Nugent moved the motion; seconded by Commissioner Callen. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

Chairman Giambrone called to move to go out of the executive session, Commissioner Bloom moved the motion, seconded by Commissioner Callen. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

3. Election of Officers

Chairman Giambrone noted that the Officer Selection Committee had nominated Vice-Chairman Wes Nugent as the new Chairman for the MPO Policy Board, Commissioner Callen as the new Vice-Chairman for the MPO Policy Board, and Mayor Lewis as the Treasurer for the MPO. Councilperson Goodwin moved to accept the nomination by acclamation; seconded by Commissioner Bloom. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

4. Public Comment

No public comment

5. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Nugent introduced the approval of the Minutes for the December Meeting. Councilperson Goodwin noted that the minutes are incorrect in that it shows she was absent during the December meeting; in fact, she had attended that meeting. Commissioner Callen noted that his first name was misspell. Commissioner Bloom moved to approval of the minutes as corrected. Seconded by Councilperson Goodwin. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

6. Committee Reports

a. Finance Report

Chairman Nugent asked Mayor Lewis to present the finance report. Mayor Lewis noted that in the September report, there are two corrections that need to be noted. The first one is the Item 8552, dated on September 11, 2014, for which the correct amount should be \$293, 30, instead of \$293. The other one is an electronic transfer of tax of \$1,156, which was done on the last day of September. That transfer was not included in the original report. Mayor Lewis then presented the MPO's activities as follows:

-- Beginning balance in October \$2,122.75 with expenditures of \$17,340.47 and deposits totaling \$16164.42, leaving a balance of \$946.70 at the beginning of November. Mr. Bruffy moved to accept the October Finance Report; seconded by Mayor Selin. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

-- Beginning balance in November \$946.70 with expenditures of \$15,689.41 and deposits totaling \$28,598.58, leaving a balance of \$13,855.87 at the beginning of December. Mr. Bruffy moved to accept the November Finance Report; seconded by Commissioner Bloom. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

-- Beginning balance in December \$13,855.87 with expenditures of \$18,200.75 and deposits totaling \$28,598.58, leaving a balance of \$10,699.12 at the beginning of December. Mr. Bruffy moved to accept the October Finance Report; seconded by Mayor Selin. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

As an informational item, Mayor Lewis then noted that the MPO intends to set up a reserve fund to pay for MPO's cost in the event of the delay of reimbursement from the state. The MPO will request a contribution of \$4,500 from the city of Morgantown and \$4,500 from the county for this purpose. The action is subject to approval by the county commission and city council.

b. Citizens Advisory Committee

Mr. Rice, Chair of the Citizen Advisory Committee, reported that he participated in Monongalia County Day in Charleston, which was held on the same day as the last CAC meeting, and therefore, he was not able to come back to Morgantown to preside the meeting. Mr. Rice then noted the success of the Monongalia County Day, through which representatives of the county and the city effectively discussed local concerns and initiatives with the leaders of state legislative body.

7. Executive Directors Report

a. Status of Greenbag Road Study

Mr. Austin noted that the Greenbag Road Study is in the process of evaluating proposed alternatives for both short term and long term improvements. A public meeting will be held on February 4th at Marilla Park Recreation Center to gain public opinions on identified problems and proposed solutions.

b. Status of I-79 Access Study and University Avenue Study

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO Selection Committee has chosen HDR for the I-79 Access Study and Stantec for the University Avenue Study; staff is working with the consulting firms and the stakeholders to negotiate the scope of work for both studies. The final cost for each study will be decided when its scope of work is determined. The MPO's UPWP for the current fiscal year included the funds for the I-79 Access Study, and the cost of completion of both studies will be reflected in the MPO's UPWP for the next fiscal year. Mr. Carr noted that the funding from the state for the completion of these studies cannot be guaranteed.

c. Status of potential construction projects this year

Mr. Austin noted that he has sent an email to the Board members, updating the status of major projects in the urban area. He went on the note that the ADA issue on Beechurst Ave had been resolved and Beechurst Ave Resurfacing Project is expected to take place in the coming construction season.

d. Monongalia County Day in Charleston

Mr. Austin noted that Monongalia County Day was a very successful event. There were constructive dialogue between, and positive feedback from, the local representatives and state legislatures.

e. Draft 2015 Calendar

Mr. Austin noted that the draft 2015 meeting calendar is included in the agenda package for review by the Board. Commissioner Callen suggested to move the meeting time to 6:00 PM from 7:00 PM. After a short discussion. Commissioner Callen moved to adopt the 2015 Meeting Calendar with changed meeting time; seconded by Mr. Giambrone. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

8. Draft 2015-2016 Unified Planning Work Program and Consideration of Executive Directors Salary for FY 2015-2016

Mr. Austin noted that three major projects that the MPO anticipates undertaking during the FY 2015-2016 are the completion of I-79 Access Study, the completion of University Ave Complete Street Study, and the performance of a pedestrian access study in Westover and potentially in Granville.

Mr. Austin then noted that the MPO is to adjust the contribution to retirement funds from 12.5% to 14%. This adjustment was made to keep the rate consistent with the statewide retirement system, in accordance with the MPO's Policy. Mr. Austin noted that the TTAC and the CAC unanimously recommended approval of the proposed the Draft 2015-2016 Unified Planning Work Program.

Commissioner Callen moved to adopt the Draft 2015-2016 Unified Planning Work Program as presented; seconded by Mr. Hudak. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

Commissioner Callen then moved to approve a 2% increase in director's salary, and additional 3% administrative cost for the executive director to use for his review of the Planner I; second by Mr. Hudak. With no discussion, the motion passed with Commissioner Bloom voting against.

9. Information on Mountain Line Route efficiency and Vehicle Review Study

Mr. Bruffy noted that a copy of scope of work is included in the agenda package. He went on to note that the Mountain Line is negotiating a contract with AECOM to develop a six-month study focusing on optimizing the route efficiency, vehicle replacement, and best use of funds available in next few years. The intent is to identify alternative solutions in face of a likely decrease in federal funding under MAP 21.

Commissioner Bloom asked if the proposed development area at the new I-79 interchange will be included in the study. Mr. Bruffy noted that study intends to establish criteria for evaluating the efficiency of transit service. The feasibility of providing transit service in that area will be considered in the study.

10. Other Business

Commissioner Callen expressed appreciation for the service of former Chairman Giambrone and thanked Mr. Austin for his diligence in leading the MPO in the past year.

11. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.