

**Morgantown Monongalia MPO
Minutes
December 17, 2012
City Council Chambers**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Asel Kennedy, Joseph Fisher, Perry Keller, Patty Lewis, Anthony Giambrone, David Bruffy, Mike Kelly, Anthony Giambrone, Jim Manilla, Wes Nugent

MEMBERS ABSENT:

MPO Director: Bill Austin

1. CALL TO ORDER: David Bruffy called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bill Rice / Bakers Ridge Road – Spoke with Mr. Austin to question an item under the TIP Amendments regarding the roadway between the Coliseum and the Star City Bridge. This issue hasn't been brought before the CAC for any type of discussion. It was his understanding that if an item doesn't fulfill the LRTP and Complete Street requirements; it was to be brought to the CAC and TAC for discussion. Mr. Bruffy advised this issue will be discussed as a later agenda item.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mike Kelly moved to accept the November meeting minutes as submitted; seconded by Joe Fisher. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT:

a. AUDIT: Mrs. Lewis reported the results of the recent audit showed no discrepancies and no instances of non-compliance. Based on this recommendation, Mrs. Lewis moved to accept the audit results; seconded by Joe Fisher with no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

b. OCTOBER REPORT: Mrs. Lewis reported a beginning balance for October of \$52,512.20, deposits of \$9480.73, disbursements of \$34,787.87 leaving an ending balance of \$27,293.16. Joe Fisher moved to approve the October financial report; seconded by Mike Kelly. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

c. NOVEMBER REPORT: Beginning balance of \$27,293.16, no deposits, disbursements of \$13,926.63 leaving an ending balance as of November 30 of \$13,366.33. Joe Fisher moved to approve the November financial report; seconded by Mike Kelly. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

a. Correspondence received from the Morgantown Chamber of Commerce detailing their formation of a transportation committee and to support the efforts of the MPO. They wish to assist in locating funding sources that may be available as well as working with the MPO on projects they wish to see completed. They support the signal systems on Beechurst and 705 becoming operational; upgrading West Run into a two lane road system; a new connection with I-79 North. Mr. Bruffy stated he has been working with, and involved in, all the meetings they have had. They want to be in sync with the MPO. They believe one of the biggest obstacles in the community is transportation.

Mr. Manilla believed this is a positive step; more creative ways to obtain funding is very important. Mr. Kennedy cautioned that any funding will need to go through the County Commission. He recommended that any discussions on funding include a Commissioner. The Policy Board okayed Mr. Bruffy and Mr. Austin working with the Chamber of Commerce's committee.

Mr. Austin noted Dr. Nichols will be attending the January meeting to discuss the downtown operational study and address the signalization issue.

b. Working to develop a Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan; will update at the January meeting.

c. Working on an RFP for additional van pool providers.

6. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENTS:

a. Modification of I-68 ramp at Exit 1;

b. Installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of 857 and Canyon Road;

Mr. Austin noted these TIP amendments have not been before the CAC or TAC. The DOH asked them to be added to the agenda so action could be taken at the next meeting. These two projects are not controversial. He did note that the improvement on Mon Blvd, installing an additional lane between Patteson Drive and Boyers Avenue to make it a five lane cross section, is a larger issue than was initially determined.

Mr. Bruffy noted that since this project is a major roadway, being improved at a cost of \$1.7 million, and the fact that it has not been before either the CAC or TAC, more consideration should be given to it before acting on the TIP request. Mr. Kennedy felt too many things with this project are up in the air and recommends action should be postponed until the January meeting when more information is available.

Mr. Keller stated he discussed this issue with the engineers. It is an extension of the five lane from Boyers Avenue to Shoney's, where it becomes a four lanes. It is an extension of the five lane section through the rest of the corridor. No

construction will be done until Spring. Funds will be from Highway Safety Improvement.

It was determined that action would be taken on the two smaller TIP amendments. Mr. Keller will advise the District Engineer this issue will run through the CAC and TAC. It will be dealt with at the January 17, 2013 meeting.

Perry Keller moved to approve the TIP amendments; seconded by Mr. Giambrone. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Austin also noted administrative adjustments with the DOT include the Mileground Projects being moved into the Fiscal 2014 time period.

7. ADOPTION OF LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN:

a. Steve Thieken of Burgess and Niple reported that the basis of this plan is what the community wants as determined through a series of public hearings along with coordinated planning efforts with the City of Morgantown, Star City and communications with the other municipalities in the area. Mr. Keller stated, within the LRTP, the exact location of the river crossing is unsure; will look at several options in the LRTP.

Mr. Austin noted that intersection capacity improvement projects are high congestion areas that could be made better.

Mr. Keller moved to adopt the LRTP, which is an adoption of projects for the area prioritized in tiers, for the formation of the plan. Mr. Giambrone seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

8. MPO ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES:

a. Adoption of 2013 calendar. Joe Fisher moved to accept the calendar as presented; seconded by Mike Kelly. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

b. Appointment of Nominating Committee. Mr. Fisher was asked to serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee. Mr. Kennedy will also serve. At this time, Mr. Bruffy thanked Mr. Kennedy for his years of service and dedication to the MPO.

c. Executive Review. Reviews of the Director will be emailed to Mr. Bruffy for him to compile and share with the Board at an Executive Session at the January meeting. (and exec. Session needs put on the agenda).

9. MPO BUDGET:

a. Mr. Austin will meet with Mayor Manilla and Commissioner Callen and present a draft budget next month.

10: ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.