

**MINUTES OF THE LEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
BOARD'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Held on July 31, 2013**

The following members were present for the meeting of the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization Board's Executive Committee on July 31, 2013 at the offices of the Lee County MPO, Conference Room A200, 815 Nicholas Parkway, Cape Coral, Florida.

Councilman Kevin McGrail	City of Cape Coral
Vice-Mayor Stephen McIntosh	City of Bonita Springs
Mayor Kevin Ruane	City of Sanibel
Councilman Thomas Leonardo	City of Fort Myers
Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass	Lee County Commission
Mayor Alan Mandel	Town of Fort Myers Beach

Those also in attendance included: Don Scott and Johnny Limbaugh of Lee County MPO.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mr. Scott.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Agenda Item #1 – Approval of the Minutes of the September 17, 2012 Executive Committee Meeting**

Councilman Leonardo opened the dialog about the purpose of bringing the Nashville MPO to speak at the Board meeting. The committee discussed the purpose and merits of the bringing in other areas to learn from their experiences. Mayor Ruane provided some background on why the executive committee was created and the importance of have an open dialog.

**MOTION BY COUNCILMAN MCGRAIL TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 20, 2012 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LEONARDO. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Agenda Item #2 – Public Comments on New Business Items**

None.

### **Agenda Item #3 – Review and Approval of the MPO Attorney RFP**

Mr. Scott presented the RFP for selecting a MPO attorney

In the past, the Lee MPO has been using an attorney from the Lee County Attorney's Office to attend MPO Board meetings, to review and approve contracts and assistance on agreements etc. but has never paid for those services. Over the last few months the MPO staff has been working with the Lee County Attorney's office to put out an RFP for legal services to represent the MPO on an as needed basis. With input from the County Attorney's office, the projection for the yearly cost for these services is \$7,000. The MPO staff is proposing that the Executive Committee be the selection committee for ranking and selecting the law firm/attorney that will conduct these services and at the meeting we will be seeking a confirmation of that.

Councilman Leonardo raised concerns that an attorney that works only part time on the MPO issues. The board discussed how the issue was raised. The group discussed the merits of having an independent look at issues. Don shared how some of the other MPO's are set up.

**MOTION BY COUNCILMAN LEONARDO TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE RFP. SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MCGRAIL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Agenda Item #4 – Input from Local Jurisdictions on Existing Revenue Data**

The committee discussed how each jurisdiction addressed budgets and revenue projections. Each jurisdiction discussed the need for transportation improvements to be fiscally responsible and to make sense. Projects should not continue to move forward if circumstances have changed that make the project no longer needed or viable. The discussion then turned to how current revenues are failing to meet our needs. Councilman Leonardo asked that Johnny Limbaugh present the sales tax concept that he had been discussing. Mr. Limbaugh presented the concept of reducing local option gas taxes and replacing them with a local sales tax. The committee discussed the pros and cons of moving forward with such an option. It was decided that more information was required.

**MOTION BY CCOUNCILMAN LEONARDO MOVED TO REQUEST STAFF TO LOOK AT WHAT A 1 CENT SALES TAX COULD GENERATE AND WHAT USES THE TAX COULD BE USED FOR. SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MCGRAIL.**

### **Other Business**

### **Agenda Item #5 – Staff Recommendations and Executive Committee Input on the Development of the 2040 Revenues**

This item was covered in Item 4.

**Agenda Item #6 – MPO Executive Committee Input on 2040 LRTP Goals and Objectives and Population Projections**

Don presented this item. The MPO usually uses BEBR (Bureau of Economic and Business Research) projections to establish the future population that is used in the development of the LRTP and the transportation model. At the current time (BEBR 2012 report) the high, medium and low BEBR projections for Lee County are listed below:

	4/1/11	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
LEE	625,310						
Low		638,900	687,800	727,900	759,300	782,100	797,500
Medium		675,000	763,200	848,000	928,500	1,004,500	1,077,300
High		720,400	840,600	964,900	1,092,700	1,223,300	1,357,900

The median BEBR numbers used for the 1995 and 2005 time frames appear to be on target based on our existing population but the ones used during 1998 and 2000 are lower than what we are currently experiencing (mainly due to adjustments made after a downturn in the economy). There was also a discussion regarding the development of the LRTP Goals and Objectives and using a more straight forward and easier to read format similar to the Nashville MPO example.

**MOTION BY MAYOR RUANE TO ADOPT THE MEDIUM BEBR NUMBERS AND USE THE FORMAT OF THE NASHVILLE MODEL FOR THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES. SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MCGRAIL.**

**Agenda Item #7 – Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda**

None

**Agenda Item #8 – Announcements**

None

**Agenda Item #9 – Information and Distribution Items**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 11:57 a.m.