

**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

2:00p.m., December 13, 2017
Cape Coral Public Works Building
815 Nicholas Pkwy E, Cape Coral, FL
Green Room/A200



Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chair Williams at 2:00 p.m. Chair Williams introduced fellow City of Cape Coral Councilmember Jessica Cosden.

The roll was called. A quorum was present. Those MEC members in attendance included City of Cape Coral Councilmember Rick Williams, Fort Myers Beach Councilmember Tracey Gore, City of Fort Myers Councilmember Mike Flanders, Village of Estero Mayor Jim Boesch, City of Bonita Springs Deputy Mayor Peter O'Flinn, and Lee County Commissioner Brian Hamman. Others in attendance included MPO Legal Counsel Derek Rooney, Johnny Limbaugh with Wright Construction, Jessica Cosden with the City of Cape Coral Council, and MPO staff Don Scott and Calandra Barraco.

New Business

Agenda Item #1 - Public Comments on New Business Items

There were no public comments on new business items.

Agenda Item #2 - *Review and Approval of the November 8, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Hamman motioned to approve the November 8, 2017 Meeting Minutes. Deputy Mayor O'Flinn seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 - +Discussion Regarding Proposed State Legislation Potentially Impacting MPO Composition Requirements

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item to discuss the proposed legislation revising the MPOs membership requirements. He explained there are currently three legislative proposals dealing with proposed MPO membership revisions. He noted two of the proposals are very similar, SB 984 and HB 807 that propose language for newly designated MPOs resulting from a merger. He then discussed HB 575, which proposes changes to the MPO Board voting membership based on the size of the MPO area. He explained the maximum number of members for an MPO with less than 500,000 population would be 11 members and the maximum number of members for an MPO with a population greater than 500,000 population would be 15 members. He added this bill includes a provision prohibiting weighted voting and the update of the MPO agreements and bylaws reflecting these changes would need to be done by July 1, 2019. Deputy Mayor O'Flinn asked who was pushing HB 575. Mr. Scott said it is a representative from St. Petersburg, and he is following up with Carl Mikyska with the MPAOC for more specific information. Councilmember Flanders asked how many members are currently on the MPO Board. Mr. Scott replied 18. There was a brief discussion on how this bill would change the current composition of the MPO Board.

Agenda Item #4 - +Follow-up on Equity Analysis Discussions

Mr. Don Scott provided further information on previous equity studies that were done in FDOT District One. He said the last meeting included a discussion about FDOT's Work Program and the equity analysis table that was produced by them. He mentioned that one of the questions raised during that discussion was about previous equity analysis studies and the results of those. He showed tables on past studies done by the Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR). He provided further information on an analysis he did of the funding categories. He discussed some of the issues that influence the funding like state roadway mileage, strategic intermodal system mileage, higher local money to match, and changing projects/priorities. He mentioned more recent conversations with FDOT that are positive and will hopefully produce more local presence and better results. Mayor Boesch asked what could be done. Mr. Scott suggested inviting FDOT for a questions and answer session. Deputy Mayor O'Flinn asked how many people were employed with FDOT locally. Mr. Scott guessed around twelve but was not certain. Mr. Scott mentioned there are more candidates for Bartow jobs as the cost of living is cheaper and chance for advancement is greater. Deputy Mayor O'Flinn asked if there was a Collier FDOT office. Mr. Scott responded no, the office in Fort Myers serves the southern six counties. Councilmember Flanders commented that the cost estimate for transferring the District headquarters to Fort Myers was elevated and didn't adequately explore alternatives. There was a brief discussion on factors related to moving the office. Mr. Scott mentioned the MPAOC meeting in Orlando where many of the MPO's were complaining about their projects. He also commented on the projects in Lee County that had been advanced, like SR 82 and I 75/Corkscrew. He noted Steve Walls, who was the head of the local office, had a lot to do with this. Councilmember Gore asked who had taken Steve Walls place. Deputy Mayor O'Flinn said it was Lawrence Massey. Mr. Scott noted Mr. Massey was acting as interim.

Agenda Item #5 - +Review of the Executive Director Evaluation Form Structure and Content

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for input into the Executive Director Evaluation form, structure and content prior to bringing it back for action. He referenced the evaluation form that was attached to the agenda packet. He asked if the committee had any changes to the form. Councilmember Gore asked if the form was to be filled out individually or by the MPO Board collectively. Mr. Derek Rooney stated the decision is the committee's on how to complete the evaluation. Councilmember Gore asked what the normal procedure is. Mr. Scott noted it has been different each year, sometimes as a consensus and others being done ahead if time. Mayor Boesch asked if it had been brought to the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). Mr. Scott said it has not been brought to the CAC, adding it usually only goes to the MPO Board or MEC. There was a brief discussion about which committee it should be brought to. Chair Williams asked Mr. Scott to email the history of the MPO's achievements over the past year. He also suggested the MEC email their completed evaluation forms to Mr. Rooney who can then summarize the results. Commissioner Hamman suggested a formal discussion of the evaluation at one of the public meetings. Mr. Scott mentioned a cost of living increase of 3% or 4% that was typically given to the entire MPO staff as part of this process. The MEC agreed that each member would fill out the evaluation form and email to Mr. Rooney who would then summarize and present at the next meeting. Chair Williams reminded Mr. Scott to email the committee a summary of the past year. Mr. Rooney mentioned the renewal of his contract. The committee decided it should be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Agenda Item #6 - Review of the Statewide Fatality and Injury Performance Data

Mr. Don Scott provided an update on the statewide safety performance data numbers that have been provided by FDOT along with the recent target setting discussions. He mentioned, as previously discussed, the MPOs are required to adopt Safety Performance Measure Targets by February 27,

2018. He said after the discussion of this item at last month's meeting, FDOT provided the specific safety performance data for each of the MPO's, noting this data was attached to the agenda packet for review. Mr. Scott handed out and discussed the performance chart. He also mentioned the discussions that occurred between the MPOs, FDOT and FHWA on the performance measures and targets at a meeting that was held in Orlando on November 30th. Councilmember Gore questioned the number attributed to drinking. Mr. Scott noted the point is, the numbers are likely to increase by the end of the year and we are already over the prior years numbers at this time. Mayor Boesch asked if historically the numbers always increase. Mr. Scott responded that sometimes they do go down, for example when the economy was down a few years ago. He mentioned in some areas of Lee County, the traffic counts were higher in 2006. He also noted vehicle miles traveled (VMT) influences the numbers more than population and this has been increasing. Councilmember Gore asked if there was a breakdown of the locations fatalities occur in Lee County. Mr. Scott said the MPO has the software to map that. Councilmember Flanders asked if Sarasota-Manatee is the same size as Lee County. Mr. Scott responded it is a little smaller than Lee County. Mr. Scott mentioned that even though some projects aren't labeled safety, most all projects have a safety component. Councilmember Flanders asked if cell phone use is broken out with relation to crashes. Mr. Scott responded there is more distracted driving than what is actually reported. He added the MPO would like to do a survey of distracted driving as part of the Bike/Ped Safety Action Plan update. A brief discussion followed on the reasons distracted driving is under-reported. Mr. Scott commented this will be brought before the MPO Board next month and hopefully there will be more information from FDOT on what we need to provide that states we did it.

Agenda Item #7 - Discuss the Rescheduling of the Joint Lee and Charlotte Meeting and Agenda Items

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for input on the rescheduling of the Joint Charlotte-Punta Gorda meeting and potential agenda items. He mentioned the Joint meeting with the Charlotte-Punta Gorda MPO was scheduled to occur in November but had to be postponed due to their Board member commitments. He said the Charlotte-Punta Gorda MPO staff is asking about rescheduling this meeting in February on the same date as our regular MPO Board meeting, and we are seeking input from the committee on rescheduling this meeting and proposed agenda items. He added they are looking at Babcock Ranch as a potential meeting location since the church that was used last year is not available. Councilmember Gore asked why Babcock. Mr. Scott said he would accept suggestions for other locations. Ms. Barraco noted the usual meeting location for the MPO Board, Lee County Admin East, was already reserved. Mr. Scott asked if there were any suggestions for agenda items. Mayor Boesch asked about the loan. Mr. Scott said it is on the next MPO Board agenda. Mr. Scott suggested topics of SR 31, Burnt Store, and autonomous vehicles. There was a brief discussion on prior joint meeting locations. Chair Williams asked if there were any other topics. Commissioner Hamman affirmed the Burnt Store updates would be a good topic. Councilmember Gore asked where Lee County ended on Burnt Store Road. Chair Williams responded it is close to Burnt Store Marina. Mr. Rooney mentioned the acquisition phase for six lanes that is currently underway even though the widening will begin with four lanes. Chair Williams added the six lane project would most likely occur in the 2030-2035 time frame.

Other Business

Agenda Item #8 - Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

There were no public comments on items not on the agenda.

Agenda Item #9 – Announcements

Deputy Mayor O’Flinn mentioned there would be a presentation of the Bonita Beach Road Quadrant Plan at the MPO Board meeting on Friday.

Agenda Item #10 - Information and Distribution Items

Mr. Scott notified the MEC that the audit report was completed. He asked if they would like it to be brought to the MEC or the MPO Board. The MEC agreed it could be brought to the MEC. Councilmember Gore asked if that was what Mayor Ruane was going over with the auditor last month and Mr. Scott replied yes.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

* Action Items + May Require Action

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