

**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

2:00 p.m., November 18, 2020
Cape Coral Public Works Building
815 Nicholas Pkwy E, Cape Coral, FL
Green Room/A200



Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by MPO Board Chair Fred Forbes.

The roll was called and recorded by MPO staff. There was a quorum. Those MEC members in attendance included Lee County Commissioner Kevin Ruane; City of Sanibel Mayor Mick Denham; Village of Estero Mayor William Ribble; City of Bonita Springs Councilmember/MPO Chair Fred Forbes; City of Fort Myers Councilmember Darla Betzer Bonk; and City of Cape Coral Mayor Joe Coviello. Others in attendance included MPO Legal Counsel Derek Rooney; FDOT's Victoria Peters; 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 October 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Mayor William Ribble made the motion to approve the October 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes. Mayor Mick Denham seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 - +Review and Provide Input on the Draft 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Adoption Summary Report

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for the review of and to provide comments on the draft 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) adoption summary report that was attached to the agenda packet and posted to the website. Mr. Scott gave a Power Point presentation that contained slides with information on population, constrained roadways, public involvement, and travel survey comments. Commissioner Kevin Ruane asked what is done with comments on the LRTP and referenced comments submitted to him by a resident. Mr. Scott said he had also received and responded to those comments. He added that all of the public comments on the LRTP will be included in a separate public comments section of the LRTP. Mayor Denham asked if there was anything in particular in this large document that Mr. Scott wanted to call to the attention of the committee. Mr. Scott noted that additional background will be provided at Friday's meeting for the benefit of the newer members on the MPO Board. He continued his presentation with more information on the travel survey comments and technology. Commissioner Ruane asked about a county app similar to what Sanibel provides. Mr. Scott said he would look into this. He mentioned the FRAME project for connected/autonomous vehicles along the US 41 corridor and said he could bring back information on that technology. The committee briefly discussed apps similar to Google/Wave, all solutions costing money, education program on Sanibel, live traffic updates on apps, apps being quick/inexpensive, camera on Chiquita Lock for boat traffic, cameras at key locations, bringing all camera views together in a central viewing platform/app, lack of funding for roadway expansion to address increasing population, use of technology to assist with traffic, FDOT cameras, connecting existing cameras, behavior modification, toll facilities, transponders, and toll-by-plate. Mr. Scott continued his presentation with information on additional public comments received. Mayor Denham

asked if there was a ranking of the most congested areas in Lee County. Mr. Scott mentioned the Congestion Management document that was presented earlier in the year. Mr. Scott continued his presentation with information on revenues, existing project priorities, cost feasible plan, projects by jurisdictions, transit needs plan, and bike ped facilities. Mr. Scott asked if there were any questions or comments. Chair Fred Forbes asked if there was action needed on this item. Mr. Scott replied no. Commissioner Ruane asked when this will be adopted. Mr. Scott replied at the December 18th MPO Board meeting. Commissioner Ruane asked if comments are still being accumulated. Mr. Scott replied yes. Commissioner Ruane asked if there will be a summary of the comments at the next meeting. Mr. Scott replied yes. The full draft report can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/MEC03-4.pdf> Mr. Scott's entire presentation can be accessed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-Item-3-2045-LRTP.pdf>

Agenda Item #4 - *Complete and Approve the Evaluation of the Executive Director

Mr. Derek Rooney, MPO attorney, presented this agenda item for the completion and approval of an evaluation of the Executive Director. Mr. Rooney noted that prior to the meeting he had provided the Executive Committee members with the evaluation form. He added that he had calculated the scores of the evaluation forms received with the result being an average consensus of outstanding. He said that he still hadn't received all of the evaluations, but even if the outstanding evaluations came in with the lowest score it wouldn't impact the overall rating significantly. Mr. Rooney read several of the complimentary comments received regarding Mr. Scott. The committee briefly discussed a merit increase for Mr. Scott, extending his contract, providing salary increase for staff as well, car allowance, mileage reimbursement, bandwidth adjustment, cost of living adjustment, length of contract, procedures for salary adjustments, current salary of Executive Director Don Scott, and adjusted salary with five percent bandwidth increase.

Commissioner Kevin Ruane made the motion to increase the salary of the Executive Director by five percent to accommodate a bandwidth adjustment and then increase the new adjusted base salary by three percent to accommodate a cost of living increase. Mayor William Ribble seconded the motion.

Mr. Rooney noted that the three percent cost of living increase also applied to staff due to the way the contract was written for the Executive Director. Commissioner Ruane noted the bandwidth adjustment of five percent was to increase the salary of the Executive Director to a level more consistent with other MPO Directors in the state of Florida. He added this was separate from the cost of living increase which is revisited every year and also applies to staff.

There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - Information on the FDOT Funding Reduction Impacts

Mr. Scott presented this information only agenda item on the FDOT Funding Reduction Impacts. Mr. Scott gave a short Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the Secretary of FDOT's recent presentation at the MPAOC meeting and the Governor's Executive Order. Ms. Victoria Peters commented on the statutory requirement. Mr. Scott introduced Ms. Peters as the new FDOT liaison for Lee County. He commented that any project that has not started is frozen. He asked if there were any comments. Mayor Mick Denham asked if the MPO Board has any choice the decisions on projects that are being made by FDOT. Mr. Scott replied that it is FDOT's decision and the tentative Work Program should be out in January. He added that comments could be made at that time. Commissioner Ruane suggested the MPO Board may be able to prioritize projects. Mr. Scott said that the MPO Board might be able to make decisions that would impact the list. Ms. Peters commented on a project example in Collier County that was deferred for a year. She also noted there was a difference between fiscal year and calendar year with projects. There was a brief discussion on who should decide

on projects, considerations by FDOT, and work program release in January. Mr. Scott's entire presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-Item-5-FDOT-Funding-Information.pdf>

Agenda Item #6 - Information on the Hyperloop Presentation to TBARTA

Mr. Scott presented this information only agenda item on the TBARTA presentation on September 15, 2020 by the HyperloopTT Company on their new transportation technology and their concept plans for the Tampa area and southwest/south Florida. Mr. Scott said this came up recently due to the third phase coming through our area. He mentioned a news interview he gave on the subject. Mr. Scott gave a brief Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the technology, stations, energy efficiency, benefits, activities thus far, and proposed area network. The HyperloopTT presentation given to TBARTA can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/MEC06-4.pdf>

Agenda Item #7 - Overview of the November 20th MPO Board Meeting Agenda

Mr. Scott gave an overview of the November 20th MPO Board Agenda that included ratifying the previous virtual MPO Board meeting items, SUN Trail agreement approval, LRTP draft summary, and Work Program funding issues.

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

Mr. Scott reminded the Executive Committee members that the MPO Board meeting will be held in downtown Fort Myers on Friday morning. Mayor Coviello commented on the new Cape Coral Council members that will temporarily be filling the appointments of their predecessors until permanent appointments are decided at the next Cape Coral Council meeting in December.

Agenda Item #10 - Information and Distribution Items

The Information and Distribution Items included an article on FCC vote to split 5.9 GHz spectrum band between autos and WiFi. The full text of the article can be accessed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/MEC10-2.pdf>

The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

An audio recording of the entire meeting can be accessed here: <https://soundcloud.com/user-390911534/11-18-2020-mecwma>

* Action Items + May Require Action

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