

**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

2:00 p.m., September 8, 2021
Cape Coral Public Works Building
815 Nicholas Pkwy E, Cape Coral, FL
Green Room/A200



Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m. by MPO Chair Katy Errington.

The roll was called and recorded by MPO staff. There was a quorum. Those MEC members in attendance included Village of Estero Mayor/MPO Chair Katy Errington; City of Fort Myers Councilmember Fred Burson; City of Cape Coral Mayor John Gunter, and City of Sanibel Vice-Mayor Richard Johnson. Others in attendance included MPO Legal Counsel Derek Rooney; Bill Corbett and Persides Zambrano (2:23 p.m.) with the City of Cape Coral; FDOT's Victoria Peters; and MPO staff Don Scott and Calandra Barraco. The committee briefly discussed wearing masks.

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 June 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Mayor John Gunter made the motion to approve the June 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes. Vice-Mayor Richard Johnson seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 - *Review and Approval of the Cape Coral Evacuation Contract

Mr. Don Scott presented this agenda item for the review and approval of the contract with CDM Smith to conduct the City of Cape Coral Hurricane Evacuation Study. He said MPO staff have been working with the City of Cape Coral staff and the Consultant to finalize a contract for the Hurricane Evacuation Study. He added the Consultant selection of CDM Smith was approved by the Board back in May. He referred to the professional services agreement for Executive Committee approval that was attached to the agenda packet, posted to the MPO website, and shown as slides at the meeting. He reviewed several updates that were made to the contract including adding the TAZ data from Metro Forecasting and spelling out any acronyms. Chair Errington asked if there was any discussion on this item. There was none. She asked for a motion.

Mayor John Gunter made the motion to approve the Cape Coral Evacuation Contract. Vice-Mayor Richard Johnson seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #4 - Provide Input on the Joint MPO Board Meeting Request from Collier

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item for input on the Joint MPO Board Meeting Request from Collier MPO. He explained at an MPO Board meeting in June, one of the Collier County Commissioners asked about setting up a joint MPO Board meeting with the Lee MPO as we have not met jointly for several years. Mr. Scott noted in the past there were consecutive years where we were not able to get a quorum, one year by the Collier MPO and one year by the Lee MPO. He added since that request, the MPO Board member has asked about having a joint meeting with all three MPO's from Lee,

Collier and the Charlotte-Punta Gorda MPO in February, most likely on the same date that we usually meet with the Charlotte-Punta Gorda MPO. Mr. Scott commented it might be helpful to meet with the other MPOs as joint certifications are coming up. The committee discussed meeting with the neighboring MPOs on a regular basis, possibly meeting with smaller representative groups from each MPO like the Executive Committee, gathering jointly but then voting at individual meetings, size of Lee County MPO Board compared to Collier MPO Board, changing agreement, further history of joint meetings, Collier MPO not having an Executive Committee, past joint meeting with Collier MPO Board in Bonita, Collier MPO Board representatives, holding joint meeting with Collier separately from Charlotte, past meeting places of joint Lee/Collier meetings, number of Collier MPO Board members, number of Executive Committee members, and possibility of holding a meeting with the Collier MPO Board and the Lee County MPO Executive Committee. Mr. Rooney said he could contact the Collier MPO attorney regarding updating the agreement. Chair Errington asked Mr. Scott to bring additional information back to the next meeting. Mr. Scott said he would provide an update at the next meeting.

Agenda Item #5 - Information on the Updated State Transportation Revenue Forecasts

Mr. Scott presented this informational agenda item on the Updated State Transportation Revenue Forecasts. He provided a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the revenue estimating conference, additional information, and the fuel tax collection graph. He asked if there were any comments or questions. His presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-Item-5-State-revenues.pdf> The committee discussed contributions of electric vehicles for road use, electric vehicle (EV) taxes, previously proposed legislation, suggestions for EV contributions, importance of enacting EV contributions now, percentage of current fleet that is EV, EV flat tax on purchase, process of enacting EV fees in legislation, League of Cities conversation on EVs, weight of EVs, gas tax distribution, population factor, doc stamps, affordable housing fund from doc stamps, Lee County position with regard to funding, discretionary funds, and providing additional information on this agenda item. Mr. Scott said he would get back with the committee on the percentage of current fleet that are EVs, distribution of the gas tax, doc stamp disbursements, and all sources of the trust fund. Chair Errington thanked Mr. Scott.

Agenda Item #6 - Information on the Federal Infrastructure Bill and Reauthorization

Mr. Scott presented this informational agenda item on the Federal Infrastructure Bill and Reauthorization. He gave a Power Point presentation that included slides with information on the infrastructure act, proposed increases in national MPO funding, sample of discretionary grant programs, and next steps. Mr. Scott asked if there were any comments or questions. His presentation can be viewed here: <https://leempo.com/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-Item-6-Federal-Bill.pdf> Chair Errington asked if Mr. Scott could provide the link for the information in his presentation. Mr. Scott replied yes. Mr. Scott mentioned the funding was based on the 2009 apportionment from the 2000 census and there was discussion from Florida to update to a more recent census in order to ensure a fair share based on population increases. Vice-Mayor Johnson questioned the basis of using the 2000 census. Mr. Scott said he would look at the schedule and the global numbers. Vice-Mayor Johnson asked if he could reach out to the local delegation. Mr. Scott said this was on the federal level. Vice-Mayor Johnson asked for bullet points to base calls and letters on. Mr. Scott said he would provide the requested information. Chair Errington asked if there was further discussion. There was none.

Agenda Item #7 - Overview of the September 17th MPO Board Meeting Agenda

Mr. Scott presented this agenda item as an Overview of the September 17th MPO Board Meeting Agenda. He reviewed the agenda items including approval of the 2022 meeting schedule, approval of a TIP amendment, approval of UPWP amendments, approval of Aviation Priorities, approval of the 5305 grant, and approval of the General Planning Consultant Scope of Services. The committee

discussed changing the Executive Committee meeting time to either 1:00 p.m. or 1:30 p.m. on the same day due to a schedule conflict with a Cape Coral Council meeting. Mr. Scott said he would check on moving the time. Chair Errington asked if there were any questions. There were none.

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

The committee discussed ensuring proper representation at delegation meetings where the MPO has an agenda item, resolving the issue of lack of representation when there is an MPO agenda item, joint resolution with Charlotte County for the Purple Heart Highway designation, writing a letter to the Chair of the delegation, reaching out to the MPO Board member that was scheduled to present, MPO staff providing assistance in drafting letter to delegation, I-75 at Corkscrew interchange project, complaints on this project, project dragging on, delegation being formed to write letter to Governor DeSantis on the project, poor road conditions in project area, landscaping on Corkscrew near project being done by the Village of Estero, reaching out to FDOT with concerns on the I-75/Corkscrew interchange project, coordinating with FDOT to expedite project completion, moving project equipment to Immokalee, and using MPO to assist with project completion. Ms. Victoria Peters with FDOT said she was taking notes and would contact the project manager. She said she would also contact operations and notify them of the complaints. Chair Errington asked if there was any further discussion. There was none.

Agenda Item #10 - Information and Distribution Items

There were no Information and Distribution Items.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

An audio recording of the entire meeting can be accessed here: <https://soundcloud.com/user-390911534/09-08-2021-mecwma>

* Action Items * May Require Action

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