

MINUTES
EXECUTIVE BOARD
of the
Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
January 21, 2015

Attendees: Mayor Rogers Anderson, Mr. Andy Barlow (for Mayor Ed Hagerty), Mayor Howard Bradley, Mayor Paige Brown, Mayor Ernest Burgess, Mayor Patti Carroll, Mayor John Coombs, Mayor Philip Craighead, Mr. Corbin Davis, Mayor Dean Dickey, Mayor Rick Graham, Mr. Gerald Herman (for Mayor Michael Arnold), Executive Anthony Holt, Ms. Shanna Hughey (Mayor Karl Dean), Mayor Randall Hutto, Mayor Timothy Lassiter, Mr. Larry McGoogin (for Gov. Bill Haslam), Mayor Ken Moore, Mayor Charlie Norman, Mr. Paul Nutting (for Mayor Billy Paul Carneal), Mayor Mary Esther Reed, Mr. Dana Richardson (for Mayor Shane McFarland), Mr. Tim Roach, Mayor Ken Wilber

Approve December 10, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Mayor Ken Wilber, Chair, opened the meeting at 9:04 a.m. Mayor Howard Bradley moved to approve the December 10, 2014 meeting minutes with Mr. Tim Roach seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments

Ms. Margo Chambers, Nashville, said she objects that the MPO put a project on the priority list for TDOT on November 12th which was identified as construction ready by FY2016 but it won't be. The project status for the Amp or East-West Connector is unknown at this point and the status has not changed since October 2014. She said that the MPO has a duty to relay accurate project status to TDOT and this wasn't done. She said that the #1 project for this MPO did not have accuracy and this pulls into question what the Board is approving. She asked that the project be removed from the list because it was tying up \$35M of TDOT money that could go to other projects. She said that not properly debating or discussing each project on the list takes money from other desperately needed projects across the state.

She said that regarding activity of the RTA which is related to this Board, the MPO needs to be aware of the latest funding proposal (with the City of Lebanon and the developer, Jack Bell, providing the local match) for the Hamilton Springs train station may not be in compliance with Chapter 53 of Title 49 U.S. Code. She said that the City of Lebanon applied for the \$1.6M grant and received the grant, allegedly, but it is not a designated recipient. Unfortunately, the City must follow Master Agreement Section 3 which outlines the Code of Contract Rules. This also includes the City filling out required lobby disclosure forms to insure transparency to the public and to be in compliant with all ethical obligations under federal code.

MPO Chair's Report

Mayor Wilber introduced the new mayors, Patti Carroll of Fairview and Paige Brown of Gallatin and welcomed them to the Board.

Recap of 2014 and Fiscal Year Ending Federal Obligations

Mr. Michael Skipper, MPO director, gave an overview of the state of transportation in Middle Tennessee for 2014 which shows the guiding principles of the MPO. This report is available on our website

[http://www.nashvillempo.org/docs/Annual Report/2014 Annual Report.pdf](http://www.nashvillempo.org/docs/Annual%20Report/2014%20Annual%20Report.pdf)

The full list of the federal FY2014 obligations is on the MPO website.

[http://www.nashvillempo.org/docs/TIP/Annual Listing Obligated Projects/FY2014 Obligations.pdf](http://www.nashvillempo.org/docs/TIP/Annual%20Listing%20Obligated%20Projects/FY2014%20Obligations.pdf)

Public Comment for 2015 Annual Public Meeting

Ms. Margo Chambers said that her comments were stated earlier in the meeting.

Election of Officers for 2015

Mayor Rogers Anderson said that the nominating committee (made up of Mayor Anderson, Mayor Karl Dean, Mayor Ernest Burgess, and Tim Roach) nominated Mayor Ken Wilber as Chair and Mayor Randall Hutto as Vice-Chair. Mayor Anderson moved to accept the slate as presented. Mayor Ken Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

MPO Director's Report

Mr. Skipper said that during the next year there will be many major activities. During the first quarter there will be

- an update of the Public Participation Plan
- results of the public opinion poll will be announced
- an online mapping application of problems for public use will be introduced
- the recommendations of four major studies (a) SE Area Transportation and Land Use Study, b) best practices for managed lanes, c) phase III of freight and goods movement study, and d) the SR-109 Access Management) will be discussed

During the 2nd quarter

- an upgrade to the online TIP database will be done
- an upgrade of the transit competitive index planning tool
- result of the integrated transportation and health impact model
- the release of the draft 2040 RTP to FHWA/FTA/TDOT for review

During the 3rd and 4th quarters

- an update of the Vital Signs report will be published
- regional environmental assessment and plan of action
- the annual luncheon will be held
- the RTP will be adopted

Mayor Charlie Norman asked Mr. Skipper to email the Board members with the list of activities for the year. Mayor Wilber said that a demonstration of the online databases would be helpful.

Mayor Anderson asked what the current status of the gas tax is. Mr. Skipper said that there is talk of bills being introduced using various options for more revenue. He said that increasing the gas tax could be tied to the consumer price index to keep up with inflation. Sales tax conversion is another option. Any measure to increase should be tied to a measure that helps to shore up the predictability of revenue.

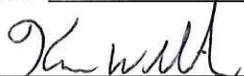
Mayor Anderson said that the members of the Board need to be on the same page when bills come up and that county highway commissioners should be on board through the TN Highway Association.

Mayor Norman said that the rural population going into the urban areas to work causes much of the congestion on the highways.

Mr. Gerald Herman thanked Mr. Skipper for putting links in the meeting agendas for their convenience.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Date: March 13, 2015


The Honorable Kenneth Wilber
Chairman, MPO Executive Board


Michael Skipper, AICP
Executive Director and Secretary