

**MICHIANA AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
POLICY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 11, 2020**

The March meeting of the Michiana Area Council of Governments' (MACOG) Policy Board was held on March 11, 2020, in the MACOG conference room, on the 11th floor of the St. Joseph County – South Bend City Building, South Bend, Indiana. Ernest Wiggins, Chair of the Policy Board, called the meeting to order. It was noted there was a quorum present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:
(Policy Board)**

Ernest Wiggins, Kosciusko County Council
Mike Bellovich, Mishawaka Common Council
Mandy Campbell, Marshall County Council
Deborah Fleming, St. Joseph County Commissioner
Cary Groninger, Kosciusko County Commissioner
Phil Jenkins, Mayor, City of Nappanee
Rod Roberson, Mayor, City of Elkhart
Mark Senter, Mayor, City of Plymouth
Joseph Thallemer, City of Warsaw
Suzanne Weirick, Elkhart County Commissioner

**MEMBERS ABSENT:
(Policy Board)**

Matt Deitchley, Deputy Commissioner, INDOT LaPorte
Dwight Fish, Elkhart Common Council
Todd Johnson, Deputy Commissioner, INDOT Fort Wayne
John Letherman, Elkhart County Council
James Mueller, Mayor, City of South Bend
Kevin Overmyer, Marshall County Commissioner
Mark Root, St. Joseph County Council
Jeremy Stutsman, Mayor, City of Goshen
David Wood, Mayor, City of Mishawaka
Vacant, South Bend Common Council

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jamie Woods, Thorne Grodnik, LLP
Travis Murphy, Ameresco
Courtney Papa, Senator Todd Young's Office
Hodge Patel, Interested Citizen
Kelly Wenger, NICTD/South Shore Line
James Turnwald, MACOG
Jeremiah Cox, MACOG
Katie Dominguez, MACOG
Debbie Gardner, MACOG
Carla Herwarth, MACOG
Alaina Parrish, MACOG
Donny Ritsema, MACOG

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 8, 2020 MEETING

The minutes from the January 8, 2020, meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. Ernest Wiggins asked the Policy Board if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. There being none, he asked for the Policy Board's approval.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MARK SENTER AND SECONDED BY PHIL JENKINS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 2020. THE MOTION CARRIED.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - There was no report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Debbie Gardner presented the MACOG Financial Reports for December 2019 and January 2020. She explained that the reports are cumulative with the exception of the monthly disbursements report; she reviewed the disbursement amounts for each month. Gardner then reviewed the fiscal year-to-date total expenses and the cash balance at the end of January 2020. She asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, Gardner requested the Policy Board's approval of the December and January Financial Reports.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUZANNE WEIRICK AND SECONDED BY DEBORAH FLEMING TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 2019 AND JANUARY 2020 FINANCIAL REPORTS. THE MOTION CARRIED.

James Turnwald made the Policy Board aware that the State Board of Accounts has started the MACOG Fiscal Year 2019 audit.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mark Senter indicated spreadsheets of the Administrative Modifications made by staff in January and February were provided to the members of the Policy Board. Questions may be addressed to MACOG staff following the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Amendments to the Fiscal Year (SFY) 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Electronically Endorsed by the Policy Board in February 2020.

Fort Wayne District

Locally Initiated – Resolution 07-20

A. Elkhart County	<u>Amendment</u>	Exempt Project in Elkhart County
Resolution 07-20	Add CN Phase to TIP	
Des#: 1700310	CR 17 Multi-Use Path: from US 33 to CR 45	
	Bike/Pedestrian Facilities	
Phase: CN	Total: \$3,598,456	Federal: \$2,878,765 (CMAQ) Local: \$719,691 SFY 2023

LaPorte District

INDOT Initiated – Resolution 08-20

A. INDOT	<u>Amendment</u>	Exempt Project in St. Joseph and Marshall Counties
Resolution 008-20	Add Project to TIP	
Des#: 2000015	Various Locations in the LaPorte District	

Patch and Rehab Pavement

Phase: CN Total: \$1,000,000 Federal: \$0 State: \$1,000,000 SFY 2021

Transit

Resolution 09-20

Endorsement of the Marshall-Starke Development Center, Inc., Section 5310 Grant Application for the procurement of the following:

One (1) Low Floor Mini-Van with Lift

Calendar Year 2020 Total: \$42,000 Federal: \$33,600 Local: \$8,400

Two (2) Medium Transit Vans with Lift

Calendar Year 2020 Total: \$116,000 Federal: \$92,800 Local: \$23,200

James Turnwald explained the amendments for February 2020 were presented to the Policy Board for endorsement by email due to the cancelation of the February meeting. Turnwald then reviewed Resolutions 07-20 and 08-20 and Jeremiah Cox reviewed resolution 09-20.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JOSEPH THALLEMER AND SECONDED BY DEBORAH FLEMING TO APPROVE RESOLUTIONS 07-20, 08-20, IN ADDITION, 09-20, ENDORSED ELECTRONICALLY IN FEBRUARY. THE MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

Amendments to the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Transit

Resolution 10-20 – Bus / Rail Apportionment – Urbanized Area Formula Program

FY 2019 Bus / Rail Apportionment – FTA Section 5307 Funding

Total Apportionment – \$4,324,169

NICTD Rail – \$1,340,492 Transpo – \$2,724,226 Niles DART – \$259,450

Jeremiah Cox presented Resolution 10-20. Section 5307 funds are provided by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to urbanized areas with a population of 50,000 or more for transit capital and operating assistance. Annually, MACOG facilitates a meeting with the three transit providers in the South Bend Urbanized Area, as well as the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission, to come to an agreement on how the funds will be distributed. Hearing no questions, Cox requested the Policy Boards approval.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUZANNE WEIRICK AND SECONDED BY MARK SENTER TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 10-20. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Joseph Thallemer was interested to know where funding for NICTD's double tracking project was coming from. Kelly Wenger explained NICTD is competing nationally for discretionary grants to

use on the double track project and the apportioned funding received from FTA is used for day-to-day operations and maintenance.

Resolution 11-20 – Rail Apportionment – State of Good Repair

FY 2019 Rail Apportionment – FTA Section 5337 Funding

Total Apportionment – \$2,846,677

NICTD Rail – \$2,846,677

Cox then presented Resolution 11-20. He explained 5337 funds provide financial assistance for the operation of rail fixed-guideway and high-intensity motorbus public transportation systems. NICTD receives all of the apportionment because they are the only rail provider in the urbanized area.

Hearing no questions regarding this resolution, the Policy Board Chair called for a motion to approve the resolution.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DEBORAH FLEMING AND SECONDED BY PHIL JENKINS TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 11-20. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 12-20 – Bus Apportionment – Bus and Bus Facilities

FY 2019 Bus Apportionment – FTA Section 5339 Funding

Total Apportionment -- \$ 347,984

Transpo – \$287,564

Niles DART – \$60,420

Section 5339 funding may be used to replace, rehabilitate, and purchase buses and related equipment, as well as bus-related facilities. After presenting Resolution 12-20, Cox asked the Policy Board for any questions. Hearing none, he asked for their endorsement of the resolution.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MARK SENTER AND SECONDED BY DEBORAH FLEMING TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 12-20. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 13-20

Endorsement of the Council on Aging of Elkhart County, Section 5310 Grant Application for the procurement of the following:

One (1) Low Floor Mini-Van with Lift

Calendar Year 2020

Total: \$42,000 Federal: \$33,600

Local: \$8,400

Cox also presented Resolution 13-20. He asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, Cox asked for Policy Board endorsement of the resolution.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JOSEPH THALLEMER AND SECONDED BY SUZANNE WEIRICK TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 13-20. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Other Actions – Request for Endorsements

James Turnwald explained that both certification items being considered for endorsement are annual action items requested from the Policy Board.

- Endorsement of the SFY 2021 Self Certification Statement

Turnwald indicated the Self Certification Statement is part the Unified Planning of Work Program (UPWP). It certifies that MACOG's transportation planning process addresses the major issues in the metropolitan planning area and is it conducted according to all federal requirements. Hearing no questions, Turnwald asked for the Policy Board's endorsement.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUZANNE WEIRICK AND SECONDED BY PHIL JENKINS TO ENDORSE THE SFY 2021 SELF CERTIFICAITON STATEMENT. THE MOTION CARRIED.

- Endorsement of the Statement Regarding MPO Certification Review by FHWA and INDOT

Turnwald also stated the Statement Regarding Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Certification Review refers to a planning process review conducted every four years by FHWA and INDOT. MACOG's last review was conducted on June 7 and 8, 2016. No corrective actions were identified during the review. MACOG's next review is scheduled to take place this calendar year (2020). Asking if there were any questing and hearing none, Turnwald asked for the Policy Board's endorsement.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARY GRONINGER AND SECONDED BY DEBORAH FLEMING TO ENDORSE THE STATEMENT REGARDING MPO CERTIFICAITON REVIEW. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Presentation

James Turnwald and other members of the MACOG staff presented the Calendar Year 2019 MACOG Annual Review. Copies of the full report were provided to the members of the Policy Board and can be found on the MACOG website on the "About" page; http://www.macog.com/docs/about/ar/annualreview_2019.pdf

NARC Conference

Ernest Wiggins noted he had the opportunity to travel with James Turnwald to Washington DC for the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) National Conference of Regions. Wiggins asked Turnwald to provide a brief update on the conference.

Turnwald informed the Policy Board that each year, in February, MACOG representatives attend the NARC National Conference of Regions. The Executive Director invites the Chair and First Vice-Chair to attend with him. Conference attendees include MPOs, Councils of Government (COG), their directors and board members, local and state elected officials, and other diverse professionals and peers.

Turnwald indicated the content of the conference begins on Sunday evening, runs through Tuesday, and includes key policy issues, legislative items, and matters affecting local governments, MPOs, and COGs. On Wednesday, attendees participate in meetings with their legislative representatives.

Rod Roberson wanted to know where information from the NARC conference could be found. He noted he would like a summary of key impact areas. Turnwald responded that he will provide information via email.

Ernest Wiggins stated an important item discussed at the conference was the September 30, 2020, expiration date of the FAST Act. (Fixing America's Surface Transportation) The Fast Act is the current federal legislation that provides funding for surface transportation infrastructure and investment including highway, highway and motor vehicle safety, public transportation, motor carrier safety, hazardous materials safety, rail, and research, technology, and statistics programs.

Staff Update

Beacon Community Impact Grant (League Cycling Instructor Seminar)

In partnership with Bike Michiana Coalition and Purdue Extension, MACOG was recently awarded funding through the Beacon Health System Community Impact. The funds will be used to bring the League Cycling Instructor Seminar to the region and offset costs associated with attendance to increase the capacity for teaching bicycle safety and skills classes to all ages.

Partner for Clean Air Luncheon – April 28

The annual Partners for Clean Air luncheon will be held on April 28, from 10:30 AM until 1:00 PM at the Matterhorn in Elkhart. Lunch will be provided.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Joseph Thallemer reported that he will be meeting with Governor Holcomb, together with Mayor Ryan Daniel from Columbia City and INDOT Commissioner, Joe McGuinness, to discuss the future of US 30.

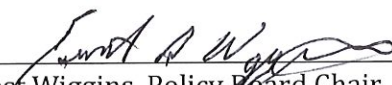
PUBLIC COMMENT - There were no comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business, Ernest Wiggins called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PHIL JENKINS AND SECONDED BY
DEBORAH FLEMING TO ADJOURN THE POLICY BOARD MEETING.
THE MOTION CARRIED.

James Turnwald, Executive Director



Ernest Wiggins, Policy Board Chair