

**OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
February 20, 2020**

The Board of Directors of the Ozarks Transportation Organization met at its scheduled time of 12:00 p.m. in the Ozarks Transportation Organization Large Conference Room in Springfield, Missouri.

The following members were present:

Mr. Harold Bengsch, Greene County
Mr. Chuck Branch, Citizen-at-Large
Mr. David Cameron, City of Republic (a)
Mr. Steve Campbell, MoDOT
Mr. Steve Childers, City of Ozark (a)
Mr. Jerry Compton, Citizen-at-Large
Mr. Travis Cossey, City of Nixa (a)
Ms. Debra Hickey, City of Battlefield
Mr. Skip Jansen, City Utilities

Mr. Andrew Lear, City of Springfield
Mr. James O'Neal, Citizen-at-Large
Mr. Ralph Phillips, Christian County
Ms. Stacy Reese, MoDOT (a)
Ms. Martha Smartt, City of Strafford (a)
Mr. Dan Smith, City of Springfield (a)
Mr. Richard Walker, Citizen-at-Large
Mr. Brian Weiler, Airport Board (a)

(a) Denotes alternate given voting privileges as a substitute for voting member not present

The following members were not present:

Mr. Mokhtee Ahmad, FTA
Mr. Chris Coulter, Greene County (a)
Mr. Bob Dixon, Greene County
Mr. John Elkins, Citizen-at-Large (a)
Ms. Jan Fisk, City of Springfield
Ms. Ashley French, City of Strafford
Mr. Rick Gardner, City of Ozark
Mr. Brad Gray, City of Willard (a)
Mr. Corey Hendrickson, City of Willard
Mr. Michael Latuszek, FHWA (a)

Mr. Ken McClure, City of Springfield (a)
Ms. Laurel McKean, MoDOT (a)
Mr. Bradley McMahon, FHWA
Mr. Daniel Nguyen, FTA (a)
Mr. Mark Schenkelberg, FAA
Mr. Mike Schilling, City of Springfield
Mr. Frank Schoneboom, City of Battlefield
Mr. Matthew Simpson, City of Springfield (a)
Mr. Brian Steele, City of Nixa
Mr. Jeff Ussery, City of Republic

Others Present: Garrett Tyson, Civic Minded Consulting; Mr. Dan Wadlington, Senator Roy Blunt's Office; Mr. Jeremy Pruett, Congressman Billy Long's Office; Ms. Kimberly Cooper, Mr. Dave Faucett, Ms. Sara Fields, Ms. Markee Hebden, Ms. Natasha Longpine, and Andy Thomason, Ozarks Transportation Organization.

Chair Cossey called the meeting to order at approximately 12:03 p.m.

I. Administration

A. Introductions

Those in attendance made self-introductions stating their name and the organization they represent.

B. Approval of Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Mr. Cameron moved to approve the February 20, 2020 agenda, with the removal of Item II.A. *City of Republic Presentation*. Mr. Jansen seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

C. Approval of December 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Hickey moved to approve the December 19, 2019 meeting minutes. Mr. Lear seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

D. Public Comment Period for All Agenda Items

The correspondence that had been received since distributing the packets for the meeting were laid at the places of the members. No one was present to speak to any item on the agenda.

E. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Fields reported that OTO and MoDOT had been working on a \$70 million INFRA Grant for the expansion of I-44 between West Bypass and US 65. The project includes a third travel lane in each direction, new bridges, ITS, sound walls, and the infrastructure required for a trail crossing near Doling Park. MoDOT has committed between \$9 and \$9.5 million in match funds. These funds are available because of the Governor's Bridge Bonding Program. If the grant is not approved over the next couple years, those committed funds will be used to expand I-44 between Glenstone and US 65.

Ms. Fields also reported the remainder of the funds freed up by the bonding program will be used to extend the six-lane expansion of James River Freeway. Depending on the updated estimates, the expansion will be extended to the west of National, possibly all the way to Kansas Expressway.

Ms. Fields stated the FY 2020 federal omnibus budget bill seems to include additional one-time transportation funds. The final numbers have not been published, but the funds should be around \$471,000. No allocation decisions have been made regarding these funds.

F. MoDOT Update

Mr. Campbell spoke on safety benefits associated with the I-44 INFRA Grant. It is a project of interest for a number of trucking companies. Mr. Campbell said it is an opportunity to make a lasting impact on freight movement in Springfield.

Mr. Campbell also reported on MoDOT staffing. Turnover continues to be a major issue. It is running around 13 percent, or 100 employees per year. There are 10-15 engineering job openings right now. Twenty-seven percent of current employees are eligible to retire in five years, and 42 percent are eligible in 10 years. MoDOT needs to improve its talent pipeline. Mr. Campbell also announced that John Sanders has been promoted to the Design Engineer position.

Mr. Campbell stated this summer's construction season may be the largest on record for the Southwest District. Major projects include the Missouri/Arkansas connector. This will be the final segment of I-49.

Ms. Reese reported the district has been working with its urban and rural partners to develop the next STIP. She discussed funding targets and STIP development timelines.

G. Legislative Reports

(5 minutes/Cossey)

Mr. Pruitt spoke on the grant opportunities that are currently available. He also spoke on the prospect of new infrastructure funding. He expects a few small infrastructure bills may be possible and a one-year extension of the FAST Act is the best that can be hoped for.

Mr. Wadlington reminded everyone that Senator Blunt is happy to write support letters for any grant applications.

II. New Business

A. ~~City of Republic Presentation~~

This item was removed from the agenda.

B. Financial Statements for 2nd Quarter 2019-2020 Budget Year

Mr. Cameron gave a brief overview of the 2nd Quarter Financial Statements. He reported the expenses and revenues are inline with budgeted expectations. The profit and loss statements show expenses are exceeding revenues, but there is a healthy funds balance. He recommends the financial statements be accepted as presented.

Mr. Jansen moved to approve the 2nd Quarter Financial Statements as presented. Ms Hickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

C. Transportation Alternative Project Award Recommendation

Mr. Thomason gave a brief overview of the Transportation Alternative Program and outlined the applications received. He explained the applications requested more federal funds than

were made available. The scoring committee had to decide how to allocate the funds amongst the communities. Based on the committee's scoring efforts and conversations held during the meeting, the committee made the following funding recommendation:

- Fully fund the City of Springfield, the City of Ozark, and Ozark Greenways applications.
- Fund the right-of-way and design portion of the City of Republic application.
- Award the remaining funds to the City of Battlefield. Battlefield has agreed to commit STBG-U funds to complete this project.

Ms. Hickey made a motion to approve the five Transportation Alternative Program Projects as recommended by the scoring committee. Mr. Childers seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

D. Amendment Number Three to the FY 2020-2023 TIP

Ms. Longpine stated there were eight amendments to the FY 2020-2023 TIP being proposed. The amendments include the five Transportation Alternatives Program projects mentioned under the previous agenda item, and three others. MoDOT is requesting the addition of the CRISI scoping project and a revision to a Bridge Preventative Maintenance project. The City of Springfield has requested funds on the Campbell and Republic Road intersection project be reprogrammed to FY 2020.

Commissioner Bengsch made a motion to approve Amendment Number Three to the FY 2020-2023 TIP. Mr. Jansen seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

E. Federal Classification Change Request

Mr. Thomason explained that the City of Battlefield has requested two city streets be reclassified as Minor Collectors. He explained where these streets are and the planned developments that are spurring this request. Mr. Thomason reminded the Board it did not approve the actual reclassification of these streets, rather, MoDOT makes the formal reclassification request to FHWA, including the Board's support of the change.

Mr. O'Neil made a motion to approve the Federal Functional Classification Change. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

F. OTO Area Online Base Map Demo

Mr. Faucett gave a brief demonstration of a new web-based mapping application he had developed. He demonstrated the tools included in the application and gave an overview of the types of data included in the map. Mr. Faucett also explained how to access the data tables associated with some of the map's features.

This item was presented for informational purposes only; no action was required.

III. Other Business

A. Board of Directors Member Announcements

Mr. Weiler announced the Airport had received a grant for taxiway improvements. When all funding sources are combined, the project will cost almost \$9 million. This project is completely designed and will go to bid next week.

B. Transportation Issues for Board of Directors Member Review

There were no transportation issues to be considered.

C. Records to be Destroyed

Ms. Markee informed the Board of staff's intention to destroy recordings of Board and Technical Planning Committee meetings. This destruction is in compliance with the OTO's record retention policy.

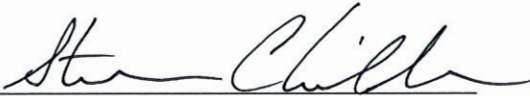
This item was presented for informational purposes only; no action was required.

D. Articles for Board of Directors Member Information

Chair Cossey noted there were articles of interest included in the packet for the members to review as time allows.

IV. Adjourn meeting.

With no additional business to come before the Board, Mr. Weiler moved the meeting be adjourned. Mr. O'Neal seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:03 p.m.



Steve Childers
OTO Secretary

