

**OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MAY 16, 2024**

The Board of Directors of the Ozarks Transportation Organization met at its scheduled time of 12:00 p.m. in person.

The following members were present:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Jerry Compton, Citizen-at-Large | Stacy Reese, MoDOT (non-voting) |
| Travis Cossey, City of Nixa (a) | John Russell, Greene County |
| Mark Crabtree, City of Battlefield | Martha Smartt, City of Strafford (a) |
| Ben DeClue, City of Ozark (a) | Dan Smith, City of Springfield (a) |
| Eric Franklin, City of Republic | Donna Stewart, City of Willard (a) |
| Bradley Jackson, Christian County (a) | Kelly Turner, City Utilities |
| Brandon Jenson, City of Springfield | Richard Walker, Springfield Citizen-at-Large |
| Derek Lee, City of Springfield | Brian Weiler, Springfield-Branson Airport (a) |
| Rusty MacLachlan, Greene County | |

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

The following members were not present:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Chuck Branch, Christian Co Citizen-at-Large | Mark Schenkelberg, FAA (non-voting) |
| Cecelie Cochran, FHWA (non-voting) | Vacant, FTA (non-voting) |
| James O’Neal, Springfield Citizen-at-Large | |

Others Present: Frank Miller, MoDOT; Matt Crawford, City Utilities; Mike Ussery, Senator Schmitt’s Office; Jered Taylor, Congressman Burlison’s Office; Nicole Boyd, Dave Faucett, Sara Fields, David Knaut, Natasha Longpine, Debbie Parks, and Jen Thomas, Ozarks Transportation Organization.

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 p.m.

I. Administration

A. Welcome and Roll Call

By-law Position	Member	Attendance
BOD Citizen-at-Large	Jerry Compton	Present
Christian County Citizen-at-Large	Chuck Branch	Absent
Christian County Elected Official	Bradley Jackson (a)	Present
City of Battlefield Elected Official	Mark Crabtree	Present
City of Nixa Elected Official	Travis Cossey (a)	Present
City of Ozark Elected Official	Ben DeClue (a)	Present
City of Republic Elected Official	Eric Franklin	Present
City of Springfield Citizen-at-Large	Richard Walker	Present
City of Springfield Citizen-at-Large	James O’Neal	Absent
City of Springfield Council Member	Dan Smith (a)	Present

City of Springfield Council Member	Brandon Jenson	Present
City of Springfield Council Member	Derek Lee	Present
City of Strafford Elected Official	Martha Smartt (a)	Present
City of Willard Elected Official	Donna Stewart (a)	Present
City Utilities Transit Representative	Kelly Turner	Present
Greene County Commissioner	Rusty MacLachlan	Present
Greene County Commissioner	John Russell	Present
Springfield-Branson National Airport Board Member	Brian Weiler (a)	Present

A quorum was present.

B. Approval of Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Richard Walker moved to approve the May 16, 2024 agenda. Jerry Compton seconded the motion. The motion passed.

C. Public Comment Period for All Agenda Items

The Chair advised there were public comments included in the packet and then asked for comments and questions.

D. Adoption of the Consent Agenda

The Chair stated any member of the Board of Directors could request to remove an item from the Consent Agenda to be discussed separately.

Consent Agenda Items: March 21, 2024 Minutes
 Financial Statements for 3rd Quarter FY 2024 Budget Year
 FY 2024-2027 TIP Administrative Modification Five
 Title VI/ADA Program Update and Limited English Proficiency Plan
 Public Participation Plan Evaluation

Brian Weiler moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Travis Cossey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

E. Executive Director’s Report

Sara Fields stated the Missouri Legislature passed the budget on Friday which included \$727 million for I-44. This is great for the Springfield region. Thank you to all who assisted in that effort.

Staff assisted the City of Republic on a grant application for MM for funding under the Rural Program. This was in addition to the RAISE Grant that was submitted and will be announced June 28th. This would be the sixth round of funding requested for the MM project.

Staff continue to work on the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Action Plan. This should be completed later in the fall. Stakeholder Committee meetings are scheduled to further refine the plan.

STIP and TIP projects are on the agenda. Staff are monitoring approximately 28 active projects with federal funds in addition to the EV charging and trail engineering projects that are on the agenda and have multiple permits.

On July 1st there will be a call for projects for trail and sidewalk projects. There is \$3.5 million available. The application will open July 1 and will close on August 1st. Application review should be this fall or early summer.

The Strategic Action Plan with actions over the next 5 years will be presented at the next Board of Directors meeting after the Executive Committee has reviewed it.

OTO continues to be under budget, at approximately 53% for the year.

OTO continues to maintain compliance as required by Federal regulations on Title VI ADA, Limited English Proficiency, and Public Participation Plan.

Three trail ARPA projects have been awarded which include the Chadwick Flyer Phase III (completed in October), Wilson's Creek Battlefield Trail (currently under construction), and Chadwick Flyer Phase II (soon to be under construction). There will be more awarded this summer and fall.

F. MoDOT Update

Stacy Reese shared that Ann Marie Baker from Springfield was appointed and confirmed as a Commissioner to the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission.

The FY 2025 budget was passed that included funding for I-44 from Joplin to Rolla and is awaiting the Governor's review and signature.

The FY 2024 STIP projects are running approximately 1.6% under budget. The draft STIP is out for public comment until the end of May.

There will be Forward 44 Stakeholder meetings coming up. These are for the environmental piece that was approved last fiscal year.

In April, MoDOT staff picked up approximately 22,000 bags of litter and 27,000 pounds of trash that do not fit in those bags in the 21 counties the MoDOT SW District serves. Mowing has started.

Construction continues on the damaged pipe on James River Freeway, and at JRF at Glenstone and Kansas, the J/NN Bridge repair, and Route 65 six-lane south of Springfield.

G. Legislative Reports

Michael Ussery with Senator Schmitt's Office stated the FAA Reauthorization passed. This included increased AIP formula funding for airports. The Senator was able to add his ban on vaccine passports. Their office is tracking the request for support for the TSA requirements for security staffing.

Jered Taylor with Congressman Burlison's Office shared the Congressman recently filed legislation pushing back on the Federal Rail Administration requiring two parties to be in a rail car. The Congressman is requesting that the requirement be reduced back down to one. The Congressman filed two bills dealing with Table Rock Lake and the Army Corps of Engineers which falls under the Transportation Committee he sits on under the Waterways Subcommittee. Both are dealing with regulations the Corps is imposing on individuals that bought property around the lake. One is dealing with septic tanks that were previously allowed now needing to be moved by 2030 and the

other is dealing with encroachments. The Corps' authorization is up this year. These will be added to that bill. This would give the homeowner the ability to lease or purchase the land they have encroached on at fair market value.

II. New Business

A. City Utilities' Connect SGF Transit Optimization Study Presentation

Matt Crawford presented City Utilities' Connect SGF Transit Optimization Study.

This was informational only. No action was required.

B. FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program

Debbie Parks reviewed the FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program.

Brandon Jenson made a motion to approve the FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program. Dan Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed.

C. FY 2025 Operational Budget

Debbie Parks presented the FY 2025 Operational Budget.

Martha Smartt made a motion to approve the FY 2025 Operational Budget. Jerry Compton seconded the motion. The motion passed.

D. Draft FY 2025-2029 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program

Frank Miller with MoDOT highlighted the FY 2025-2029 STIP.

Rusty MacLachlan made a motion to endorse the FY 2025-2029 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. Bradley Jackson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

E. 2024 MoDOT Unfunded Needs List

Sara Fields reviewed the 2024 MoDOT Unfunded Needs List.

Rusty MacLachlan made a motion to amend the list by moving the James River Loop North Study to Tier 1 contingent upon the funding for I-44 is approved. John Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Travis Cossey made a motion to approve the Unfunded Needs List as amended. Dan Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed.

F. MoDOT/OTP Sidewalk Cost Share Program

David Knaut presented the City of Springfield's Sunshine project for TAP/CRP funding.

John Russell made a motion to approve the TAP/CRP funding. Ben DeClue seconded the motion. The motion passed.

G. Trail and Sidewalk Engineering Funding

David Knaut reviewed the ten applications submitted for trail and sidewalk engineering using TAP/CRP funding.

- Jordan Creek Greenway Trail – Mt. Vernon Street to College Street
- South Creek Greenway Trail – Posenke Gap
- Ward Branch Greenway Trail – National Avenue to Fremont Avenue
- Wilson’s Creek Greenway Trail – Ewing Park West to Rutledge-Wilson Park
- Fasnigh Creek Greenway Trail – Skate Park to Fort
- Jackson Street Connection/Chadwick Flyer Phase I
- Kali Springs Trail Connector
- Blue Stem - Phase I of North Ozark Greenway Trail
- Finley River Trail – Western Expansion
- Fasnigh Creek Greenway – Glenstone to Enterprise

Bradley Jackson made a motion to approve TAP/CRP funding for the trail and sidewalk engineering projects. Brandon Jenson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

H. FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment Four

Natasha Longpine shared the changes proposed to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program.

- *New* Jordan Creek Trail – Mount Vernon to College (EN2414)
- *New* South Creek Greenway – Posenke (EN2415)
- *New* Ward Branch Greenway – National to Fremont (EN2416)
- *New* Wilson’s Creek Trail – Ewing to Rutledge-Wilson (EN2417)
- *New* Fasnigh Trail from Skate Park to Fort (EN2418)
- *New* Chadwick Jackson Street Connector (EN2419)
- *New* Kali Springs Trail Connector (EN2420)
- *New* Blue Stem Phase I North Ozark Greenway (EN2421)
- *New* Finley River Trail Western Extension (EN2422)
- *New* Fasnigh Greenway – Glenstone to Enterprise (EN2423)
- *Revised* Downtown N. Main Street (NX2301)
- *Revised* Project Development for Route CC Capital Improvements (OK2301)
- *New* Grant Avenue Viaduct (SP2502)
- *New* Martin Luther King Jr. Bridge (Benton Ave.) (SP2503)

Jerry Compton made a motion to approve Amendment 4 to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program. Martha Smartt seconded the motion. The motion passed.

I. EV Charger Project Delivery Determination and Contract Execution

Jen Thomas presented the EV Charger Project plan and project delivery determination.

Brian Weiler made a motion to approve the included resolution to authorize the OTO to use progressive design build procurement and to issue a request for qualifications; in addition, the Board authorizes the Executive Director to enter into negotiations with the selected contractor and execute the contract for the EV charger project. Travis Cossey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

J. Resolution in Support of I-44 Funding

Sara Fields shared a resolution in support of I-44 funding.

Dan Smith made a motion to approve the provided resolution. Brandon Jenson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

K. Federal Discretionary Grant Support

Debbie Parks reviewed the resolutions and TIP certifications for grant support.

- Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP) for a regional trail grant for preliminary engineering – Proposed trail projects are still being finalized
- Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) supplemental planning grant – City of Republic

Martha Smartt made a motion to approve the included resolutions and TIP inclusion certificates as provided. Mark Crabtree seconded the motion. The motion passed.

III. Other Business

A. Board of Directors Member Announcements

Jered Taylor shared Congressman Burlison’s office is publishing newsletters and working to get them out to the rural communities to give updates. They will be in gas stations throughout the district in the rural area. The goal is to reach those who may not have internet access.

B. Transportation Issues for Board of Directors Member Review

There were no transportation issues for member review.

C. Articles for Board of Directors Member Information

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

IV. Adjourn meeting

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

DocuSigned by:
MARTHA SMARTT
ABBEFEDDB089400
Martha Smartt
OTO Secretary