



# Permian Basin MPO

Metropolitan  
Planning  
Organization

## Policy Board Meeting

9601 Wright Dr., Suite 1, Midland, TX

**August 15, 2016**

### Minutes

#### **Policy Board Members Present**

John B. Love III	Chair, Councilman, City of Midland
Robert Stephens	General Manager, MOUSD
Bryan Cox	County Judge, Martin County
Ron Eckert	County Judge, Ector County

#### **Policy Board Members Absent:**

Robin Donnelly	County Commissioner, Midland County
David Turner	Vice-Chair, Mayor, City of Odessa

#### **Others in Attendance:**

Cameron Walker	Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO
Rosie Spencer	Administrative Planning Assistant, Permian Basin MPO
Rina Bale	Mobility Manager, Permian Basin MPO
Joe Clark	MPO Coordinator, TxDOT
Gary Law	Director of TP&D, TxDOT Odessa District
Hal Feldman	Traffic Coordinator, City of Odessa
David Peck	Project Manager, Ector County
Gene Powell	Public Information Officer, TxDOT Odessa District
Trevor Hawes	Midland Reporter-Telegram
Randy Brinlee	Planning Director, City of Odessa
Muslim Hassan	Transportation Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Lonnie Gregorcyk	TxDOT

#### **AGENDA ITEM**

##### **1. Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting of the Permian Basin MPO Policy Board was called to order at 5:14 p.m. by Policy Board Chair, John B. Love III. A quorum was present.

## **2. Introductions and Announcements**

Lonnie Gregorcyk, P.E., with TxDOT introduced himself to the Board. He will be helping the interim District Engineer Randy Hopmann until a new one is selected.

## **3. Public Comment Period**

None

## **4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from July 18, 2016**

A motion was made by Bryan Cox and seconded by Ron Eckert to accept and approve the July 18, 2016 Policy Board meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

## **5. Approve the June 2016 billing statement**

June is the ninth month in fiscal year 2016, the MPO spent \$37,335.10, leaving the percentage of expenditures at 67.20%. The actual balance of funds is at \$130,362.89. June's billing includes two month of rent, phone service, and the RO water which is why the total is higher than usual.

A motion was made by Ron Eckert and seconded by Bryan Cox to approve the June 2016 billing. The motion passed unanimously.

## **6. Concur with TxDOT Odessa District's projects within the MAB**

Beginning in FY 2016, a part of the UTP approval process requires Districts throughout the state to obtain approval from the MPOs when there are expenditures proposed within the Metropolitan Area Boundary. The list is attached to the packet (page 13). Judge Eckert brought up that there is not as much money being spent in Ector County. Gary mentioned that what TxDOT looks at is the conditions of roadways and the amount of trucks on those roadways to determine how long they will last without a sealcoat or another type of rehabilitation. The roads on the list that are in Midland County are experiencing higher distress, if the funds do not go towards them now it will be much more expensive later. Judge Eckert clarified he was not saying the roads listed did not need the maintenance, but that there was about ten times more money being spent in Midland County than in Ector County. Gary mentioned that last year TxDOT spent a large amount on West Loop 338 in Odessa and Midland did not see the same investment. TxDOT will go through the selection process again in April or May of next year and Gary suggests that in January all agencies give their input at the TAC level to make sure everyone is involved. Rob Stephens asked for an estimate that TxDOT spends a year on these types of projects, Gary said across the 12-county District about \$8-\$10 million in preventative maintenance and \$20 million in rehabilitation. The Board asked for a list of what the Odessa District has spent in Midland and Ector counties for the last five years. Gary said he could get them last year's numbers in a week and he would get totals for the last five years by next month's meeting. Judge Eckert made a motion to defer this item until he could see the numbers requested. Rob Stephens asked if

waiting would affect the let date on the projects and Gary answered that it would for some. The motion died for lack of a second.

A motion was made by Bryan Cox and seconded by Rob Stephens to approve concurrence with the FY 2017 Unified Planning Work Program with one opposition from Ron Eckert. The motion passed with a 3-1 vote.

### **7. Traffic Count Data – Permanent Collection Locations**

This item is a follow up to last month's presentation. Staff has received information from TxDOT about where the permanent locations of the traffic counters are in the MPO boundary and has mapped them out for the Board. John Love brought up that all the entrances into Midland/Odessa have them except at North SH 349. It was also pointed out there is not one at SH 158 coming out of Garden City, at US 385 and Loop 338, and on 42<sup>nd</sup> as it comes off of SH 302. Cameron said he would double check to make sure that this was correct. The counters have been at these locations for decades, the question was asked if there is a way to request to have them at different locations. Gary answered that these counters are the classification stations, where it monitors whether it is a car, truck, or trailer. There are annual count points that are put into the intersections that were brought up earlier, and once every five years all the arterials off of the state network are counted. Also every fifth year TPP will reach out to the MPOs to review these locations and see if they need to be relocated, added, or taken away. This should happen in about six months since the next scheduled count is in 2017.

### **8. Presentation by the MPO staff on Permian Road Safety Coalition's Goal Zero campaign**

Staff has been attending the Permian Road Safety Coalition meetings for about 18 months. The group was established because the oil and gas industry wanted to do something about the safety of their drivers on the roadways. The *Goal Zero* campaign hopes to have one day, which they have designated as October 13<sup>th</sup>, to have no traffic fatalities or an accident that requires a trip to the hospital. They are going to involve both Chambers and potentially have a billboard campaign. The MPO will be helping to promote this campaign and encourage the Board to join in on social media and the rallies they will be scheduling leading up to that day.

### **9. MPO Staff Reports:**

**a. 120-Day Calendar:** Livability Workshop on August 31<sup>st</sup>, Atmos Energy has been nice enough to let us use the Fisher Community Room again. The Ports-to-Plains Conference will be held in San Angelo the second week of September. On September 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, the I-20 Corridor Study public meetings will be held. The first one will be in Odessa at Hays Elementary and the second at Travis Elementary in Midland. September's TAC meeting is on the second Thursday instead of the first Thursday because of the holiday and the Policy Board meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> will be held at Odessa College's Saulsbury Center starting at 3:00 p.m.

**b. Regionally Coordinated Transportation Planning (RCTP) Update:** Met on August 10<sup>th</sup> with about 10 people there. The Comprehensive Needs Assessment was approved which includes the transportation surveys and information gathered from the Citizen Advisory Committee meetings. It is just a portion of what will be included in the Regional Plan Update which is due to TxDOT by February. The Committee is talking about hosting a transportation workshop sometime next Spring. There are so many people out there who do not know what transportation is available, especially those in the rural areas. Those who do know may have some hesitation or are unsure on how to use those services so they would like to change the perception on public transportation. Beginning in fiscal year 2017 which starts September 1<sup>st</sup>, public meetings will be held in the rural areas to gather more information for the Regional Plan.

**c. 30 Day Activity Update and Social Media Update:** The MPO is working with both city's Parks Departments to talk about bicycle and pedestrian plans. Staff attended webinars on pursuing equity in pedestrian and bicycle planning and safe routes to school. The UPWP for fiscal year 2017 was submitted to TxDOT and staff also met with a group called Freedom Compressed Natural Gas. They have a filling station off 1788 and wanted to give a brief presentation to the Board about compressed natural gas sometime in the future.

**d. Travel Demand Model Development:** There was a small update at this morning's meeting but a more in-depth update will be presented on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September.

**e. I-20 Permian Basin Corridor Study:** There were about 22-25 people who attended the I-20 Workgroup meeting this morning. The idea of converting the frontage roads was discussed because it is believed that will be one of the bigger items brought up.

**f. MPO Strategies Update:** The strategies were moved to September when more Policy Board members are present.

The MPO's Facebook page has 76 likes and there are 24 followers to the Twitter page. The consultants are working on a flyer for the I-20 public meetings and staff will be sharing that in the days leading up to them.

## **10. Agency Project Reports**

**TxDOT-Odessa District – Gary:** No lettings in August. In the next couple of weeks, contractors will be starting at the intersection of I-20 and 1788 to improve those ramps. It is the same type of project at West County Rd. and I-20 and the one that was just completed at Loop 250 and I-20. On the 25<sup>th</sup> of this month, the Transportation Commission will be reviewing and approving the

Unified Transportation Plan for the next 10 years which will include the programming targets Mike presented a couple of months ago and make them official.

**City of Midland – Matt:** Curb and gutter is going down south of Wadley and the Fairgrounds Rd. project is proceeding smoothly. Northeast Midland Feasibility Study is in the midst of data collection. Consultants should have things ready in about a month.

#### **Midland County – Absent**

**City of Odessa – Hal Feldman:** Proceeding with the Right-of-Way acquisition process for the University Project so construction can begin.

**Ector County – David Peck:** Signal at Redondo and 16<sup>th</sup> St. went live last Tuesday. Got a couple of miles left on 42<sup>nd</sup> St. Commissioner’s Court approved the study on Yukon, the 42<sup>nd</sup> reliever route. LCA with the assistance of Kimley-Horn will be doing it.

**Martin County – Bryan Cox:** About to wind up the TIF grant with about 90 miles of road they had sealed within a couple of days. Bids have gone out for landscaping in front of the courthouse.

**MOUSD – Rob:** At the Commission Meeting later this month, TxDOT will decide on the Legislative Appropriations Request. They have been working with officials to include some funding for transit in that request. A new category was created that will take Midland, Odessa, and six other cities in Texas. There are some proposed route changes going before the board, route 5 was changed at the request of citizens because of the new development by the new HEB in Midland. They are looking at changing 1, 3, and 5 in Odessa.

#### **11. Future Meetings**

Policy Board Meeting – Monday, September 19, 2016 at 3:00 pm at the Odessa College Saulsbury Center

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, September 8, 2016 at 8:00 am

RCTP Meeting – Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at 11:30 am

LEAP Rural Rail District Meeting – Tuesday, August 30, 2016 at 10:00 am

#### **12. Conduct Executive Session concerning any and all subjects and for any and all purposes permitted by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government code, including, but not limited to:**

Texas Government Code Section 551.071 for the purposes of consulting with the Board’s attorney; Texas Government Code Section 551.072 to deliberate the purchase, lease or value of real property; Texas Government Code Section 551.074 to discuss personnel matters.

#### **13. Take Action Concerning Executive Session Matters**

None

**14. Adjourn**

A motion was made by Ron Eckert and seconded by Rob Stephens to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.