



Policy Board Meeting February 25, 2015

Policy Board Members Present

Susan Redford, Chair, County Judge, Ector County
Robin Donnelly, Vice-Chair, County Commissioner, Midland County
Bryan Cox, County Judge, Martin County
John B. Love III, Councilman, City of Midland
Rob Stephens, General Manager, MOU/D
David Turner, Mayor, City of Odessa

Policy Board Members Absent:

Mike McAnally, District Engineer, TxDOT-Odessa District

Others in Attendance:

Cameron Walker, Executive Director, MOTOR MPO
Lorraine Quimiro, Sr. Transportation Planner, MOTOR MPO
Rina Bale, Administrative Planning Assistant, MOTOR MPO
James Beauchamp, MOTRAN
Randy Brinlee, Director of Planning, City of Odessa
Drew Crutcher, MOTRAN
Hal Feldman, Traffic Coordinator, City of Odessa
Melanie Freeman, Engineer, Dunaway Associates
Kyle Jackson, Parkhill, Smith, & Cooper
Gary Law, Director of TP&D, TxDOT – Odessa District
Robert Ornelas, Transportation Engineer, TxDOT – Odessa District
Gene Powell, Public Information Officer, TxDOT – Odessa District

AGENDA ITEM

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting of the MOTOR Policy Board was called to order at 5:05 p.m. on February 25, 2015 in the MOTOR Conference Room at the Wright Office Complex by Policy Board Chair, Susan Redford.

2. Introductions and Announcements

Bryan Cox was introduced as the newest member of the Policy Board representing Martin County.

Nanette Stephens of EZ-Rider was also introduced.

3. Public Comment Period

Two representatives from the Midland Odessa Transportation Alliance, Inc. (MOTRAN) were in attendance – James Beauchamp and Drew Crutcher. A request is being made for MOTOR MPO to complete a in a capacity constraint study. This study is thought to be a valuable resource with good information to have as decision makers. This will show level of service on major roadways and how future growth will impact the system. This will ease the process of prioritization and where transportation funding should be spent. Mr. Beauchamp provided a resolution to the Board which was approved by the MOTRAN Board on Feb. 25, 2015. He will discuss the contents of the resolution with each Board member individually.

4. Approve Minutes from February 2, 2015

A motion was made by David Turner and seconded by John Love to accept and approve the February 2, 2015 Policy Board meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approve December 2014 Billing Statements

This was the third billing statement for fiscal year 2015. MOTOR expended \$30,343.16 leaving an actual balance of \$235,608.47. MOTOR has exhausted 20.58% of the annual amount of programmed funds. MOTOR continues to work with Weaver on the FY 2014 audit.

A motion was made by David Turner and seconded by John Love to accept and approve the December billing statement as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Approve the commencement of a public comment period to amend the 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program and remove the funding for Preliminary Engineering work for ramp improvements on SH 191 in Midland and Ector Counties

As per the Feb. 2 Policy Board meeting, the ramp improvements on SH 191 are ready for the construction phase and can now be placed under a Grouped CSJ. It was requested to move the funding for Preliminary Engineering to Construction.

Energy Sector funding from TxDOT became available in Nov. 2014 with \$17.5M going to the TxDOT Odessa District. This money will be allocated to the widening of FM 1788 from SH 191 to 1 mile north of SH 158. This project was on the Unfunded List in the current MTP but since the funding is now available, it is requested that the MTP also be amended to include this project on the Fiscally Constrained Priority Project; this will also require a TIP amendment. The additional funding is being allocated to this particular project since TxDOT has completed two years of preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition, and public workshops to receive comment.

The Board was asked to defer opening a public comment period until all amendments are prepared and presented at the March 16, 2015 Policy Board meeting.

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by Robin Donnelly to defer this item until the March 16, 2015 Policy Board meeting in order to resolve other disputes within the document.

7. Direct staff to communicate with TxDOT regarding the City of Odessa’s request to reallocate construction funds for the JBS Parkway realignment at FM 3503 from FY 2016 to FY 2017

Follow-up from the Feb. 2, 2015 meeting regarding the City of Odessa’s request to change the dates of the funding in the Unified Transportation Plan.

A motion was made by Robin Donnelly and seconded by David Turner to direct staff to communicate with TxDOT regarding reallocating funding from FY 2016 to FY 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Conduct Policy Board Elections

A motion was made by Susan Redford and seconded by Rob Stephens to appoint John B. Love III as the Policy Board Chairperson and David Turner as the Vice-Chairperson. The motion passed unanimously. This change will be in effect at the next Policy Board meeting on March 16, 2015.

9. MPO Staff Reports

9a. 60-day Calendar

Staff included a 60-day event calendar to inform the Board of upcoming meetings, hearings and special events.

TxDOT is still in the process of scheduling a training session for the Policy Board. MOTOR will keep the Board up to date on any decisions.

9b. Regionally Coordinated Transportation Planning (RCTP) Update

Rina provided an update on RCTP activities. MOTOR MPO staff met with the RCTP committee on February 11, 2015 and Section 5310 applicants presented their projects to the committee. The scoring team scored the applications and they were sent to TxDOT. It is unknown when decisions will be made on the funding allocations.

Rina attended two days of RCTP training in Lubbock on Feb. 18 & 19. The workshop focused on the FTA 5304 funding application, which is due May 4, 2015.

9c. February Activity Update

Cameron provided an update on February activities. Kirk Fauver and Mike Leary from FHWA performed the MOTOR Mock Certification Review. They provided MOTOR a list of recommendations and commendations which MOTOR will focus on in preparation for the actual Certification Review in the spring of 2016. Cameron also thanked Rob Stephens and Gary Law for their participation during the Mock Certification Review.

MOTOR continues to work to inform the public and interested parties of who MOTOR MPO is and what it does.

10. Agency Project Reports

TxDOT-Odessa District – None

City of Midland – None

County of Midland – None

City of Odessa – None

County of Ector – None

EZ Rider – None

11. Future Meetings (MOTOR-MPO Conference Room)

Policy Board Meeting – Monday, March 16, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, March 5, 2015 at 8:30 a.m.

RCTP Meeting – Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

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

No action taken

14. Adjourn

A Motion was made by David Turner and seconded by John Love to adjourn the meeting at 5:50pm.