



Policy Board Meeting

Odessa College
Zant Room in Saulsbury Center
201 W. University Blvd., Odessa, TX

February 20, 2017
Minutes

Policy Board Members Present

John B. Love III	Chair, Councilman, City of Midland
David Turner	Vice-Chair, Mayor, City of Odessa
Ron Eckert	County Judge, Ector County
Robin Donnelly	County Commissioner, Midland County
John Speed, P.E.	District Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Bryan Cox	County Judge, Martin County

Policy Board Members Absent:

Robert Stephens	General Manager, MOU/D
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Others in Attendance:

Cameron Walker, AICP	Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO
Lorraine Quimiro	Senior Transportation Planner, Permian Basin MPO
Rina Bale	Mobility Manager, Permian Basin MPO
Rosie Spencer	Administrative Planning Assistant, Permian Basin MPO
Bill Frawley, AICP	Research Scientist, TTI
Gary Law, P.E.	Director of TP&D, TxDOT Odessa District
Gene Powell	Public Information Officer, TxDOT Odessa District
Jose Ortiz, P.E.	Engineering Services Director, City of Midland
Matt Carr, P.E.	City Engineer, City of Midland
Hal Feldman	Traffic Coordinator, City of Odessa
Thomas Kerr, P.E.	City of Odessa
David Peck	Project Manager, Ector County
Wesley Burnett	Odessa Chamber of Commerce/Odessa Development Corporation
Renee Earls	Odessa Chamber of Commerce

Roy Allen
Doug Eichorst, P.E.

Odessa Chamber of Commerce
Interested citizen

AGENDA ITEM

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting of the Permian Basin MPO Policy Board was called to order at 3:13 p.m. by Policy Board Chair, John B. Love III. A quorum was present.

2. Introductions and Announcements

Everyone introduced themselves.

3. Public Comment Period

Wesley Burnett told the MPO that the Odessa Development Corporation at their February board meeting voted to contribute \$15 million over 20 years towards transportation projects. The Corporation supports transportation in the region and knows it relates to economic development. John Love thanked him and mentioned the Policy Board appreciates Odessa's commitment. Renee Earls added that their transportation committee has been very active for the last couple of months and thanked the Board for referring to them.

4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from January 23, 2017

A motion was made by Robin Donnelly and seconded by John Speed to approve the December 19, 2016 Policy Board meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approve the December 2016 billing statement

December is the third month for fiscal year 2017, in this month the MPO spent \$32,241.26 and the percentage of expenditures is at 19%. The actual balance is \$224,372.36. John Love pointed out that the expenditure shows \$.29 in the breakdown. Staff pointed out that \$32,241.29 is the correct amount spent and there was a typo in the packet. Robin asked what the difference was between the actual balance of funds and the budget balance. Staff answered that budget balance is from the \$450,000 the MPO budgets for and the actual balance is how much money the MPO actually has. Robin then asked what the starting balance was and Rosie pointed out that page 14 shows how much there is with each work order and the balance after each billing is done. Rina added that the MPO usually receives a work order for FTA Section 5303 funds, a work order for carryover, and a work order for PL funds. Staff has received the first two so at least one more is expected.

A motion was made by Robin Donnelly and seconded by David Turner to approve the December 2016 billing. The motion passed unanimously.

Cameron pointed out that about a year ago, the Board decided that it would be beneficial to meet quarterly at a location other than the MPO offices. Staff believes these meetings have been

successful, the meetings held at the Midland Public Library have been well attended and the last time the meeting that was held in this room it was near capacity. John Love added that he also believes they have been successful.

6. Approve a Resolution adopting a 10-year prioritized project list

In December, the Policy Board assigned the TAC to come up with a new prioritized project list. This was based on information gathered late last year that the Transportation Commission wants to review a statewide list in March as part of a revision to the ten-year Unified Transportation Program. The TAC was prepared to review all the projects contained in the MTP, but the directions then changed to only being able to look at the projects from the fiscally constrained list. Projects from the unfunded list could not be included since the public had not been able to review and make comment on it. The TAC met on the 2nd and completed a successful, lengthy and informative process. Cameron asked Hal Feldman, the TAC Vice-Chairperson, to elaborate on the process. Hal went over how the TAC went through and ranked the new draft project list. The TAC reviewed all 23 projects, moving some to the bottom of the list. Then the scoring and rankings were finalized to establish the top projects; seven were selected. The spreadsheet distributed to the Board shows the criteria used and where the projects fell in rank. Cameron stated that the seven Hal mentioned are in addition to the top five that have been in place. Those five were not a part of the scoring and ranking. A new list will be prepared, it may include some unfunded projects and other new projects. The list will be submitted to TxDOT in time for the August UTP revision. Staff would like to present that list in May so there will be time to take it to the public for comment. Robin brought up having to use a project prioritization process, then asked Hal if he felt cornered and limited on using it and only being able to review a certain number of projects. Hal answered that he believed the process used could apply to any project. Robin added he found it odd that most of the list was I-20 and was concerned that none of the local projects were anywhere close to qualifying. He had the feeling that the direction was to put the Interstate 20 projects on top. He also feels the prioritization process is asking the wrong questions, because the answer will almost always not be anywhere on the local system. John Love mentioned he also has the same concern and asked John Speed that although HB 20 requires MPOs to adopt a project prioritization process, does it have to be the one used? John Speed answered that that this should be the last time this specific scoring process is used. He also stated that I-20 will probably always be the main priority but if a model for prioritization is used that shows only a certain amount will be spent on I-20; weights can then be applied to other criteria. Changing the prioritization process should be one of the first things to do while looking at other MPOs to see what their process is and if it would be helpful. Robin shared his concern that there is \$86 million worth of projects on I-20, and, since the MPO only controls Category 2 funds, the burden will be on the cities and counties to pay for utility adjustments and Right-of-Way acquisition. Gary mentioned that another option for the Board is that they could proportion its Category 2 programming authority based on network systems. John Speed stated that when

he first started, he noticed all the projects listed were being funded entirely by Category 2 funds, now that there is Category 4 (3C) and some matching funds from ODC and MDC it will free up the Category 2 funds. He recommends minimizing the Category 2 that is allocated to I-20 projects but those being on the list also legitimizes our prioritization process. Robin added he believes the TAC did a great job in this process and he endorses the prioritization although there are some projects he would not have picked that made the list. He was just concerned about committing all the funding to a single corridor and likes the suggestion that Gary and John Speed have made of being able to allocate certain funds. Cameron pointed out that he reminded the TAC at the meeting that TxDOT made a \$5 million commitment to study the I-20 corridor in the region so those projects should fall into the High category, but where they ended up in the ranking depended on the voting. He believes the MPO may be able to leverage some funding and indicate to TxDOT that I-20 is important by committing some Category 2 money. Cameron also reminded the Board that there will be a new list to work with in May. John Love asked the Board if they had any other questions, Judge Eckert mentioned that what is important to Odessa is the development of the Yukon Corridor. He wants to make sure they will be able to prioritize from the unfunded list in May and Cameron reassured him they will. After John Love read the resolution out loud, Bill spoke on the outstanding communication during this process between all entities, especially between the MPO and the district compared to other places throughout the state. John Love thanked him for the compliment. John Speed added that we should be proud the Development Corporations are stepping out and investing in this region's roads and on behalf of TxDOT, they are very appreciative of the local leadership.

A motion was made by Robin Donnelly and seconded by David Turner to approve a Resolution adopting a 10-year prioritized project list. The motion passed unanimously.

7. MPO Staff Reports:

a. 120-Day Calendar: Cameron asked the Board if there was anything in the packet they wanted to go over. John Love asked what PRSC stood for on the calendar, staff answered it is the Permian Road Safety Coalition.

b. Regionally Coordinated Transportation Planning (RCTP) Update:

c. 30 Day Activity Update and Social Media Update:

d. Travel Demand Model Development:

8. Agency Project Reports

TxDOT-Odessa District – Gary: There will be a public meeting at the Odessa office Thursday at 4:00 pm regarding TxDOT's proposed project updates in the UTP revision. March 14-15 TxDOT is hosting the Local Government Processes and Procedures class. It is required for anyone who enters into a contract with TxDOT to have someone on their staff complete this training so they understand all federal rules. He did receive federal response regarding the reevaluation of CR

1250, their main thing is why are they only looking at a partial interchange and when will the corridor be converted to one-way frontage roads?

Cameron wanted to point out someone who came in late to the meeting, Doug Eichorst, who then introduced himself to the Board.

City of Midland – Jose: Finalizing paving on Beal Parkway and should be completed next week. Briarwood is also being paved and should be completed in April. Also, finalizing the utility bores at I-20 and Midland Dr. and at Hwy. 191 and 1788, near the new Stripes store. On behalf of Brent Hilliard with MDC, they are committed to contributing to the MPO and coordinating efforts with ODC.

Midland County – Robin: Working on the extension of CR 1230, finished the paving project on CR 60.

City of Odessa – Hal: The contractor still has more work to do, but 87th St. is basically finished.

Ector County – Judge Eckert: Process of finding out what they are going to sealcoat.

Martin County – Judge Cox: They are in the middle of a landscaping job at the courthouse and some plans are getting drawn for a new law enforcement center.

MOUSD – Absent

9. Future Meetings

Policy Board Meeting – March 20, 2017 at 5:00 pm

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, March 2, 2017 at 8:00 am

RCTP Meeting – Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 11:30 am

LEAP Rural Rail District Meeting – Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 8:15 am

John Love stated he would like to move doing the Director's evaluations to the next meeting so it can be conducted by the next MPO Chairman.

10. 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.

11. Take Action Concerning Executive Session Matters

None

12. Hold an election for Policy Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

John Love stated it has been his privilege to be the Chair for two years, he takes comments like Bill made personally and is very appreciative of them. He strived to make this a regional organization that benefits both communities and continues to become a regional organization. He then made the motion, seconded by Robin Donnelly, to nominate David Turner for Chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by David Turner and seconded by Ron Eckert to nominate Robin Donnelly for Vice-Chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Adjourn

A motion was made by John Speed and seconded by Robin Donnelly to adjourn the meeting at 4:13 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.