



Permian Basin MPO Metropolitan Planning Organization

Policy Board Meeting
9601 Wright Dr., Suite 1
Midland, TX 79706

March 20, 2017
Minutes

Policy Board Members Present

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

Policy Board Members Absent:

None

Others in Attendance:

Cameron Walker	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
Gary Law	Director of TP&D, TxDOT Odessa District
Gene Powell	Public Information Officer, TxDOT Odessa District
Muslim Hassan	Transportation Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Matt Carr	City Engineer, City of Midland
Hal Feldman	Traffic Coordinator, City of Odessa
Thomas Kerr	City of Odessa
David Peck	Project Manager, Ector County
Trevor Hawes	Midland Reporter-Telegram

AGENDA ITEM

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting of the Permian Basin MPO Policy Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Policy Board Chair, David Turner. A quorum was present.

2. Introductions and Announcements

None

3. Public Comment Period

None

4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from February 20, 2017

A motion was made by John Speed and seconded by Bryan Cox to approve the February 20, 2017 Policy Board meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approve the January 2017 billing statement

A copy of the third work order was distributed to the Policy Board. It was sent soon after last month's meeting when questions were raised regarding the TxDOT work order authorizations. In January, the MPO spent \$28,971.44, which brings us to about 25% in expenditures and \$536,642.92 in actual balance of funds.

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by Bryan Cox to approve the January 2017 billing. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Approve Amendment No. 1 to the FY 2017 UPWP

A revised UPWP was sent to the Board with the proposed changes highlighted. Some of the changes include removing SPR funds that were remaining from last fiscal year, clarifying the source of funds for the Travel Demand Model in a table, and adding a new subtask 5.3 under Task 5 for a regional transit study. The MPO typically programs \$50,000 in this task and most recently committed the funds to partner with the City of Midland for the accepted Northeast Feasibility Study. The MPO's application to TxDOT for \$25,127 of SPR funds was approved; these dollars helped fund the study, which was completed under budget and left the MPO with \$35,734.09 to reprogram. A couple of months ago, staff mentioned a comprehensive transit study that could be undertaken and leveraged with the MPO funds as well as TxDOT and Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission funds. There have also been other applications and letters sent out requesting additional money from the Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission and TxDOT. John Love mentioned he was excited for this proposed work and he feels it is needed. Rina added that the application with the Regional Planning Commission was for \$85,000, but they mentioned it could be more because the money is there and no one else is applying for it. Other agencies

on the RCTP have also committed to providing meals for the meetings. Robin Donnelly asked if there was a scope for it, staff answered no but the goal is to meet with EZ-Rider, West Texas Opportunities, and All Aboard America and look at the 17-county region that RCTP covers to try to figure out what the needs are and what needs to be done to fix them, which is why it is being called a comprehensive study. John Speed added that this is an economic development opportunity not only for the rural communities being served, but for both Odessa and Midland because they are the destinations. Cameron reminded the Board that the MPO asked for \$120,000 in Out-of-Cycle funding from TxDOT. If the funding applied for is denied, the MPO would still have the ability to reprogram the \$35,734.09. Rob Stephens added that the costs can vary depending on scope and he would focus on scheduling and timing in the urban area. He envisions a menu, where local decision makers can choose what they want to do so there is a menu of wants associated with costs. He stated that there is a gray area that is around the Metropolitan and rural areas that goes unserved, many people think they live in the city and really are in the county, and EZ-Rider does not go that far. This study can give some idea of what it will take to connect those areas, but as far as costs, he was not sure on what that could be but the possibility of having about \$235,000, can make it go a long way. Robin Donnelly asked if the MPO needed to identify which state funding went to the I-20 Corridor Study, since it did for the Travel Demand Model. Cameron answered that staff only made the one change because it was requested in the letter from Kirk Fauver. The Board requested the State Fund 6 also be added to the I-20 Corridor Study.

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by Robin Donnelly to approve Amendment No. 1 to the FY 2017 UPWP with the recommended change. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Discuss a draft priority corridor map recommended by the TAC

Staff included the draft priority corridor map, Cameron mentioned that both the TAC and the Policy Board have suggested I-20 be shown in its own category because it is an important corridor on the national freight system. The TAC added some roads which Cameron went over. During the discussion, John Speed stated that as long as any corridor is seen as an important corridor, it should be left on the map. He also suggested adding more categories such as significant connectivity corridors which deal with major traffic movements. Then another called significant local corridors for emerging traffic connections like Yukon. Having these three general categories will help us see where we are programming the projects and have a baseline minimum or maximum of what to spend on each. Gary suggested taking the word "priority" out of the title, which John Speed agreed to because priorities change when the economy changes. Discussion went on about looking at economic development in the area, and staff did point out that economic development is allocated the highest amount of points in the draft score card. Cameron also mentioned that the TAC deferred this item along with finalizing the scoring criteria

at the March 10th meeting. The Board requested that the changes they suggested be made and for the TAC to make the road categories John Speed spoke about at their next meeting.

8. MPO Staff Reports:

No questions were brought up for this item. Cameron briefed the Board on an issue that had recently been brought up to staff about possible having to resubmit the Fairgrounds Rd. overpass project. Staff would have to do a TIP amendment that would not require a 30-day comment period since the draft document that was released for public review in the summer of 2016 was correct. In the eSTIP the letter “C” indicating construction is missing; that is required when there are construction dollars to be spent. As of now it only has an “E” for engineering. The main issue is if it must go through a STIP amendment, the work will be pushed back for about four months. This project was ready for letting in May and can still happen if an administrative change to the document is made. John Love added that because our draft document was correct, there should be something the Board can do to not delay the process.

9. Agency Project Reports

TxDOT-Odessa District – Gary: A list of current projects was distributed and TxDOT will try to get it updated and sent to MPO staff prior to the meetings. He asked if the Board has any suggestions on what to include to let him know.

City of Midland – Matt: Ribbon cutting tomorrow for Beal Pkwy. and one for the Briarwood project should be next.

Midland County – Robin: Constructing the extension of Antelope Trail and negotiating additional Right-of-Way.

City of Odessa – Hal: Contractor has started on new curb and gutter on the north side of 3rd St. and mill and overlay on 31st St. should be starting in 2 weeks at the end of the month.

Ector County – David: Pre-bid meeting tomorrow morning for the last CERTZ project, sealcoating portions of three roads.

Martin County – Bryan: Trying to finish up the landscaping project at the courthouse, in the process of putting together the plans for the new jail.

MOUSD – None

10. Future Meetings

Policy Board Meeting – April 17, 2017 at 5:00 pm

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, April 6, 2017 at 8:00 am

RCTP Meeting – Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 11:30 am

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

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by Robin Donnelly to go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

11. 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.

A motion was made by Ron Eckert and seconded by John Love to resume the Policy Board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Take Action Concerning Executive Session Matters

None

13. Adjourn

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by John Speed to adjourn the meeting at 5:52 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.