



Permian Basin MPO Metropolitan Planning Organization

Policy Board Meeting
9601 Wright Dr., Suite 1
Midland, TX 79706
February 20, 2018 5:00 p.m.

Minutes

Policy Board Members Present

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

Policy Board Members Absent:

David Turner	Chair, Mayor, City of Odessa
Ron Eckert	County Judge, Ector County
Vacant	MOUSD

Others in Attendance:

Cameron Walker, AICP	Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO
Lorraine Quimiro	Senior Transportation Planner, Permian Basin MPO
Rosie Spencer	Administrative Planning Assistant, Permian Basin MPO
Robert Ornelas, P.E.	Director of TP&D, TxDOT Odessa District
Gene Powell	Public Information Officer, TxDOT Odessa District
Gabriel Ramirez, P.E.	Advanced Planning Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Jessica Alexander, P.E.	Dunaway Associates, Midland County
Matt Carr, P.E.	City Engineer, City of Midland
Gary Law, P.E.	Director of Project Development, MDC
Gennie Garcia	General Manager, MOUSD
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 5:04 p.m. by Policy Board Chair, David Turner. A quorum was present.

2. Introductions and Announcements

Gary was introduced as the staff engineer for the Midland Development Corporation.

3. Public Comment Period

None

4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from January 16, 2018

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by Judge Cox to approve the Policy Board Minutes from January 16, 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approve the December 2017 Billing Statement

December is the third billing for this fiscal year and the MPO spent \$27,539.77. The percentage of expenditures ended at about 21% and the actual balance is \$375,540.92.

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by John Speed to approve the December Billing Statement. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Direct staff to commence a public comment period to amend the *Vision 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan*

Staff has been working with TxDOT on how to come up with about \$1.2 million to put into the MTP to expedite the timing of the 52nd/56th St. project to install traffic signals and reduce grading where there are grading differences. Additional funds are being provided from TxDOT's safety improvement program and from their district discretionary funds. Ector County and the City of Odessa have approved funds towards this project as well and the rest will need to come from the MPO's Category 2 money. This project is listed for 2022 and for it to be done in 2019 staff needs to be sure the money is in place and then amend the MTP since it is also listed as only "signal improvements" at \$4.8 million. John Love mentioned that the description of the project needed to be changed to explain exactly what is going to be done at that intersection. Another reason to amend the MTP is to put the TASA money that was awarded to the City of Midland. John Love pointed out that this project is the one that was originally in the top five but was replaced by the Yukon project, so a project was moved for economic reasons over safety reasons. John Speed answered that the 56th/52nd St. project called for a full interchange, and at the time had one fatality. Within a matter of months after it was switched with the Yukon project, the additional crashes happened, which is when the safety concerns came up. So instead of doing the full interchange, they are addressing what can be done to improve the safety concerns there. John Love mentioned that those hazards were still there when the influx of crashes happened, and the project was already in the top five to be taken care of, but the Policy Board voted to replace it

with the Yukon Rd. project. Commissioner Donnelly asked if Ector County was ok with moving the 52nd/56th St. project back up since they were the ones who pressed the Board to switch the projects in the first place. David Peck answered that they were switching overpasses at 52nd/56th to Yukon Rd. Now, it is just signal improvements with grading improvements, not an interchange. John Speed mentioned he plans to use \$365,000 of HSIP money for this project, half a million from district discretionary, and will probably have to go through the same exercise to find money for another group of projects related to the railroad crossings. But those will not be ready until next fiscal year and should not be included until the next UTP. After some discussion regarding the railroad projects, Cameron summarized what had just been said about the 52nd/56th St. project and John Love added that he is very upset about what happened and reminded the Board that this is why there are policies and procedures in place. This is why they go through what they go through when deciding projects because after a safety project was “yanked” out and an economic project was put in its place, it is coming back up because of all the crashes that have happened there. If the Policy Board did what they were supposed to do, they would not be “crossing this bridge” right now.

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by John Speed to direct staff to commence a public comment period to amend the *Vision 2040* Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Approve an amendment to the FY 2018 UPWP for a multi-use trail corridor study

Cameron reminded the Board that staff had requested to move \$24,742 from task 1 to task 5 to combine with the \$17,258 in SPR funds for a total of \$42,000 to pursue the multi-use trail corridor study. Staff has been working on an RFP and will want to release it soon. The FY 2018 UPWP needs to be amended to show the change in the budget. John Speed asked if it used to be called the comprehensive transit study shown in task 5, and Cameron mentioned this multi-use trail corridor study will replace the comprehensive transit study since the requests for those funds was denied by TxDOT after the FY 2018 UPWP was completed and approved.

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by John Speed to approve an amendment to the FY 2018 UPWP for a multi-use trail corridor study. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Hold an election for FY 2018 – 2019 Policy Board Chair and Vice-Chair

Robin Donnelly asked if there were any nominations for Board Chair, John Love nominated Robin Donnelly. Robin Donnelly asked if there were any more nominations, there were none. Robin Donnelly asked if there were any nominations for Vice-Chair, Judge Cox nominated John Love. Robin Donnelly asked if there were any more nominations, there were none. Robin Donnelly was voted Chair and John Love was voted Vice-Chair by acclamation.

8. MPO Staff Reports

a. 120-Day Calendar: Cameron reminded the Board next month’s meeting is at 3:00 p.m. at Midland Centennial Library.

b. Update on multi-county thoroughfare plan: A Special TAC meeting was held prior to this meeting to discuss what steps are needed to get the three-county thoroughfare plan going. City of Odessa and Ector County presented their thoroughfare plans. Each entity is tasked to bring their own thoroughfare plans and comparisons will be made. Eddie Landrum from the City of Odessa volunteered to put all networks together on a map to show any inconsistencies or gaps. The TAC is hoping to get a finished product by the end of the summer. John Speed asked if Martin County has been invited, Cameron answered that Clayton Black was not available for today's meeting, but he will be at the next regular meeting.

John Love left the meeting, leaving no quorum and official business ceased.

c: RFP for consulting assistance with the multi-use trail corridor study:

Cameron told the Board he would email them a copy of the draft RFP staff has put together for review. It was also sent to the City of Odessa's legal department for review.

d. 30-day Activity and Social Media Update: Staff met with TxDOT staff to discuss where to find funds to put towards the 52nd/56th St. project. Cameron attended the Permian Basin Builders Association meeting, EZ-Rider's board meeting, and RCTP meeting. Gennie Garcia mentioned there was no quorum at the EZ-Rider Board Meeting, so the meeting could not continue, but a special meeting was called for the expansion project and that was approved. Staff is currently trying to find locations for public meetings to begin the MTP update that is due in November of 2019. The meetings may be held at the end of March. Rosie mentioned the MPO has reached 100 Likes on Facebook, and 66 Followers on Twitter. Commissioner Donnelly asked if there will anything new going on social media and Rosie answered that with the MTP public meetings coming up, hopefully more of the public will see and learn about them.

9. Agency Project Reports

TxDOT Odessa District: Robert – Introduced Gabriel Ramirez, who was the Design Engineer and will now be the Advanced Planning Engineer at TxDOT, Odessa District. He then asked if anyone had questions on the status sheet. John Speed mentioned a project on SH 349 that will be done earlier, Robert stated it is an energy sector project for an overlay on 349 from the reliever route going south to Upton County on 349. The Mockingbird Ln. project lets in May. **Gene** – Spring is when TxDOT does a lot of safety campaigns. Saturday April 7th at the Rockhounds game, they will have the Be Safe, Drive Smart truck. May 15th, the Click It or Ticket in Odessa. A time and place have yet to be determined, they are trying to find a high traffic location. May 19th, Look Twice for Motorcycles at another Rockhounds game. He will send out information as it comes up.

City of Midland: Matt – Preparing for bond program is taking a lot of time. Still working with consultants and the Briarwood plans are nearing 90%. Concept drawing and right-of-way map is almost complete for Fairgrounds north of Loop 250, all right-of-way has not been acquired. Hiring consultants to develop concept drawings for a stretch of SH 158, west side of town from N 191 to just north of CR 60.

Midland County: Jessica – Finished pavement on CR 140. Since then, they have been working on concrete low water crossings. Cameron stated he drove it on Friday and it took him all the way to Midkiff Rd. Commissioner Donnelly mentioned it can take you all the way to SH 158.

City of Odessa: Hal – Contractors have started on the interim project for University Blvd., which is clearing the right-of-way to prepare for roadway construction. 23rd St. between Kermit Hwy. and Andrews Hwy. will start on mill and overlay on March 12th. Sealcoat and regular projects are being put together for to go out to bid.

Ector County: David – Collaboration with TxDOT on the signalization at 52nd/56th St. Working to get utilities moved for the widening of half of 56th St. from Billy Hext Rd. to Faudree. That will hopefully start just as school ends and be finished just as school starts. Commissioner Donnelly asked how much it is costing to move utilities, David answered because they are widening it is not costing anything. Commissioner Donnelly also asked how the county built the roads in West Odessa, David answered that some are TxDOT roads and others were done way before his time.

Martin County: Judge Cox – New jail broke ground and foundation is getting done. Getting ready to let a sealcoat contract. The County's first responders have responded to 262 incidents in Martin County the past year and most are single vehicle accidents.

MOULD: Gennie – Just applied for a couple of grants, inter-city bus funds to assist with EZ Connect service and are hoping to match those hours to fixed route hours to get more ridership and accessibility. Replacing 4 thirty-foot vehicles for fixed route and are projected to start construction on the maintenance facility on March 5th. Hoping to be done by November 2018.

11. Future Meetings

Policy Board Meeting – Monday, March 19, 2018 at 3:00 pm (Midland Centennial Library)

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday March 1, 2018 at 8:00 am

LEAP Rural Rail District Meeting – N/A

Lorraine mentioned a meeting being sponsored by the Permian Road Safety Coalition on February 28th. It will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn by the baseball field in Midland. That meeting will be from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Commissioner Donnelly also thanked TxDOT for fixing the signals at Lamesa Rd. and Front St. Hoping to see Carver St. fixed as well.

Gennie thanked Hal for including five bus pull out lanes on the University project and it is important to include transit in future projects.

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

The meeting ended at 6:25 p.m. without a motion to adjourn due to lack of quorum.