

**Johnson City Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Executive Board and Executive Staff Meeting, 10 a.m.  
Johnson City Municipal Building Conference Room,  
February 22, 2006**

**Executive Board Present**

Charlie Stahl, for The Honorable Mayor Mckinney (City of Elizabethton)  
The Honorable Mayor Fair (Carter County)  
The Honorable Mayor Darden (City of Johnson City)  
Bob Browning, for The Honorable Mayor Bledsoe (Town of Jonesborough)  
John Deakins, for The Honorable Mayor Jaynes (Washington County)

**Executive Board Not Present**

Governor Bredesen (Tennessee)

**Executive Staff Present**

M. Denis Peterson, City of Johnson City  
Eldonna Janutolo, Johnson City Transit  
Bob Browning, Town of Jonesborough  
Johnny Deakins, Washington County Highway Department  
Charlie Stahl, City of Elizabethton

**Executive Staff Not Present**

Susan Reid, First Tennessee Development District  
Stan Harrison, Office of Local Planning  
Jack Perkins, Carter County Highway Department

**Others Attending**

Rhonda Grissom, JCMPO  
Jeff Rawles, JCMPO  
David Ornduff, City of Elizabethton  
Steve Neilson, City of Johnson City  
Anthony Todd, City of Johnson City  
Matt Garland, FTRPO  
Brian Graves, Elizabethton  
Jane Fillers, Johnson City Transit  
Donna Bridwell, Johnson City Transit  
Karen Brunelle, FHWA  
Randy Dodson, Mattern and Craig Engineering  
Dorian Jones, Johnson City Citizen

### **Summary of Motions Passed:**

- Previous meeting minutes approved.
- Approved Resolution 2006-01 setting goal of 8% STP funds for bike/pedestrian.
- Approved Resolution 2006-02 amend total PL112 funds.
- Approved Resolution 2006-03 add Elizabethton Roadway Needs Assessment as task in the UPWP.
- Approved Resolution 2006-04 add additional capital grant for JCT.
- Approved Resolution 2006-05 add Okolona Road project to TIP.
- Approved Resolution 2006-06 add Elizabethton Rail Study as a task to the UPWP.
- Approved Resolution 2006-07 add Transit Safety and Security Plan to TIP.

## Meeting Minutes:

**Agenda Item 1:** Meeting called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Mayor Darden.

**Agenda Item 2:** A sign-in sheet was passed to each member.

**Agenda Item 3:** The minutes from the November 9 and November 30, 2005 meetings were reviewed. Mr. Stahl made a motion to approve the document. Ms. Janutolo seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item 4A:** Mr. Rawles explained the Citizens Advisory Committee had met on February 7, 2006. Mr. Rawles explained the CAC had made a recommendation to set aside a goal of 8% from STP funds to be used for bicycle/pedestrian projects. Mr. Rawles also explained the CAC would be forming a regional bicycle/pedestrian subcommittee. Mr. Rawles also explained the CAC had made a recommendation for Resolution 2006-06 to extend the Elizabethton rail study to include the portion of rail to Tennessee Street.

**Agenda Item 5A:** Mayor Darden asked Ms. Grissom to discuss adding a Rural Planning Organization (RPO) representative as a non-voting member of the Executive Staff. Ms. Grissom explained the Executive Board needs to select a representative from the RPO to serve on the MPO Executive staff. Mayor Fair made the motion to select Matt Garland to represent the RPO. Mr. Browning seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item 5B:** Mayor Darden asked Mr. Rawles to discuss Resolution 2006-01: setting aside X% of STP funding to be spent for bicycle/pedestrian projects. Mr. Rawles explained the CAC had recommended setting aside a goal of 8%. Mr. Peterson explained the 8% could be for bicycle, pedestrian trails, and new sidewalk construction and repair. Mayor Darden made the motion to set aside a goal of 8% STP funds to be used for bicycle/pedestrian projects. Mr. Stahl seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item 5Ci:** Mayor Darden asked Mr. Rawles to discuss Resolution 2006-02: Amend total PL112 funds. Mr. Rawles explained when the UPWP was adopted last year the actual funding amounts were not known. When the transportation bill was passed the MPO received an increase of \$41,325 in the Planning 112 funds. Mr. Rawles explained the UPWP must reflect the actual amount received. Mr. Deakins made the motion to amend the UPWP to reflect the additional PL112 funding amount. Mr. Browning seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item 5Cii:** Mayor Darden asked Mr. Rawles to explain Resolution 2006-03: Add Elizabethton Roadway Needs Assessment. Mr. Rawles explained the MPO needed to update its data for Elizabethton. This updated information will help the MPO with the Long Range Transportation Plan and help Elizabethton in determining their future transportation needs. Ms. Janutolo made the motion to add the Elizabethton roadway needs assessment as a task to the UPWP. Mayor Fair seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item 5Ciii:** Mayor Darden asked Ms. Janutolo to explain Resolution 2006-04: add project (JCT), additional capital grant in the amount of \$300,941 for vehicles to the TIP. Ms. Janutolo explained JCT obtained additional grant funds after the TIP had been completed and the TIP must be amended to reflect this addition. Ms. Janutolo explained these funds would be used to purchase JCT vehicles. Mr. Browning made the motion to add the additional funds to the TIP. Mr. Deakins seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item 5Civ:** Mayor Darden asked Mr. Rawles to explain Resolution 2006-05: add project Okolona Road to the TIP. Mr. Rawles explained this project was already in the Long Range Plan, but needed to be included in the TIP. Mr. Rawles explained since the project had no funding source at this time it would be added to the illustrative section of the TIP. Mr. Rawles also indicated the regional importance of this project. Mr. Stahl made the motion to add the Okolona Road project to the TIP. Mr. Browning seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item 5Cv:** Mayor Darden asked Mr. Rawles to explain Resolution 2006-06: add Elizabethton rail study as a task to the UPWP. Mr. Rawles explained this money was obtained through Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT), section 5303 transit funds. These funds were obtained by TDOT from MPOs that did not spend their 5303 allocations. Instead of returning the unused funds to Federal Transit Administration, TDOT let MPOs that were interested submit proposals for projects. Mr. Rawles explained the Elizabethton Rail Study was proposed and funded. Mr. Rawles indicated the funds could only be used for planning, not construction. Mr. Rawles also explained the local match for the study would be provided by the City of Elizabethton. Mr. Dorian Jones, a citizen of Johnson City, expressed the importance of the rail study and the importance of the rail study to include the portion of rail from Legion Street to Tennessee Street. Mr. Jones also indicated how important it was for this study to look at rest of the region and connect the area cities by rail. Mr. Jones also indicated the importance of the rail line to connect to downtown Johnson City to ETSU and the Johnson City Medical Center. Mayor Darden made the recommendation to have the rail study cover more of the MPO region. Mr. Peterson suggested making corrections to the wording of Resolution 2006-06. Ms. Brunelle indicated the resolution needed to state the project was being added to the UPWP not the TIP. Mr. Stahl made the motion to add Resolution 2006-06 to the UPWP, pending corrections. Mayor Fair seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item 5Cvi:** Mayor Darden asked Ms. Janutolo to explain Resolution 2006-07 Transit Safety and Security Study. Ms. Janutolo explained as a result of 9/11 and the July, 2005 bombings of London subway and buses, mass transit security has become a major concern and initiative for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Ms. Janutolo explained in response to FTA's security initiative and to ensure the security and emergency preparedness in the City's public transportation system, Johnson City Transit proposes use of consultant services with expertise in the field of public transportation security, via issuance of an RFP, for development of a JCT Security Plan which encompass the elements included in FTA security program guidelines. Mayor Darden made a motion to add the Resolution 2006-07 Transit Safety and Security Study to the TIP. Mr. Stahl seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item 6:** Mayor Darden asked if there was anybody wishing to be heard on items not included in the Agenda. No items were discussed.

**Agenda Item 7:** Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:05 a.m.