

JOHNSON CITY MTPO
Minutes of the Executive Board and Executive Staff Meeting
Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.
Location: Johnson City Transit Center, Training Room

Executive Board Present

Randy Trivette for the Honorable Mayor Dr. Todd Fowler, City of Johnson City, Chairman
Matthew Balogh for the Honorable Mayor Curt Alexander, City of Elizabethton
Glenn Rosenoff for the Honorable Mayor Chuck Vest, Town of Jonesborough
The Honorable Mayor Joe Grandy, Washington County
Ronda Sawyer for the Honorable Governor Bill Lee, State of Tennessee
John Deakins, Jr., Tennessee County Highway Officials Association

Executive Board Not Present

The Honorable Mayor Jeff Broyles, Town of Bluff City
The Honorable Mayor Kathy Bullen, Town of Unicoi
The Honorable Mayor Patty Woodby, Carter County

Executive Staff Present

Randy Trivette for Cathy Ball, City of Johnson City, Chairman
Logan Engle for Daniel Estes, City of Elizabethton
Kim Kreckow for Eldonna Janutolo, Johnson City Transit
Glenn Rosenoff, Town of Jonesborough
Doug Jones for Washington County Highway Department
Chase Milner, First Tennessee Development District
Ronda Sawyer, Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT)

Executive Staff Not Present

The Honorable Mayor Jeff Broyles, Town of Bluff City
Debbie Kessler, Town of Unicoi
Carter County Highway Department
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

MTPO Staff Present

Glenn Berry, Johnson City MTPO
Mary Butler, Johnson City MTPO

Others Attending

The Honorable Representative Tim Hicks, Tennessee House District 6, along with Bill, Legislative Intern
Michael Dick, TDOT District 17
Troy Ebbert, TDOT
Andy Best, City of Johnson City
Anthony Todd, City of Johnson City
David Carney, City of Elizabethton
Candace Long, NET Trans
Calvin Clifton, Mattern & Craig

Summary of Motions:

- **Approved** – Minutes from February 9, 2023 meeting and June 14, 2023 meeting;
- **Approved** – Resolution 2023-02 to adopt the Fiscal Years 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program;
- **Approved** – Resolution 2023-03 to self-certify the metropolitan transportation planning process for the Johnson City MTPO that must accompany an amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and
- **Approved** – Resolution 2023-04 to amend the Fiscal Years 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add funding in Fiscal Year 2023 for the Traffic Signal for SR 34 (US 11E/E Jackson Blvd) & Tiger Way project, along with revising the scope to add the installation of turn lanes.

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 10:35 a.m. by the Chairman, Mr. Randy Trivette, standing in for the Honorable Mayor Dr. Todd Fowler.

Agenda Item 1: Chairman Mr. Trivette welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if there was any input from the public. There were no comments from the public.

Agenda Item 2: Chairman Mr. Trivette moved to Item 2, to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2023 Meeting and the June 14, 2023 Meeting.

Ms. Ronda Sawyer made a motion for the board to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2023 Meeting and the June 14, 2023 Meeting. Mr. John Deakins, Jr. seconded the motion.

Agenda Item 3: Chairman Mr. Trivette moved to Item 3, to consider approval of adopting the Fiscal Years 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program.

Mr. Glenn Berry covered several highlights of the two-year work program, including tasks such as finalizing the adjusted urban area boundary, researching the new grants from the new transportation law, and revising the website.

Ms. Sawyer made a motion for the board to approve to adopt the Fiscal Years 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program. Mr. Deakins seconded the motion.

All approved. **Motion carried.**

Agenda Item 4: Chairman Mr. Trivette moved to Item 4, to consider approval of a resolution to self-certify the metropolitan transportation planning process for the Johnson City MTPO that must accompany an amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Mr. Berry explained that because the Johnson City MTPO represents a small urbanized area, we self-certify the metropolitan planning process when making amendments to the TIP.

Mr. Matthew Balogh made a motion for the board to self-certify the metropolitan transportation planning process for the Johnson City MTPO that must accompany an amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Glenn Rosenoff seconded the motion.

All approved. **Motion carried.**

Agenda Item 5: Chairman Mr. Trivette moved to Item 5, to consider approval of a resolution to amend the Fiscal Years 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add funding in Fiscal Year 2023 for the Traffic Signal for SR 34 (US 11E/E Jackson Blvd) & Tiger Way project, along with revising the scope to add the installation of turn lanes.

Mr. Berry explained that Jonesborough is installing a traffic signal at the intersection of 11E and Tiger Way. The signal is needed to address future traffic issues for the new Jonesborough Elementary School. This project will need additional turn lanes installed for the intersection to work properly, which necessitated a change of scope and additional funding for construction. Mr. Rosenoff added that the traffic signal for this intersection was warranted, even before the school was conceptualized. He also mentioned the slow process in working with Local Programs in getting project phases approved. Mr. Berry commented that

communication with Local Programs is getting better but it has a long way to go speeding up the project delivery process.

Mr. Deakins made a motion for the board to approve to amend the Fiscal Years 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Ms. Sawyer seconded the motion.

All approved. **Motion carried.**

Agenda Item 6: Chairman Mr. Trivette moved to Item 6, Other Business.

Mayor Grandy asked about the Knob Creek Road project, the section with the bridge, and why it was not on the Three-Year Work Program. Mr. Berry explained that the MTPO can prioritize the project and request that TDOT put it in, but it is up to TDOT to actually put it in. Mr. Trivette also explained that until the design work is completed and turned over to TDOT, it can't be added to the Three-Year Work Program. Johnson City missed the deadline for the last work program, but hope to have everything to TDOT soon. Mr. Berry stated there is a new state grant from the Transportation Modernization Act (TMA) called the Statewide Partnership Program. The City of Johnson City submitted Knob Creek Road as a project for consideration a few weeks ago.

Mr. Andy Best explained that city staff will be meeting with TDOT staff at the end of the month and will discuss design changes that forced the purchase of more easement from private property.

Mr. Troy Ebbert introduced Mr. Michael Dick, a TDOT Engineer, said he could answer any questions. Mr. Deakins asked about resurfacing on a street in Washington County and Mr. Dick responded that it is scheduled in next year's plan. Mr. Dick also announced that the State Route 91 Project will be delayed until late December and possibly in to early 2024.

Adjourn: There being no further business, Chairman Mr. Trivette thanked everyone for attending the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Rosenoff to adjourn. All agreed. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.