

JOHNSON CITY MTPO
Minutes of the Executive Board / Executive Staff Meeting
Thursday, May 12, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.
100 West Millard Street, Johnson City, TN
Johnson City Public Library, Jones Meeting Room

Executive Board Present

The Honorable Mayor Irene Wells, Town of Bluff City
Jon Hartman for the Honorable Mayor Curt Alexander, City of Elizabethton
The Honorable Commissioner Ralph Van Brocklin for Mayor Clayton Stout, City of Johnson City
The Honorable Mayor Johnny Lynch, Town of Unicoi
The Honorable Mayor Leon Humphrey, Carter County
The Honorable Mayor Dan Eldridge, Washington County
Jack Qualls for Governor Bill Haslam, State of Tennessee
John Deakins, Jr., Tennessee County Highway Officials Association

Executive Board Not Present

The Honorable Mayor Kelly Wolfe, Town of Jonesborough

Executive Staff Present

The Honorable Mayor Irene Wells, Town of Bluff City
Jerome Kitchens, City of Elizabethton
M. Denis Peterson, City of Johnson City
Mike Housewright, Town of Unicoi
John Deakins, Jr., Washington County Highway Department
Jeff Rawles for Eldonna Janutolo, Johnson City Transit
Jack Qualls, Tennessee Department of Transportation
Trey Joiner, Tennessee Department of Transportation
Chris Craig, First Tennessee Development District

Executive Staff Not Present

Bob Browning, Town of Jonesborough
Roger Colbaugh, Carter County Highway Department

Others Attending

Glenn Berry, Johnson City MTPO
Mary Butler, Johnson City MTPO
Ambre Torbett, Sullivan County
Jason Carder, Mattern & Craig
Randy Beckner, Mattern & Craig
Anthony Todd, City of Johnson City
Tyler Morris, City of Johnson City
Mike Potter, City of Elizabethton
Matthew Balogh, City of Elizabethton

Summary of Motions Passed:

- **Approved** – Minutes from December 10, 2015.
- **Approved – Resolution 2016-01** – Self-Certification Resolution
- **Approved – Resolution 2016-02** – Consider approval of amending the Fiscal Year 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add construction funding and update description of I-26 Exit 24 project

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 10:05 a.m. by the appointed Chairman, Mr. John Deakins, Jr.

Agenda Item 1: Chairman Deakins proceeded to ask if there were any comments from the public. There were no comments from the public attending the meeting.

Agenda Item 2: The minutes from the December 10, 2015 meeting were reviewed.

Mr. M. Denis Peterson made a motion for the board to approve. Mr. Jon Hartman seconded the motion. All approved. **Motion carried.**

Agenda Item 3: Consider approval of Resolution 2016-01 to sign Self-Certifications

Mr. Berry stated that these self-certifications are required when making a TIP amendment to assure the federal government that the Johnson City MTPO is following regulations. He explained that since the Johnson City MTPO is classified as a small urbanized area and not a Transportation Management Area as defined by federal law, the Johnson City MTPO was allowed to "self-certify." Mr. Berry then stated the Johnson City MTPO was in compliance with all the self-certifications.

Mr. Berry also pointed out the ADA requirements in the Self-Certifications and noted that all federally funded transportation projects were reviewed by TDOT for compliance with the ADA, before going to construction. He said TDOT was updating their ADA Transition Plan and that local jurisdictions may be contacted for more information. Mr. Jack Qualls mentioned that the department would most likely be looking at local ADA transitions plans as part of this process. Mr. Peterson said that the ADA compliance would cover all aspects of a city's services and that non-compliance could result in a loss of federal funding eligibility.

The Honorable Mayor Leon Humphrey made a motion for the board to approve the resolution for the Johnson City MTPO. Chairman Deakins seconded the motion. All approved. **Motion carried.**

Agenda Item 4: Consider approval of Resolution 2016-02 Consider approval of amending the Fiscal Year 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add construction funding and update description of I-26 Exit 24 project.

Mr. Berry proceeded to describe the I-26 Exit 24 project. TDOT is adding additional funding, \$2,212,000, to the project and updating the description and scope. He showed the old and new TIP pages for the project and described in general detail the design of the interchange, that additional capacity would be added for eastbound traffic exiting to S.R. 67 on the off ramp and for traffic on S.R. 67 heading north. Additional improvements on the west bound off ramp of I-26 would also be included in this project, but he did not have specific details. Mr. Berry ask Mr. Anthony Todd if he knew in more detail about the project or had seen design plans. Mr. Todd said he had not. Mr. Peterson described what he knew about the project.

Mr. Hartman made a motion for the board to approve the resolution for the Johnson City MTPO. The Honorable Mayor Irene Wells seconded the motion. All approved. **Motion carried.**

After the resolution approval, Mr. Berry described a handout that was distributed to attendees that included the local projects submitted for the new TIP. He noted that there would be a review of the draft TIP before final approval in December. Depending upon scheduling this should occur in the upcoming weeks.

Agenda Item 5: Draft Fiscal Years 2017-2019 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Berry proceeded to describe the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and the tasks that the staff of the Johnson City MTPo has done for the current year. These included the three main tasks – Long Range Transportation Plan, TIP, and UPWP. Accomplishments include approval of the Functional Classification System and the National Highway System, releasing a Request for Proposals for the Long Range Transportation Plan, and assisting Johnson City Transit with planning.

New tasks for the upcoming UPWP include identifying performance measures as they are implemented by the U.S. Department of Transportation and TDOT, the update of the Long Range Transportation Plan, update of the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan, maintaining the new TIP, and analyzing the transit system using TBEST software.

Mr. Berry went over the national goals for performance measures and the planning factors that are a part of MTPo planning responsibilities. He mentioned that the performance measures were required starting with the last transportation authorization, MAP-21, but are just now being finalized and released.

The new UPWP is currently going through Federal review for comments. Once the comments have been addressed, the Board will vote later to approve the document.

Agenda Item 6: Update from the Coordinator

Mr. Berry gave a review of some of the transportation projects that have been completed in the area in the last year. I-26 Exit 13, SR 36 and SR 362 are all complete.

TDOT has plans to start an I-26 Corridor Study this fall and the study will last approximately 18 months. He showed a video of the I-65 Corridor Study as an example. Mr. Berry noted that I-26 through Asheville is being planned for but funding has yet to be identified. They are currently planning to spend \$2 million to add a separated bike lane onto I-26 across the river near downtown. Mr. Berry will email out the information provided by the MPO in Asheville about their I-26 update.

Mr. Berry concluded the meeting by showing past imagery of SR 36 of what it used to look like before it was widened from two lanes to five lanes. Mr. Berry hopes that the Kingsport MPO and Sullivan County will advocate for the final portion of SR 36 from SR 75 to I-81 to be widened as well, thus providing a complete alternate route from I-81 to Johnson City, in the event I-26 shuts down in that area.

Agenda Item 7: Other Business

There were no other business items to discuss.

Adjourn: With no further business, Chairman Deakins asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Humphrey made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. All approved. **Motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.