

ST. CLOUD AREA PLANNING ORGANIZATION

A regular meeting of the St. Cloud Area Planning Organization was held on Thursday, February 23, 2017, 7:00 p.m. at Waite Park City Hall. Chairman Jeff Goerger presided, with the following members present:

Jeff Goerger	City of St. Cloud	Mayor Bob Kroll	City of St. Augusta
George Hontos	"	Donna Schultzenberg	"
Steve Laraway	"	Mike Zenzen	"
John Libert	"	Jeff Westerlund	Township of LeSauk
Dave Masters	"	Dan Heim	"
David Peterson (alt)	City of Sartell	Spencer Buerkle	County of Benton
Ryan Fitzthum	"	Ed Popp	"
Ross Olson (alt)	Sauk Rapids	Ewald Petersen	County of Sherburne
David Rixe	"	Joe Perske	County of Stearns
Mayor Rick Miller	City of Waite Park	Leigh Lenzmeier	"
Vic Schulz	"		

Absent Members:

Mayor Dave Kleis(exc)	City of St. Cloud	Mike Chisum	City of Sartell
Sheila Devine		Steve Heinen	City of Sauk Rapids
Jeff Johnson (exc)		Frank Theisen (Exc)	City of Waite Park
Carol Lewis	City of Sauk Rapids	Shawn Omann	LeSauk Township
Steve Ludwig	City of Waite Park	Jake Bauerly	Benton County
Mayor Rick Schultz	City of St. Joseph	Felix Schmiesing (exc)	Sherburne County
Bob Loso	"	Tim Dolan	"
Renee Symanietz	"	Steve Notch (Exc)	Stearns County
Mayor Sarah Jane Nicholl (Exc)	City of Sartell	Carolyn Garven	Metro Bus

Also Present:

Brian Gibson	St. Cloud APO	David Turch	Turch & Associates
Dorothy Sweet	St. Cloud APO	Joseph Mueller	St. Cloud APO

Chair Goerger introduced the new members as they were called during roll call.

WASHINGTON DC UPDATE:

Due to lack of quorum at the start of the meeting, it was decided that David Turch, the APO's lobbyist from David Turch & Associates, would update the board about current events in Washington. Mr. Turch noted that President Trump wants to improve infrastructure and plans to commit \$1 trillion over ten years for improvements. The FAST Act needs to be amended. US Secretary of Transportation Chao plans to form a task force to decide what we ought to be doing. Public-private partnerships are being encouraged. Mr. Turch stated that unless he hears otherwise from the APO, he plans to oppose public-private partnerships since they would not work for the St. Cloud APO area. Mr. Turch said that by the time the APO visits Washington in early April, things should be settled somewhat and more information should be available by that time. He thanked the APO for allowing him to serve the APO in Washington.

A quorum was reached and the meeting continued.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA:

Mr. E. Petersen motioned and Mr. Masters seconded to approve the Agenda. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF MEETING MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 27, 2016:

Mr. Zenzen motioned and Mr. Libert seconded the approval of the meeting minutes of October 27, 2016. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS:

Mr. Zenzen motioned and Mr. D. Peterson seconded the approval of bills as presented. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF 2016 YEAR END FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Mr. Libert motioned and Mr. Laraway seconded the approval of the 2016 year-end financial statements. Motion carried. Mr. V. Schultz requested that future financial statements include the current balance sheet. Mr. Gibson responded that this would be included in future agendas.

CONSIDERATION OF TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PRIORITIES FOR FY 2017:

Mr. Mueller, APO Senior Planner, briefly reviewed that the federal funds for this program are dispersed to the state and then to District 3 from MnDOT, and can only be used for non-motorized transportation options. \$1.6 million is available and can fund two or three projects for the entire District 3 area. The three eligible projects from the APO area are listed below in no particular order:

Jurisdiction:	Description:	End-Points:	TA \$ Amount Applying For:	Total Project Cost:
St. Cloud	New bike/ped trail along 33 rd St S connecting New-Tech H.S. site to Neenah Creek Regional Park.	CR 74 to CR 136	\$475,000	\$685,000
Sauk Rapids	Install lighting along existing MRT segment.	Ped-Helix to River Ave. S. trail intersection	\$295,782.18	\$369,727.72
Sartell	Extend bike/ped trail along Pinecone Rd N to new Sartell H.S.	15 th St N to 35 th St N	\$496,097.80	\$620,122.20

The TAC reviewed the list and recommended to the Executive Board that the St. Cloud project be ranked #1 with 10 bonus points and the Sartell project ranked #2 with five extra bonus points. The Executive Board agreed with the TAC's recommendation. The Policy Board members requested clarification on bonus points, whether projects needed to be shovel ready and about projects connecting to the Lake Wobegon trail.

Mr. Masters motioned to approve the ranking of the St. Cloud project as #1 and the Sartell project as #2. Mr. Laraway seconded the motion. Motion carried with one opposition vote (V. Schulz).

CONSIDERATION OF PROCUREMENT POLICIES:

Mr. Gibson explained that because the current Procurement Policy, which was last updated in 2014, was lacking the required Federal clauses, it needed to be updated. Mr. Gibson reviewed some of the MnDOT recommended changes which were incorporated into the revision. Mr. Gibson noted that in any procurement situation, if Federal and State requirements differed, the APO would follow the Federal guidelines. Mr. Laraway complimented Mr. Gibson on the well-written document. The Executive Board recommended approval to the Policy Board at the February meeting.

Mr. Libert motioned to approve the Procurement Policy, and Mr. Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF ADA SELF-EVALUATION:

Mr. Gibson noted that as a recipient of Federal funding, the APO must comply with Federal and State laws and regulations regarding matters of nondiscrimination on the basis of disability and must include physical accommodations, communications, and policies and procedures. The draft document was sent to several agencies for review. After examining and evaluating the APO's premises and website, the APO will be

working toward upgrading and improving several areas over the next year or so. Some of the areas for improvement will include holding APO meetings in a more transit friendly location, lowering the men's restroom urinal by 3 inches, redesigning the APO website for sight impaired, lowering shelves in storage area if necessary, change hardware on one door, and possible installation of ramp between garage and building if necessary. We will also work toward contracting with interpreters when or if the need for them arises.

Mr. Zenzen motioned to approve the ADA Self-Evaluation and Mr. Hontos seconded the motion. Mr. V. Schulz commented that the ADA Policy did not address hearing impaired individuals. Mr. Gibson responded that he will include addressing hearing impaired accommodations. **Motion carried.**

CONSIDERATION OF REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES FOR 2017:

Mr. Gibson announced that the Regional Transportation Priorities list will be given to the various congressional staff the APO delegation will meet with in early April. The Executive Board recommended keeping the same list as developed in 2015. Commissioner Perske noted that at a recent Town hall meeting, Representative Emmer plans to support the I-94 expansion, and Commissioner Perske felt that it was a good time to continue to push for this. Mr. Gibson is working on creating a booklet containing the priorities and other information pertaining to the APO area. Mr. Hontos asked if the inequity issue was considered a state or federal issue. Mr. Gibson responded that the issue was with the state formula used to divide federal money resulting in the locations with roads in worse condition get more funds and regions that are doing a good job with keeping their roads up get less funding.

Mr. Laraway motioned to approve the list of Regional Priorities as recommended by the Executive Board, and Mr. V. Schulz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Gibson announced

- A series of public input open-house events for our Long Range Transportation Plan will start in March and April to collect comments on existing conditions and issue identification.
- The MN Transportation Conference is scheduled for March 1 and 2 at the St. Paul RiverCenter.
- The Annual Policy Board Meeting is scheduled for May 25 at which time elections for all officers will be held.

Mayor Miller motioned that due to the fact that May 25 is just before the Memorial Day holiday weekend, he motioned to move the meeting up one week to Thursday, May 18. Mr. Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Masters motioned and Mr. Zenzen seconded to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

John Libert
Secretary, St. Cloud APO

Date