

**SAINT CLOUD AREA PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY BOARD**  
**Thursday, April 8, 2021 – 4:30 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization Policy Board was held on Thursday, April 8th at 4:30 p.m. APO Chair Joe Perske presided with the following members participating via the Zoom app or telephone access:

Commissioner Joe Perske	Stearns County
Mayor Rick Miller	City of Waite Park
Commissioner Raeanne Danielowski	Sherburne County
Ryan Daniel, CEO	Metro Bus
Jeff Goerger	City of Saint Cloud
Commissioner Beth Schlangen	Benton County
Mayor Rick Schultz	City of Saint Joseph
Mayor Ryan Fitzthum	City of Sartell
Dottie Seamans	City of Sauk Rapids
Jared Gapinski	Benton County

Also in attendance were:

Kevin Kluesner	City of Saint Joseph
John Pederson	TCC Materials
Kari Steinbeissner	CDS
Brian Gibson, Exec Director	Saint Cloud APO
Amber Blattner	Saint Cloud APO
Vicki Johnson	Saint Cloud APO
Alex McKenzie	Saint Cloud APO
Fred Sandal	Saint Cloud APO

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

***Mr. Miller motioned to approve the agenda, and Ms. Seamans seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Miller-yes; Danielowski-yes; Daniel-yes; Schultz – yes; Perske-yes; Fitzthum – yes; Seamans – yes; Gapinski - yes; Motion Passed.***

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** No members of the public were in attendance.

**CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

- a. Approve Minutes of March 11, 2021 Policy Board Meeting (*Attachment A*)
- b. Approve Actual and Anticipated April/May Bills Lists (*Attachments B1 – B2*)
- c. Approve Contract for Southwest Beltline Corridor Study (*Attachment C*)
- d. Receive Staff Report for Technical Advisory Committee March Meeting (*Attachment D*)

***Mr. Miller motioned to approve consent agenda items, and Mr. Schultz seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Miller-yes; Danielowski-yes; Daniel-yes; Schultz – yes; Perske-yes; Fitzthum – yes; Seamans – yes; Gapinski - yes; Motion Passed.***

**Consider APO FY2020 Financial Audit**

Ms. Steinbeisser presented on the St. Cloud Area Planning Organization audit report for 2020. Ms. Steinbeisser summarized the Independent Auditor’s Report. Ms. Steinbeisser reported the Statement of Net Position (balance sheet), revenue, and expenses comparing 2019 and 2020. Cash and investment balances decreased in 2020 due to the timing of when the project reimbursements came in. Mr. Kluesner asked why member assessments decreased, and if this is something APO can expect going forward. Mr. Gibson replied member assessments are a function of the size of the APO’s federal grant because for every 80 cents the federal government gives us, APO needs 20 cents of local dollars to leverage that. Mr. Perske asked if anything impacted was COVID related other than travel expenses. Ms. Steinbeisser said that travel was impacted the most and office supplies were also slightly impacted. Mr. Gibson said next month he will be presenting a budget versus annual, and this will highlight the impact COVID has made. Ms. Steinbeisser summarized compliance items and required communications.

***Mr. Miller motioned to approve the audit, and Mr. Georger seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Miller-yes; Danielowski-yes; Daniel-yes; Schultz – yes; Perske-yes; Fitzthum – yes; Seamans – yes; Gapinski - yes; Goerger – yes; Motion Passed.***

**Consider Resolution Endorsing Minnesota Senate File 2314**

Mr. Gibson summarized that a senate file was introduced by Senator Putnam last month. If the bill is approved, it would provide money to MnDOT to do a safety study on Highway 10 and it would provide money to the APO to fund transportation projects in the area. Mr. Pederson gave an executive summary of the bill and asked for resolution support of this bill because it is important for a bill to have support on the local level before going to the state legislature. Mr. Schultz asked if this is a MnDOT study versus an APO study. Mr. Gibson said the \$400,000 would go to MnDOT District 3 and the APO would assist MnDOT if needed. The \$600,000 would be used to fund different projects as the board sees fit in the APO area. Ms. Schlangen asked if this was associated with the Highway 23 bypass for the South side of the city and if this resolution would need to be amended. Mr. Gibson said that MnDOT would like to wait for the bridge study to get done and this resolution would not need to be amended to include that.

***Mr. Georger motioned to approve the Resolution endorsing MN Senate File 2314, and Mr. Schultz seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Miller-yes; Danielowski-yes; Daniel-yes; Schultz – yes; Perske-yes; Fitzthum – yes; Seamans – yes; Gapinski - yes; Goerger – yes; Schlangen – yes; Motion Passed.***

Ms. Danielowski asked Mr. Pederson if it would be helpful to get letters of support from other government organizations in this area. Mr. Pederson said any additional letters from the counties or cities would be very helpful. Mr. Gapinski asked if it would be beneficial if there was one letter that everyone could sign. Mr. Gibson said he would draft a letter.

**Consider Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment**

Ms. Johnson said APO is looking at two proposals to amend the 2021-2024 TIP. Both proposals are from the City of St. Cloud. The projects were originally \$2.4 million and are now estimated to be \$3.7 million. The increased cost will be covered by the City of St Cloud. Since there was an increase, an amendment had to be initiated. The TAC has recommended Policy Board approval and Ms. Johnson requested Policy Board approval.

***Mr. Miller motioned to approve the TIP Amendment, and Mr. Schultz seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Miller-yes; Danielowski-yes; Daniel-yes; Schultz – yes; Perske-yes; Fitzthum – yes; Seamans – yes; Gapinski - yes; Goerger – yes; Schlangen – yes; Motion Passed.***

**OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Ms. Johnson noted the Central Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership met this morning and Sartell received transportation alternatives funding for their trail and sidewalk project. Sherburne County also received funding through the ATP. Mr. Gibson noted that starting April 12 Division Street in Waite Park will be narrowed throughout the summer. Mr. Gibson also noted he will send out a poll to Policy Board members to get a sense of regional priority projects. Mr. Perske mentioned the Northstar rail and asked Mr. Goerger if he knew more on where the project stood. Mr. Georger did not know any details. Ms. Danielowski added that there is concern on where the funds will go due to the pandemic.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.