

WICHITA FALLS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Technical Advisory Committee

Minutes

Friday, October 16, 2015

Voting Members Present:

Lin Barnett, Wichita Falls MPO, MPO Director, TAC Chairperson
Allan Moore, TxDOT, Director of Construction
David Rohmer, TxDOT, Area Engineer
Jim Dockery, City of Wichita Falls, Deputy City Manager
Mark Beauchamp, City of Wichita Falls, Traffic Superintendent
Mike Beaver, TxDOT, Director of TP&D
Tim Hertel, TxDOT, Director of Operations

MPO Staff:

Jaimie Lee, Wichita Falls MPO, Transportation Planner II

Absent:

Davis Powell, City of Wichita Falls, City Engineer
Karen Montgomery-Gagne, City of Wichita Falls, Planning Administrator

I. Welcome & Introduction

Mr. Barnett, the TAC chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

II. Public Comment on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

Mr. Barnett asked for any public comments on agenda and non-agenda items. Receiving none, he moved on to the next agenda item.

III. Review and Approval of the July 9, 2015 Technical Advisory Committee's (TAC) Meeting Minutes

Mr. Barnett asked for any comments or corrections to the July 9, 2015 TAC meeting minutes. MPO staff received none. He then asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Dockery made the motion to approve. Mr. Moore seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

IV. Review and Comment Regarding the July 22, 2015 Transportation Policy Committee's (TPC's) Meeting Minutes – No Action Required

Mr. Barnett asked for comments on the July 22, 2015 TPC meeting minutes. MPO staff received none. The committee moved on to the next agenda item.

V. Review and Recommendation to the Policy Board to Approve the Amendment in Section VI – Federally Funded Transit Projects – of the 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program: FY 2015 Section 5307 Transit Grant for the Wichita Falls Transit System

Mr. Barnett directed the committee's attention to page 16 of the meeting packet. Mr. Barnett presented the TAC committee with a handout containing the updated costs for the FY 2015 transit grant located in the Transportation Improvement Program. He stated the amendment programs actual federal, state, and local funds for capital, preventive maintenance, operations, and transit planning expenses for the Wichita Falls Transit System (WFTS). Mr. Barnett asked for any comments or questions regarding the amendment to FY 2015 of the Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Dockery asked how all of the different funding sources work together to make up the FTA transit grant. Mr. Barnett described the process of attaining and programming state and local match funds into the FTA grant. He made mention that WFTS continues to edge closer to not needing General Fund contributions because of the different fare box funding streams currently in place. Mr. Dockery commented that WFTS had done a good job in maximizing the federal and state dollars for public transportation in Wichita Falls.

Receiving no further questions, Mr. Barnett asked for a recommendation to forward the document to the Policy Board for review and approval. Mr. Beauchamp made the motion to forward the document. Mr. Rohmer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

VI. Review and Recommendation to the Policy Board to Approve the WFMPO Prioritized Project List for Use in Calendar Year 2016 (see Enclosure)

Mr. Barnett directed the committee's attention to the enclosed WFMPO Prioritized Project List handout. He stated the TAC board members met on October 1, 2015 in a workshop to vet all of the projects on the 2016 Prioritized Project List. Mr. Barnett stated WFMPO staff has applied all of the changes to the list and it is now ready for final review before it is presented to the Policy Board for approval. The TAC committee made the recommendation to update the costs associated with projects BP-01TX and BP-17WF to reflect the new amounts. Mr. Barnett asked for any other questions or comments regarding the Prioritized Project List. Receiving none, he asked for a motion to forward the document, with revisions, to the Policy Board for approval. Mr. Beauchamp made the motion to forward the document. Mr. Hertel seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

VII. Discussion of Proposition 1 Project Funding

Mr. Beaver reported on Proposition 1 Funding stating funds were allocated until FY 2017. Future projects included the US 287 Corridor Roadway Lighting project, intersection improvements on Southwest Parkway, McNeil drainage ditch enclosures, and an overlay on Interstate 44. Mr. Barnett asked for any questions or comments regarding Proposition 1 Funding. Receiving none, the committee moved on to the next agenda item.

VIII. Review and Discussion of Updates to WFMPO By-Laws

Mr. Barnett directed the committee's attention to page 27 of the meeting packet. Mr. Barnett informed the committee that he worked with our TxDOT representative Megan Campbell to begin the process of updating WFMPO by-laws to current standards. He stated this included adding a section that references the Texas Administrative Code,

Title 7, Section 472.034 concerning the creation of an ethics policy for all MPO board members. Mr. Barnett stated the policy applies to both primary and alternate policy board members, whether elected or non-elected. He stated that MPO staff will provide copies of the Ethics Policy to all new TPC board members. MPO staff will also provide new TPC board members with the Ethical Standards Policy Affidavit to sign and return. Mr. Barnett informed the TAC committee that he and Ms. Campbell hope to have all of this work done in time for the January 2016 MPO meetings. Mr. Barnett asked for any questions or comments regarding the updates to the WFMPO by-laws. None was received. The committee moved on to the next agenda item.

IX. Other Business:

a. Discussion & Overview of Progress on Local Transportation Projects – City and TxDOT staff (Quarterly Review)

City: There were no city projects to discuss at this time.

TxDOT: Mr. Rohmer reported that FM 369 at McNiel connected to the city's drainage ditch was complete. US 287 at Huntington Road bridge replacement project is ahead of schedule. SH 240 at Sinclair Road drainage ditch has an AT&T utility delay and they are currently relocating the fiber optic line. IH 44 near SP 325/US 287 Wichita River is currently delayed. FM 171 Old Friberg Road to Clay County Line is currently under construction and on schedule. FM 369 at Fairway near Hughes to McNiel is a section west of 369 drainage ditch. FM 2650 from FM 369 to FM 1954 has not begun construction.

b. MPO Quarterly Financial Report (3rd Quarter FY 2015 – April, May, June)

Mr. Barnett reported on the 3rd quarter expenses for the MPO. He stated that the MPO Had spent 92.57% of its total allocation for FY 2015. He asked for any comments on the second quarter financial report. He received none.

c. Grouped TxDOT CSJ Projects Report

Mr. Barnett directed the committee's attention to the Grouped TxDOT CSJ projects report of the TAC meeting packet. He stated that MPO staff had two new bridge projects to report for this quarter. Mr. Barnett asked for any comments or revisions to the report. Receiving none, he moved on to the next agenda item.

d. Other Items

There were no other items to discuss.

X. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Irvan F. "Lin" Barnett Jr.
MPO Transportation Planning Director
Wichita Falls MPO