

KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY POLICY COMMITTEE
Minutes of the March 27, 2019 Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The March 27, 2019 Policy Committee Meeting was called to order by Chair Randy Thompson at 9:00 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made by all present. Chair Randy Thompson introduced the new road commissioner for the Road commission of Kalamazoo County Mark Boersma.

ROLL CALL

Meeting attendance was recorded on the sign-in sheet.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Curt Aardema	Central County Transportation Authority
David Anderson	City of Kalamazoo
Rob Britigan	City of Parchment
Marsha Drouin, Treasurer	Richland Township
Pamela Goodacre	Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority
Todd Hackenberg	Village of Lawton
Jeff Heppler	Village of Augusta
Libby Heiny-Cogswell	Oshtemo Township
Carl Keller	Village of Vicksburg
Greg Kinney	Van Buren County Road Commission
Nicolette Leigh	Kalamazoo Township
Eric Mullen	Michigan Department of Transportation, Planning
Pete Pfeiffer	Michigan Department of Transportation, TSC
Jeff Sorensen	Cooper Township
Tom Swiat	Prairie Ronde Township
Greg Thomas	Pavillion Township
Randy Thompson, Chair	Comstock Township
Don Ulsh	Schoolcraft Township
Jack Urban	City of Kalamazoo
Mark Worden	Road Commission of Kalamazoo County

MEMBERS ABSENT

John Clement	Van Buren Public Transit
Carol Daly	Village of Mattawan
David Greve	Village of Richland
Keith Gunnett	Village of Schoolcraft
Tracy Hall	Kalamazoo County
John Hinkle	Texas Township
Sarah Moyer-Cale	Village of Paw Paw
Judy Lemon	City of Galesburg
Tracey Locey	Brady Township

Patricia Randall	City of Portage
Greg Rosine	Western Michigan University
Daniel Ruzick	Antwerp Township
Paul Schincariol	Van Buren County Board of Commissioners
Donald Stull	Paw Paw Township
Bill Van Tassel	Almena Township
Jerry VanderRoest	Charleston Township

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Boersma	Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
Grace Guan	KATS
Megan Mickelson	KATS
Jon Start	KATS
Steve Stepek	KATS

CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

No changes or additions to the agenda were requested.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION by Sorensen, SECOND by Goodacre, ***“to approve the agenda of the March 27, 2019 Policy Committee Meeting.”*** MOTION APPROVED.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

No Citizens’ comments were made.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Britigan, SECOND by Leigh, ***“to accept and approve the items on the Consent Agenda as listed.”*** MOTION APPROVED.

FY 2017-2020 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENTS

Start noted that enclosed in your packet is a list containing twenty-six proposed project amendments for the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program. These proposed amendments correct the project listing in JobNET, make sure the projects correctly entered JobNET, and add projects as needed.

Start noted the large projects are the preliminary Engineering phase for the widening of I-94 and the moving of the 131 bridge over Amtrak and KL from the 2017-2020 to the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Programs. The M-139 project is included in the list of amendments. A number of transit project additions and budget changes have been made to match the Federal Transit Administration grant requests. The Mattawan and Parchment projects are new, funded by a one-time pot of money.

Ulsh responded that he likes additional information included in the packet about the changes. Anderson requested for comment in CCTA’s budget in items over 24%. Stepek explained that the addition was the inclusion of the local portion of those jobs, which previously wasn’t programmed.

Motion by Anderson, second by Drouin, ***“to approve the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments.”*** MOTION APPROVED.

ADOPTION OF AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS FOR THE KALAMAZOO AND BATTLE CREEK AREAS

Start noted that KATS provided a link for the Air Quality Conformity Analysis report in the packet and the report had been posted on the KATS webpage. The analysis considers the projects contained in the Metropolitan Transportation Plans (MTP or LRTP) and the Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP) for Battle Creek and Kalamazoo and for

projects in the rural areas of the three counties (STIP). The conformity analysis finds that all the plans are in conformity for the 1997 ozone standard. KATS asked to approve the resolution and requested the chair to sign it.

Motion by Heppler, second by Goodacre, **“to approve the Adoption of Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the Kalamazoo and Battle Creek Area”** MOTION APPROVED.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR FY 2022 LOCAL BRIDGE PROGRAM APPLICATION FROM THE VILLAGE OF AUGUSTRA

Start stated KATS and the Technical Committee support the Augusta FY 2022 local bridge program application. Heppler noted the replacement of the Washington Street Bridge over the Augusta Creek Canal bridge affects the economic development in the community. He also asked the committee to approve the resolution of support.

MOTION by Worden, SECOND by Sorensen, **“to approve the Resolution of Support for FY 2022 Local Bridge Program Application from the Village of Augusta.”** MOTION APPROVED.

DRAFT FY 2020-2023 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROJECT LIST & OPEN HOUSE

Start noted that this is the full list for KATS and MDOT jobs for the FY 20-23 TIP. Stepek noted this is the draft for public engagement throughout the month of April, with hopeful adoption May. KATS encourages everyone to attend the open house on April 11, 2019. Brad Sharlow from MDOT will also be in attendance to talk about the State’s long range plan.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

Aardema noted Kalamazoo public school students can ride the Metro bus with their student ID for free starting in fall. Metro also has meeting with the Chief of Kalamazoo Public Safety to discuss some concerns at the Transportation Center. Metro reviewed the annual report for 2018, and will purchase 7 new buses. Some of the old bus will come off line in the next one and half years and will be replaced.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Start thanked all who have paid the annual dues and who have returned signed Third-Party In-Kind Contribution agreements to KATS. In order to be a voting member we need to have both in hand. The letter to MDOT to request using the third-party in-kind contribution has been submitted to MDOT for approval. KATS is working on FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No Citizens’ Comments were made.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Leigh noted that Oshtemo Township management started to talk about US-131 business route interchange. The project will be expensive but could traffic flow and business development.

Heppler thanks for all the support for the bridge project.

Mullen from MDOT stated if the members can’t make it to the KATS’s open house, MDOT has survey to fill out regarding the state long range plan. The members and citizens’ opinion are important for the prioritizing projects in the next 20 years.

Kinney noted the road commission considered to purchase 3 dump trucks with better functionality.

Britigan noted City of Parchment sold municipal water system to city of Kalamazoo. City of Kalamazoo will receive funding from the state to replace 325 residential service line for the city.

Worden introduced one new commissioner in attendance, Michael Boersma. Another new commission, Thom Brennan, was also recently appointed. New chair is Deborah Buchholtz, and vice chair is David Pawloski.

Goodacre noted the Foundation for Excellence supported the KPS student bus program. This is very good for the community.

Drouin noted that the township official conference will be next week. Jeff Sorensen will be the president for the

Michigan Township Association.

Heiny noted that Oshtemo also supports the US-131 BR interchange proposal.

Bishop discussed the proposed gas tax increase.

Start noted KATS encourages the local road agency to get federal aid road ratings and local ratings. Local agents are welcome to talk to KATS and the local region. Large Road agency requires to have Asset Management plan starting 2020.

Chair Thompson noted Comstock Township also works on resolution for US131 BR.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, Chair Randy Thompson adjourned the March 27, 2019 Policy Committee Meeting at 9:47a. m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 24, 2019 – 9a.m.