

KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY POLICY COMMITTEE
Minutes of the January 29, 2020 Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The January 29, 2020 Policy Committee Meeting was called to order by Chair Randy Thompson at 9:02 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made by all present.

ROLL CALL

Meeting attendance was recorded on the sign-in sheet.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Curtis Aardema	Central County Transportation Authority
David Anderson	City of Kalamazoo
John Gisler	Kalamazoo County
Libby Heiny-Cogswell, Vice Chair	Oshtemo Township
Jeff Heppler	Village of Augusta
John Hinkle	Texas Township
Martin Janssen	Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority
Joanna Johnson	Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
Tom Jordan	City of Parchment
Carl Keller	Village of Vicksburg
Greg Kinney	Van Buren County Road Commission
Nicolette Leigh	Kalamazoo Township
Tracey Locey	Brady Township
Patricia Randall	City of Portage
Brian Sanada	MDOT, TSC
Jeff Sorensen	Cooper Township
Tom Swiat	Prairie Ronde Township
Randy Thompson, Chair	Comstock Township
Don Ulsh	Schoolcraft Township
Jerry VanderRoest	Charleston Township

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dan Bishop	Village of Lawton
Carol Daly	Village of Mattawan
Marsha Drouin, Treasurer	Richland Township
Jason Gatlin	Wakeshma Township
Don Mayle	MDOT, Planning
Sarah Moyer-Cale	Village of Paw Paw
Paul Schincariol	Van Buren County Road Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT

Deb Buchholtz	Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
Vince Carahaly	Southcentral Michigan Planning Council
Megan Mickelson	KATS
Fred Nagler	KATS
Paul Sotherland	KATS Citizens Advisory Committee
Jonathan R. Start	KATS
Steve Stepek	KATS

CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Steppek added Nagler will demonstrate the Dashboard of the Transportation Asset Management Council Website after the Integrated Infrastructure Mapping Presentation.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION by Hinkle, SECOND by Heppler, ***“to approve the agenda with the addition, of the January 29, 2020 Policy Committee Meeting.”*** MOTION APPROVED.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

No citizens' comments were made.

CONSENT AGENDA

- ACCEPTANCE OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT
- ACCEPTANCE OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT (JANUARY 9, 2020)
- ACCEPTANCE OF THE REGIONAL PROSPERITY INITIATIVE REPORT
- ACCEPTANCE OF THE SOUTHCENTRAL MICHIGAN PLANNING COUNCIL REPORT
- APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 18, 2020 MEETING

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

SOUTHCENTRAL MICHIGAN PLANNING COUNCIL INVOICE

Referring to the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council invoice for \$2,969.06 included in the meeting packet, Steppek explained Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study overbilled Southcentral Michigan Planning Council and are paying them back. Since the invoice amount exceeds the allowable \$2,000.00 approval limit of the Executive Director, it requires Policy Committee approval to pay.

MOTION by Sorensen, SECOND by Johnson, ***“to approve payment of the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council Invoice.”*** MOTION APPROVED.

APPOINTMENT OF CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Steppek reported the following two members of the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) have terms expiring: Kay Chase and Paul Sotherland. Both are willing to extend their two-year term and Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study recommends they be reappointed. Michelle McGowen has decided to step down from the committee. If anyone would like to serve on the CAC, apply on the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study website.

MOTION by Johnson, SECOND by Heiny-Cogswell, ***“to reappoint Kay Chase and Paul Sotherland to the Citizen Advisory Committee for another two-year term.”*** MOTION APPROVED.

INTEGRATED INFRASTRUCTURE MAPPING PRESENTATION

Mickelson explained Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS) continues to update the Asset Management Project Mapping and expects more data in February. The black lines are exports from JobNet so are outside the KATS area. The colors coordinate with those used for water and sewer. Zoom in to see overlapping projects, to better coordinate projects. Selection of a specific map area can be made with the polygon selection tool to display and obtain detail information on projects in that location. Since there is currently no buy in from private utilities, KATS is working with the Michigan Infrastructure Council (MIC) to pursue this. The Integrated Infrastructure Map will be public on the KATS website in February. After review, give feedback to Mickelson.

Start requested demonstration of clicking on areas with more than one project. Scrolling through shows project agency name, the year of the project, the asset working on and a brief descriptor. The intent of the Infrastructure Mapping Project, is to map utilities and planned projects in the KATS area for the next three to five years, to assist all agencies with planning and coordinating. To answer Leigh's inquiry, Mickelson stated agencies submit Shapefiles for projects which would include the agency name, the year of the project, the asset working on and a brief descriptor. Johnson noted some projects are three years and some are five years depending on the Capital Improvement Plan. While Oshtemo Township, City of Kalamazoo, City of Portage, Village of Schoolcraft and Village of Augusta have submitted data, more agency participation is needed. Stepek noted federal-aid jobs across the state that go through Michigan Department of Transportation will also be on the map. Johnson stated the map provides opportunity to assist with detour routes and permit work. Mickelson reported the map will be updated annually.

TRANSPORTATION ASSET MANAGEMENT COUNCIL WEBSITE PRESENTATION

Nagler presented data accessible through the Michigan.gov/Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) website. Click on the 'Interactive Maps' menu to pull up the entire state with a lot of data. Under the Map Layers menu select 'Road and Bridges Ratings' where you can zoom into an area to see more data at a local level. Every road rated and reported is uploaded to this TAMC website. Map Layer menu 'NTFA' or Non-Trunkline Federal-Aid, shows traffic data when highlight an area. 'Traffic' menu provides Annual Average Daily Traffic. Selecting 'Planning Organizations' displays Metropolitan Planning Organizational areas across the state. Decrease opacity to view roads under the region color. Similarly selecting 'Prosperity Regions' is an overlay map. Going back to the website homepage, click on 'Dashboards,' then 'Pavement' submenu to view extensive pavement data with multiple viewer selection options. Additional menu options under 'Dashboards' include 'Bridge,' 'Traffic,' 'Finance' and more. Lots of statistics and data is here and attendees are encouraged to explore the website. Swiat inquired whether the website offers a glossary of terms and acronyms. Responses included there is some definition available currently but TAMC plans to add more detail soon. Johnson asked if local traffic count data such as what Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study receives, is shown on this TAMC website. Stepek answered in part it is and in the future it will all be transitioned.

KATS TITLE VI PLAN DRAFT

Stepek referred to the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS) Title VI Plan Draft included in the meeting packet. The KATS 2011 Title VI Plan was holistically rewritten following recommendations received at the Certification Review last November. Report any comments or questions on the draft which will be presented at next month's meeting for adoption.

FEBRUARY MEETING DATE CHANGE

Stepek announced the Michigan Township Association Capital Conference conflicts with the February 26th meeting date so propose moving the meeting to February 19, 2020.

MOTION by Ulsh, SECOND by Johnson, ***"to approve the February Meeting Date Change from the 26th to the 19th."*** MOTION APPROVED.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

Aardema welcomed Martin Janssen, representing Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority replacing Pam Goodacre. Central County Transportation Authority (CCTA) renewed the successful bus-to-work program contract with Bronson for another year. Fully funded by Bronson, the program offers free buses to employees and assists with limited downtown parking. Metro continues updates to the Metro Youth Mobility Pilot Program which provides bus passes to Kalamazoo Public School High School Students made possible by full funding from The Foundation of Excellence. Central County Transportation Authority continues public interface for its millage request for buses on the upcoming March 2020 ballot. Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority plans a millage request in

2021 to fund on-demand service including large and medium-duty buses that are outside Metro's service area and hence not funded by the CCTA millage.

Janssen reported Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority (KCTA) is clarifying to the public that its service area is outside of Metro's and therefore does not benefit from the CCTA millage. KCTA service area includes outlying Townships, Villages and the VA Hospital in Calhoun County. Therefore KCTA does not benefit from the CCTA millage.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Steppek announced Maner Costerian concluded its successful external audit of Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS) for FY2019 and will make an audit presentation at next month's meeting. In March, Federal Highway will present KATS Certification Review findings. KATS101 training classes continue and nearly 30 people have attended a session thus far. There are still spots left to sign-up by email. Gisler inquired if KATS101 includes TAMC Website navigation. Stepek answered it does not but KATS is able to add a session on the topic. The City of Kalamazoo continues its Street Planning Process with a meeting March 4th from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the downtown library.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was brought forth.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizens' comments were made.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Leigh stated several government entities met as a collaborative board to discuss sustainability and climate change. In the future, this may involve streets and transportation. There will be continued discussion with this group.

Aardema, as a member of the Airport Board, reported the new Director started, held the first board meeting, has good ideas and is getting to know the community.

Randall reported City of Portage held the Stryker ribbon cutting ceremony Monday January 27, 2020. As Portage's largest employer, the extensive project included water and sewer infrastructure and road realignment resulting in a beautiful transformation. Stryker retained 966 jobs, with a promise of 105 new ones and may develop the remaining 200-acre site creating even more jobs. Companies continue to come to Portage to support Stryker. The City recently hired Byce & Associates for architecture of the Community Senior Center project and had already hired AVB Construction. Expected to launch in the fall, the City raised 4.1 million dollars of the 5.5-million-dollar campaign so far.

Heppler reported Village of Augusta approved 2020 road improvement projects and received bids low enough to add an extra road or two. The Village is still searching for money to fix water lines, working for support for a bridge improvement and talking with a developer to rebuild a retail facility.

VanderRoest reported Charleston Township is thankful for the road commission increasing funds.

Gisler stated he replaces Tracy Hall as the Kalamazoo County Policy Committee member and has submitted paperwork to remain a Kalamazoo County Commissioner.

Kinney stated the Van Buren County Road Commission public information meeting regarding its proposed county-wide road millage renewal on the March ballot will be January 30, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Van Buren Conference Center in Lawrence. The County has had 1 mill since 1978. Lawton Village Manager Daniel Bishop will be the next managing director of the Van Buren County Road Commission starting Monday February 3, 2020.

Hinkle reported Texas Township continues to have flooding issues but appreciates James Baker, City of Kalamazoo and Kalamazoo County's cooperation and assistance.

Johnson reported on March 13, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Road Commission of Kalamazoo County (RCKC) will host the annual Utility and Plat Meeting with township partners and planning. The Road Commission has upgraded and updated its speed limit presentation which will be on March 19, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. The state police will attend and additional topics will include no parking and school zones. Transportation 101 will be on April 9, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. and include House Fiscal Agency Analyst William Hamilton discussing transportation funding. Recent updates to the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County website dashboard include surface condition map and graphs under road data. Last year's hot mix asphalt bid was extended resulting in favorable pricing. The Commission has quite a few federal aid projects in Michigan Department of Transportation bid letting in February. Rieth-Riley is still eligible to bid on projects. RCKC appreciates collaboration with county planning and 911 dispatch resolving road naming issues such as duplicate road names, spelling and addressing.

Heiny-Cogswell reported Oshtemo Township's meeting Tuesday January 28, 2020 regarding the estimated \$28 million sewer extension project, drew a crowd of about 60 with community members concerned and questioning the average resident cost of \$16,000. \$8.3 million Phase 1 of the United States Department of Agriculture sewer project went to bid on January 17, 2020. The board will make a decision on March 24, 2020.

Swiat reported the estimate for Prairie Ronde Township's new township hall at South 6th Street, West W Avenue is double the expected cost. Public hearing on draining and new drain installation will occur at tonight's 7:30 p.m. township meeting.

Thompson thanked Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study for today's presentations and Stepek for leading his first meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, Chair Randy Thompson adjourned the January 29, 2020 Policy Committee Meeting at 9:53 a.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday February 19, 2020 - 9:00 a.m.