

SPECIAL MPO POLICY BOARD

Minutes
April 27, 2020
2:00 pm
Tippecanoe County Office

Due to the public health emergency, the meeting was held virtually. Members of the public may watch the livestream of the meeting at <https://www.facebook.com/TippecanoeCountyIndiana> or <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJleeA9ZQo9E11GdZTdjurQ/featured>

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tony Roswarski	Mayor, City of Lafayette
John Dennis	Mayor, City of West Lafayette
Tracy Brown	President, County Commissioners
Peter Bunder	President, West Lafayette Council
Cindy Murray	Lafayette Board of Works
Mike Gibson	Chair, GLPTC
Jackson Bogan	President Area Plan Commission
Shane Spears	INDOT

Absent Voting Members

Ron Campbell	President, Lafayette City Council
Kevin Underwood	President, County Council

Non-Voting Members Present

Sallie Fahey	Executive Director, Area Plan Commission
Doug Poad	APC
Tim Stroshine	APC

President Tony Roswarski called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

I. RESOLUTION T 2020-02 – A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE FY 2021-2022 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Sallie Fahey said each year the Unified Planning Work Program is prepared for Indiana's fiscal year calendar to allocate resources and staff time. Each year, new planning emphasis areas are created for certain planning activities that staff will work on within the FY. This year, our share of the total Indiana MPO PL and FTA funds is \$373,900 which includes \$16,000 extra for hosting the MPO Conference. We also applied for an additional \$30,941 SURP Grant that is used for our work in Carroll County. This brings the total amount of new state and federal funds to \$404,841. There is an additional \$156,978 programmed from the prior year unexpended funds.

The Cost Allocation Plan calculates fringe benefit rate and indirect costs for the total overhead rate. The fringe rate this year is 36.42% and the indirect rate is 53.20% for a total overhead of 89.62%. This is important because every dollar spent in billable transportation money, \$.89 gets added. The state reimburses the county 80% of that. The county recoups \$1.52 for every direct dollar of salary spent. All funds go back to the general fund because the budget is upfronted by the County Council. If the resolution is approved today, the signed resolution will be inserted into the work program to be sent to INDOT to get us a new contract and purchase order before July 1. One of the changes that INDOT asked for had to do with making it clear that unexpended funds are estimates at this point and will be subject to final year end close out. On the resolution, instead of approving the work program, it was added that it may be

administratively amended by the Executive Director to add or subtract funds following the close of the previous funding year and final accounting.

Tony Roswarski asked if there were any questions regarding the approval of the resolution.

Jackson Bogan moved to approve Resolution T 2020-02 as presented. John Dennis seconded.

Tony Roswarski asked if there were any public comments.

Sallie Fahey said staff invited the public to respond by email prior to the meeting. As of 1 p.m., staff had not received any emails. Tim Stroshine is monitoring the livestream via Facebook and YouTube.

Tony Roswarski conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved 8 – yes to 0 – no.

Yes-Vote

John Dennis
Tracy Brown
Jackson Bogan
Peter Bunder
Cindy Murray
Mike Gibson
Shane Spears
Tony Roswarski

No-Vote

II. PRELIMINARY RECAP OF FY 2020 FEDERAL FUNDS OBLIGATIONS

Sallie Fahey said staff has been working to ensure that federal funds were expended by the May 1st, 2020 deadline. Staff has done this and has over spent by only \$.76. Some of the projects listed for obligation include additional funding for the Klondike Road railroad project, the transfer of funding to help support INDOT's US 231 study from US 52 to I65, the safety money trade with Terre Haute so we can receive the funding next year for the River Road and 500N project and the consultant contract for the South 9th Street project. She thanked everyone for making sure their projects moved along.

Tony Roswarski asked for questions on the summary of federal funds. He asked for any public comment.

III. INITIAL DISCUSSION ABOUT HOLDING THE 2020 MPO CONFERENCE

Sallie Fahey said she has been thinking about what could be going on in late September when the MPO Conference would normally be held which we are scheduled to host this year. She said it was her initial thought that this could be problematic for a few reasons. First, we may not have staff from Federal Highway, INDOT or other MPOs that would be willing to be in close proximity in September when we could be experiencing a second wave or regular flu season. We are unsure if we would be able to get speakers that are willing to come from out of town for a conference. It is not clear if the consulting firms will be able to financially support the conference as sponsors. She said she raised these concerns last month at the MPO Directors meeting. The Indianapolis and Bloomington directors preferred not to have in person conference this year. It was determined that this decision should be up to our Policy Board. It may be possible, with the help of Max Walling from the county IT department, to put together a one-day virtual conference. We would host the conference the following year presuming that we are back to full face to face conferences at that point. The theme that has been selected is Climate Solutions at the Intersection of Transportation and Land Use Planning. A virtual teaser for next year could be fun. We could possibly have Jeff Dukes from Purdue Climate Center do an introductory discussion on climate change or climate solutions and possibly have shorter sessions that could be a teaser for next year's conference. She said she would like the input of the Board before making this decision.

Tony Roswarski said these concerns are valid. He said he and John were going to host the Indiana Conference of Mayors this summer but have canceled. It was scheduled for earlier in the year than the MPO Conference, but it is still prudent. He said he thinks the teaser on climate within planning and transportation is a good idea. There is currently a lot of interest in the climate in Lafayette and West Lafayette with quite a few groups that are actively engaged. As far as the topic goes, it is very timely for what is taking place in the community. Making the decision relatively soon so everybody knows is a good idea.

John Dennis said he agreed with Tony. There is a lot of planning that goes into these events. If we were to wait until it was clear when we would reopen, it may be too late. Right now, it is a good course of action to hold tight and do the teaser concept.

Sallie Fahey said her other concern is spending a ton of staff time on a conference that is not going to happen.

Tony Roswarski asked for other comments or concerns. He said it is the consensus that this is the best direction.

Sallie Fahey said we will see what we can do to set up a one-day virtual conference the same time we would normally host the conference.

Tony Roswarski said he thinks there are a few people that will be willing to help with this.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

V. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

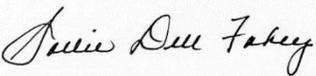
John Dennis moved to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 2:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chyna R. Lynch
Recording Secretary

Reviewed By,



Sallie Fahey
Executive Director