



**Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Feb 7, 2014 Council Chambers 115, City Hall**

*Policy Committee minutes are transcribed in a summarized outline manner. \*\*Technical difficulties: No audio recording can be found by MPO staff. CATS did not attend the meeting to produce a DVD.*

**Policy Committee:** Kent McDaniel (BT), Dan Swafford (Town of Ellettsville), Jack Baker (Bloomington Plan Commission), Iris Kiesling (County Commissioner), Jason Banach (IU Real Estate), Susie Johnson (Public Works), Andy Ruff (City Council), Cheryl Munson (County Council), John Irvine (Monroe County Plan Commission), Jim Ude (INDOT), Michelle Allen (FHWA), Tom Micuda (proxy for Mark Kruzan) and Bill Williams (County Highway).

**Others:** Lew May (Bloomington Transit), Larry Jacobs (Chamber of Commerce), Adrian Reid (TAC).

**MPO Staff:** Josh Desmond, Anna Dragovich, Scott Robinson, Vince Caristo, and Jane Weiser

- I. Call to Order**—Mr. McDaniel called the meeting to order. Mr. McDaniel thanked Richard Martin for his hours of work especially on the I-69 issues and chairing the subcommittee working with INDOT. He thanked Mayor Kruzan for suggesting that Mr. Martin chair that committee.
- II. Election of Officers**
  - a. Chair & Vice Chair** – Mr. Micuda moved to elect Mr. McDaniel as chair and Mr. Baker as vice chair. Ms. Johnson seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.
- III. Approval of Minutes**
  - a. November 8, 2013** – Mr. Baker moved approval. Mr. Micuda seconded. The motion was approved by voice vote. (Ms. Kiesling abstained.)
- IV. Communications from the Chair** -- None
- V. Reports from Officers and/or Committees**
  - a. Citizens Advisory Committee** –Mr. Desmond announced that Laurel Cornell was elected CAC chair and Sarah Ryterband vice chair. Neither could attend this meeting.
  - b. Technical Advisory Committee**—no report
- VI. Reports from the MPO Staff**
  - a. MTP Task Force** –Mr. Desmond brought the committee up to date on the progress of the travel demand model. Soon we will be able to apply the model. We will have public input meetings in the fall as some solutions are being proposed. The plan needs to be adopted in May 2015.
  - b. Administrative Amendments to the TIP** – Mr. Desmond noted that two administrative amendments were voted on by email. We had no objections from the Policy Committee. As per our policy, we were able to approve those and submit them to INDOT to be included in the statewide TIP.
- VII. Old Business** – Mr. McDaniel asked if the PC would be voting on designations from the Federal Highway System. Mr. Desmond said the deadline has been pushed back. We will probably work on this during the summer. Ms. Allen acknowledged that the PC had worked hard on our response to MAP-21. Mr. Irvine asked if this was about truck stops. Ms. Allen said this is about preferred truck routes.

### VIII. New Business

- a. **TAP Awards\*** -- Mr. Caristo reported that this is a new funding source under MAP21 that consolidated Safe Routes to School and Transportation Enhancements. We had a call for projects for FY2015. The deadline. We received 3 applications—1 from the City of Bloomington and 2 from Monroe County. The TAP Selection Committee, CAC and TAC voted to fully award these requests through 2015. \$93,000 was not spent and will roll over to FY2016. The new scoring system seemed to work well. We will need to include some trail projects in the future. There was no public comment. **Ms. Kiesling moved approval, Mr. Micuda seconded. There was unanimous approval by voice vote.**
- b. **HSIP Awards\*** -- Mr. Desmond presented. The total amount awarded was \$2,040,191.00. This includes \$90,000 of HSIP money that has been relinquished back to the pot since the City of Bloomington decided to remove their request for sign upgrades. We received 2 requests for projects from the City of Bloomington. One project is the Old 37 and Dunn project. The other is a downtown intersection improvements project. Both projects were deemed eligible. The CAC and TAC voted to approve. There were no questions or comments and no public comment. **Mr. Baker moved approval. Ms. Munson seconded. There was unanimous approval by voice vote.**
- c. **Transportation Improvement Program Amendments** - Mr. McDaniel suggested discussing each amendment in order, then voting for them all as a package. Mr. Desmond presented the amendments.
  - (1) **Add Bloomington Transit – Mobility Management\*** -- This new grant will be doing a consumer education program regarding transportation options .Mr. May said this program will develop a consumer education program along with Area 10 Agency on Ageing regarding transportation options within Monroe County and counties contiguous to Monroe County for people with disabilities. Area 10 will oversee the project and voucher system. Ms. Kiesling asked if there are taxis in town that are handicap accessible. LM said yes.
  - (2) **Add INDOT – Surface Treatment of SR 446\*** -- Mr. Desmond said that these next to amendments are for pretty straightforward resurfacing projects. Mr. Ude noted that the material they will be using should hold up longer. Ms. Johnson asked if it would be possible to add striping for bike lanes on SR 446 from Moores Pike to SR 46. Mr. Ude said he would look into it. Ms. Munson asked for the geographic limits of the projects. Mr. Desmond said SR 446 would be from Moores Pike to SR 46. For SR 46 would be from Red Hill Rd. to near SR 37.
  - (3) **Add INDOT – Surface Treatment of SR 46\***
  - (4) **Add City of Bloomington – Downtown Improvements\*** -- Mr. Desmond noted that the 4 City of Bloomington amendments relate to the HSIP and TAP awards.
  - (5) **Modify City of Bloomington – Dunn & Old SR 37\***
  - (6) **Add City of Bloomington – 2015 Bikeways Implementation Projects\***
  - (7) **Modify Monroe County – Karst Farm Trail Phase 2a\*** -- Mr. Desmond noted that these two awards relate to the TAP awards. Mr. Williams requested Phase 2 construction to be moved through FY 2015.
  - (8) **Modify Monroe County – Karst Farm Trail Phase 3\*** --Mr. Williams said INDOT requested to move to 2015.
  - (9) **Remove City of Bloomington – Sign Upgrades\***
  - (10) **Remove Monroe County – Sign Upgrades\*** -- Mr. Desmond said this is a housekeeping amendment.

Mr. McDaniel asked if there were any questions or public comment. There were none. **\*\*\*Mr. Micuda moved approval of the TIP amendments as presented by MPO staff and also as modified by Mr. Williams. Mr. Baker seconded. Mr. Baker seconded. There was unanimous approval by voice vote.**

### IX. Communications from Committee Members (*non-agenda items*)

- a. **Topic Suggestions for Future Agendas** – Mr. Ude noted that work has begun in I-69 Section 5 right-of-way. All trees should be cut by March 31. Indiana Finance Authority and INDOT considering proposals from the Design/Build team that will build, finance, and maintain Section 5. The successful bidder will

be announced in late February, construction is to begin in the summer and substantially complete by fall of 2016.

Ms. Munson asked if the MPO received a response from EPA, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Corps of Engineers commenting on erosion control. Mr. Desmond said the email response in the packet. Ms. Allen said they have monthly meetings with IDEM, Corps, & Fish and Wildlife on site concerned with this topic. INDOT has had experts in erosion. There's a lot of things going on that people might not know about. Ms. Munson noted another erosion episode just before Christmas. She wrote to INDOT about this. She got a nice response from Janelle Lemmon. They had an extensive tour of Section 4 with IDEM and INDOT. She could see that steps were being taken to deal with erosion and sediment control. They weren't working in every location. She suggested that INDOT and IDEM to put together a PowerPoint to educate us. We need to see what they are doing right and what has not been addressed. She asked Ms. Allen and Mr. Ude to take this request back.

Mr. Ruff said that since it was presented that each section would function separately, he would like INDOT to provide the MPO with current traffic numbers on each of the existing sections. He would and see if there's been a change in the newest sections. Mr. McDaniel pointed out that the downtown BT terminal is progressing. Mr. May said should be done in late May. BT will host 80th meeting of the Indiana Transportation Association in August.

Mr. Ruff said you can't do this amount of construction in areas like that without expending money to mitigate environmental impacts. You can't prevent massive amounts of sediment without immediate seeding. We all knew they wouldn't spend the money to prevent the damage. Although INDOT has tried some mitigation, he doesn't expect it will have much impact.

**X. Upcoming Meetings**

- a. Technical Advisory Committee – February 26, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. (McCloskey Room)**
- b. Citizens Advisory Committee – February 26, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. (McCloskey Room)**
- c. Policy Committee – March 7, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. (Council Chambers)**

Adjournment

*The Feb. 7, 2014 minutes were approved at the PC meeting held on March 7, 2014 (JFW).*