

MINUTES OF THE LEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD

Held on September 18, 2009

The following members were present for the regular meeting of the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization Board on September 18, 2009 at the offices of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council, 1926 Victoria Avenue, Fort Myers, Florida.

Commissioner Frank Mann	Lee County Commission, District 5
Commissioner Tammy Hall	Lee County Commission, District 4
Commissioner Ray Judah	Lee County Commission, District 3
Commissioner Brian Bigelow	Lee County Commission, District 2
Councilman Mike Flanders	City of Fort Myers
Councilman Warren Wright	City of Fort Myers
Councilman Thomas Leonardo	City of Fort Myers
Mayor Jim Burch	City of Cape Coral
Councilperson Gloria Tate	City of Cape Coral
Councilperson Dolores Bertolini	City of Cape Coral
Councilman Peter Brandt	City of Cape Coral
Councilman Richard Ferreira	City of Sanibel

Others in attendance included: Robin Gilders and Stas Turner with Sun-N-Fun Mobil Homes; Rosalie Berlin a concerned citizen; Dave Urich with Responsible Growth Management Coalition; Steve Myers and Mike Horsting with LeeTran; Terri Hall and Steve Neff with the City of Cape Coral; Kristina Gossman and Suresh Karre with David Plummer and Associates; Don Eslick with ECCL; Tara Hooley with Reflections Coalition; Dan Moser with BPCC; Heather Mazurkiewicz with the CAC; David Loveland with the TAC; Gary Bryant with Good Wheels; Jed Schneck, Assistant Lee County Attorney; and Don Scott, Ron Gogoi and Meghan Marion, Lee County MPO Staff.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chairman Mike Flanders.

Chairman Flanders led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Marion called the roll.

Commissioner Frank Mann – present
Commissioner Tammy Hall - present
Commissioner Ray Judah - present
Commissioner Brian Bigelow – present
Commissioner Robert Janes - absent
Councilman Warren Wright –present
Councilman Levon Simms - absent
Councilman Mike Flanders – present
Councilman Thomas Leonardo - present
Mayor Jim Burch - present
Councilperson Gloria Tate - present

Councilperson Dolores Bertolini - present
Councilman Peter Brandt - present
Councilman Bob Raymond - absent
Councilman Jim Jennings - absent
Mayor Ben Nelson - absent
Councilman Richard Ferreira - present

Ms. Marion announced that a quorum was present.

Agenda Item #1 - Minutes of the August 21, 2009 MPO Meeting

MOTION BY COUNCILPERSON TATE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 21, 2009 MPO MEETING. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HALL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #2 – Public Comment on items on the Agenda

David Urich with the Responsible Growth Management Coalition stated that he is pleased to see that we are going to continue to improve Pine Island Road (SR78) from Chiquita to Burnt Store Road. He stated that Burnt Store Road is really the new entrance into the Cape. He distributed a handout that suggests Burnt Store Road be a new connection to I-75 at Tuckers Grade (letter is attached).

Nicole Ryan with the Conservancy of Southwest Florida stated that the Conservancy supports using the updated BEBR Control Totals as part of your forecasting for the update of your 2035 LRTP. She also stated that there are two comprehensive planning documents moving forward to the BOCC for approval next week and she stated that they believe that they tie in with the 2035 Update very closely. She stated that the first plan is the Lehigh Acres Plan and the second plan is the DRGR plan.

Don Eslick with the Estero Council of Community Leaders reaffirmed what Ms. Ryan stated in regards to the DRGR Plan.

Agenda Item #3 – Citizens Advisory Committee Report

Ms. Mazurkiewicz gave the results of the actions taken at the Citizens Advisory Committee meeting on September 4, 2009 and she also stated that the CAC would be requesting a member of the Airport Special Management Committee to sit on the CAC because the CAC feels that when it comes to the airport there is a disconnect.

Agenda Item #4 – Technical Advisory Committee Report

Mr. Loveland gave the results of the actions taken at the Technical Advisory Committee meeting on September 4, 2009.

PUBLIC HEARING

Agenda Item #5 – Approval of a TIP Amendment to add the Right-of-Way and Construction Phases of the SR 78 Widening Project from Burnt Store Road to Chiquita Boulevard

Mr. Scott presented this item.

Chairman Flanders opened this item up for public comments.

No comments were received.

Chairman Flanders closed the item for public comments.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HALL TO ENDORSE AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2009/2010 THROUGH FY 2013/2014 TIP TO ADD THE RIGHT-OF-WAY AND CONSTRUCTION PHASES FOR THE SR 78 BURNT STORE ROAD TO CHIQUITA BOULEVARD WIDENING PROJECT. SECONDED BY MAYOR BURCH.

ROLL CALL

**COMMISSIONER MANN – AYE
COMMISSIONER HALL – AYE
COMMISSIONER JUDAH - AYE
COMMISSIONER BIGELOW – AYE
COUNCILMAN WRIGHT – AYE
COUNCILMAN FLANDERS – AYE
COUNCILMAN LEONARDO - AYE
MAYOR BURCH – AYE
COUNCILPERSON TATE – AYE
COUNCILPERSON BERTOLINI – AYE
COUNCILMAN BRANDT – AYE
COUNCILMAN FERREIRA – AYE**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item #6 – Approval of the Bureau of Economic Business Research Population Control Totals for the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Scott presented this item.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HALL TO APPROVE THE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC BUSINESS RESEARCH MID-RANGE POPULATION CONTROL TOTALS FOR THE 2035 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE. SECONDED BY MAYOR BURCH.

Commissioner Judah added that he would like to include any and all receiving areas.

COMMISSIONER HALL AMENDED THE MOTION TO INCLUDE AS LEE COUNTY MOVES FORWARD WITH THEIR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS ANY AREAS THAT WE INCREASE DENSITY THROUGH TRANSFER OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS OR RECEIVING AREAS WE TAKE THEM INTO CONSIDERATION FOR MPO PLANNING. SECOND AGREES TO THE AMENDMENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #7 – Approval of the 2010 Meeting Schedule

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HALL TO APPROVE THE 2010 MEETING SCHEDULE. SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON TATE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #8 – Review and Approve the Revised Local Coordinating Board Bylaws

Mr. Scott presented this item and stated that at the LCB meeting, the LCB requested that the Chairman be a representative of the BOCC and that they serve a two year term.

Commissioner Hall stated that she thinks it would be beneficial to share this responsibility with all of the MPO Board members and not only the County Commission, otherwise it is not an MPO Appointment. She stated that this is a great way to learn about the Transportation Disadvantaged program.

Mayor Burch agrees with Commissioner Hall and thinks that it should be alternated through the whole MPO Board because we all represent the whole County at the end of the day.

Commissioner Bigelow stated that he agrees with Commissioner Hall and stated that as he has been sitting as the current Chair it is an eye opener.

Commissioner Mann stated that this is one of the more challenging roles you will ever have.

Mr. Bryant stated that he feels strongly that this should be a County position because if the Chairperson is not a County Official the system seems to fail and the term should be longer than one year so that the Chairperson is not losing all of their experience each year.

Commissioner Judah stated that he agrees with Mr. Bryant because the County Officials are more connected and have better resources.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MANN TO APPROVE THE LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD BYLAWS WITH THE CHANGES TO THE CHAIRMAN BEING A COUNTYWIDE ELECTED OFFICAL AND SERVING A TERM FOR TWO YEARS. SECONDED BY MAYOR BURCH. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Walk on Item – Approval of the Lee County Local Coordinating Board Membership Certification

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HALL TO APPROVE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEE COUNTY LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD. SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON TATE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #9 – Review the Revised Interlocal Agreement for Creation of the MPO

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HALL TO APPROVE THE REVISED INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR CREATION OF THE MPO. SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON TATE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #10 – Resolutions of Appreciation

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HALL TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2009-10 RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF MR. RANDY HENDERSON ON THE MPO BOARD. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JUDAH. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #11 – Review and make Comments to the Transportation Advisory Network Mailing List

Ms. Marion asked the Board to review the TAN list and to send any changes or additions to MPO Staff. She stated that this is the list that Staff sends out updates and Newsletters to.

Agenda Item #12 – Status of Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan RFP

Ms. Marion stated that the Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan RFP went out on September 4, 2009 and that the due date for the Proposals is October 9, 2009 by 3:00 p.m. She also stated that the RFP Selection Committee would meet in October and that the ranking of a short list would come back to the MPO Board in November for approval.

Agenda Item #13 – Discussion of the Proposed Joint Lee-Collier MPO Agenda Items

Mr. Scott presented this item.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Items #14 – Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

Mr. Carl Row spoke in regards to no road widening projects in the Rural areas for Babcock Ranch. He stated that the Bayshore and Alva Community have asked to keep this area rural.

Agenda Item #15 – LeeTran Report

Mr. Myers reviewed the TDP Progress Report.

Ms. Marion stated that it was not included in the packet and it would be emailed out to the Board members after the meeting.

Agenda Item #16 – CTC Report

Mr. Bryant gave a brief update on the current status of Good Wheels.

Agenda Item #17 – FDOT Report

Mr. Cann stated that there will be more money coming down for I-75 from Colonial to SR 82, approximately \$18 million. He also stated that FDOT put in a TIGER Grant application for the Collector Distributor System at SWFIA. Mr. Cann stated that with the advance of the CIGP funds the Del Prado project will be moving forward. Mr. Cann stated that the Metro Project start date is September 25, 2009 and that it is estimated to be completed in February 2012.

Agenda Item #18 – Announcements

None.

Agenda Item #19 – Topics for Next Meeting

Councilman Wright

Agenda Item #20 – Information and Distribution Items

Distributed in packet.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m.