

**MINUTES
OF THE
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
Thursday, February 13, 2020, 1:30 p.m.
Council Chambers
City/School Administration Center
Rapid City, South Dakota**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sarah Gilkerson – via proxy for South Dakota Transportation Commission, Talbot Wieczorek – Meade County Commissioner, Larry Larson – Mayor of Box Elder, Richard Liggett – Meade County Commissioner and Patsy Horton via proxy for Steve Allender – Mayor of Rapid City

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeff Hollinshead – Box Elder City Council, Laura Armstrong – Rapid City City Council, Patrick Dame – Rapid City Regional Airport, Deb Hadcock – Pennington County Commissioner and Ron Rossknecht – Pennington County Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT: Kip Harrington, Kelly Brennan and Melissa Bloomberg – Rapid City Department of Community Development, Stacy Bartlett and Andy Vandel– South Dakota Department of Transportation, Mark Hoines – Federal Highway Association and Stacia Slowey – HDR, Inc.

Larson called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

General Public Comment

No General Public Comment.

Business

Liggett moved, Horton seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2019 meeting.

20TP001 – Acknowledge the Southern Meade County East-West Connector Corridor Study – Draft Report. Brennan introduced Stacia Slowey from HDR, Inc. who provided a presentation on the draft report. The draft report provides information on the 8-mile gap between Elk Creek Road and Interstate 90. HDR Engineering Inc. was selected to collect data, develop and analyze corridor alternatives and provide recommendations for a potential east-west corridor study, named the Southern Meade County East-West Connector Corridor Study. Twelve alternatives were identified as possible locations, then narrowed down to three build alternatives for further analysis. From there, Alternative 5 surfaced as the recommended alignment. This alternative identifies a corridor that can accommodate anticipated growth and provide an additional east/west road alignment approximately equidistant between Interstate 90 and Elk Creek Road.

Liggett moved, Horton seconded and motion carried unanimously to acknowledge the Southern Meade County East-West Connector Corridor Study – Draft Report.

20TP002 – Approve the 2019 Annual Listing of Obligated Projects. Brennan reviewed the 2019 Annual Listing of Obligated Projects. Each year the Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is required to develop the Annual Listing of Obligated Transportation Projects identifying the status of the transportation projects shown in the Transportation Improvement Program for fiscal year 2019.

Wieczorek moved, Liggett seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the 2019 Annual Listing of Obligated Projects.

20TP003 – Approve the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #20-002. Brennan reviewed the TIP Amendment #20-002 which identifies a change to the County Secondary and Off System Projects to be programmed with funding available in fiscal year 2020. Environmental Assessment requirements, funding availability, and project additions have increased the cost of the project.

Liggett moved, Horton seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #20-002.

20TP014 – 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #20-002A (Information Only). Brennan reviewed the TIP Amendment #20-002A which identifies a change to State Highway System Urban Projects, a Pavement Preservation Project, and a Roadway Safety Improvement Project. These changes are to account for cost differences between the STIP estimate and the engineer’s estimate as well as the low quantity of PCC repair needed. State Highway System Urban Projects increased by \$3.439 million, the Pavement Preservation Project decreased by \$0.325 Million, and the Roadway Safety Improvement Project increased by \$1.325 Million.

No action was taken on this item.

20TP004 – Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization 2019 Traffic Volume Counts Report (Information Only). The Traffic Volume Counts Report provides the public and business community with traffic count data to help make informed decisions. Brennan reviewed this report.

No action was taken on this item.

20TP005 – Approve the 2019 Annual Report. Harrington Reviewed the 2019 Annual Report. This report provides a list of accomplishments along with the associated 2019 Unified Planning Work Program expenditures. Discussion ensued.

Liggett moved, Horton seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the 2019 Annual Report.

20TP010 – Approve the 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment #20-01. Harrington reviewed the 2020 UPWP Amendment #20-01 that adds a work task, the SDDOT US Highway 16 Corridor Study, which was inadvertently omitted from the Final UPWP. The funding for the study is included in the 2020 Unified Planning Work Program.

Horton moved, Liggett seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the 2020 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment #20-01.

20TP011 – Approve the Public Participation Plan – Final Report. Harrington reviewed the Public Participation Plan Final Report that defines the process to be followed in developing transportation planning documents for the region. This report identifies the actions to be carried out to ensure opportunities exist for the public to be involved in transportation planning activities and also establishes policies to follow as required in the current federal transportation act, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). Additions were made to encourage virtual public involvement opportunities. Discussion ensued.

Horton moved, Liggett seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the Public Participation Plan – Final Report.

20TP013 – Approve the Letter of Support for the South Dakota Department of Transportation's INFRA Grant Application. The SDDOT is submitting an application to assist with funding the La Crosse Street interchange reconstruction project. The new interchange is estimated at \$12.96 million and is currently scheduled for reconstruction in 2020. Through this USDOT grant program, the SDDOT could receive up to 60% of the project cost. The MPO's support may enhance SDDOT's potential to receive this grant. Harrington reviewed this letter of support.

Horton moved, Wieczorek seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the Letter of Support for the South Dakota Department of Transportation's INFRA Grant Application.

Harrington submitted an additional letter of support for the committees' review for approval for the City of Box Elder's BUILD Grant application. This grant would support the reconstruction of Highway 14-16 and Radar Hill Road and enhance the regional connectivity while ensuring safe and efficient access to the City of Box Elder, Rapid City Regional Airport and Ellsworth Air Force Base.

Horton moved, Wieczorek seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the City of Box Elder's BUILD Grant Application.

Presentation on the Strategic Highway Safety Plan by SDDOT

Vandel provided a presentation on South Dakota Department of Transportation's Strategic Safety Plan.

Update on Construction Projects

Gilkerson provided information on the current construction projects within the MPO area. Harrington provided information on Rapid City's construction projects.

Update on Planning Projects

Harrington and Brennan provided information on the current planning projects within the MPO area.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:13 p.m.