



SOUTHWEST MN AREA TRANSPORTATION PARTNERSHIP (ATP) Meeting Minutes

Date: June 26, 2020

Minutes prepared by: Megan M. DeSchepper, AICP, Senior Planner

Location: Webex Virtual Meeting

Attendance

ATP Board Members: Jim Dahlvang, Gary Johnson, Andy Sander, Rollie Nissen, Sam Muntean, Doug Krueger, Lindsey Bruer, Jon Huseby, Joe Wilson, Tiffany Collins, Jeff Marlowe, Sean Christensen, Susann Karnowski, and Todd Broadwell.

ATP Board Members Absent: Bob Byrnes and Mic VanDeVere.

ATP Guests: Randy Groves, Phil Schmalz, Chad Kingstrom, Aaron VanMoer, Jason Anderson, John Brunkhorst, Crystal Johnson, Rosemary Bruce-White, John Rodeberg, Shane Wohlman, Cathleen Amick, Mark Larson, Leah Schueler, Ted Nelson, Mikayla Holm, Melissa Hjelle, Kyle Ten Napel, Dave Smiglewski, Mandi Schmidt, Bill Knofczynski, Mel Odens, Nick Bergman, Megan DeSchepper and Sandra Schlagel.

Welcome & Introductions (Jim Dahlvang)

- Introductions were conducted.

WebEx Overview (Mandi Schmidt)

- Mandi explained the nuances of the WebEx platform for users such as muting the speaker in red and if there are any questions to place them in the chat box etc.

Please Note: All handouts can be found at the ATP 8 website under the June 26, 2020 meeting:
<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d8/atp/meetings.html>

STIP Amendment (Lindsey Bruer)

- Lindsey presented a STIP amendment for project number 3412-73 which is a j-turn at US 71 and CR 90 in Willmar.

- The amendment is needed to include a culvert replacement just north of the project area and extend the limits of the project to that location.
- The cost increased from \$1.4M to \$1.6M.
- Fiscal constraint is maintained as they were able to borrow monies from a project that let earlier in the month that came in under the estimate (SP 8828-223)
- A motion was made by Mr. Nissen, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the amendment as requested. The motion carried.

ATIP Review (Susann Karnowski)

- Susann presented The Final ATIP (Area Transportation Improvement Plan) map and list. She explained the project list and map is unchanged from the previous ATP meeting.
- Mr. Marlowe made a motion, seconded by Mr. Muntean, to approve the Final ATIP as presented. The motion carried.

Construction Update (Sandra Schlagel)

- Sandra presented the 2020 District 8 Construction Projects update.
- Gary Johnson inquired if there are penalties regarding the Milan Bridge project and if the project is causing the lake to be kept low?
- Jon Huseby responded that yes MnDOT is dealing with liquidated damages to the contractor, but that the low water level in the lake is not due to the project.
- Sean Christensen stated that the Willmar Wye project is not on schedule.
- Sandra said that the project as a whole is considered on schedule, but some of the components have been adjusted but will all be completed on time.

District Engineer Update (Jon Huseby)

- Jon thanked everyone and welcomed them in this new virtual format that we are all in together.
- Summer projects are still moving forward and on schedule despite the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- He explained that leadership is meeting regularly and decisions are coming from Minnesota Management and Budget for all State Agencies.
- Leadership at MnDOT is already planning for 2020-2021 snow and ice season with safety plans to ensure roads are cleared for the general public and the health of the plow drivers is maintained.
- Gary Johnson asked about an update on the TH67 Project.
- Jon explained that the pavement failure is near the Upper Sioux Agency State Park. The section of road is one of the lowest volume roads in the District at under 500 vehicles a day. There are significant cultural and archeological aspects in the area. Rerouting a portion of the highway is likely the only solution as the slope failure fix is estimated at \$25-\$30M. MnDOT has started conversations with the DNR, Upper Sioux Community, Wood Lake, Echo, Granite Falls, UMVRDC,

Yellow Medicine County, Renville County and local property owners. There will be upcoming open houses and virtual meetings to allow the public and various entities to learn more and comment.

- Gary explained people aren't upset about the project, they just want answers to their questions and an opportunity to speak.
- Jon explained there will be lots of engagement coming up in July and beyond and everyone will have an opportunity to be heard.
- Andy Sander stated he's spoken to Cody Brand, the Project Manager, but would like more conversations moving forward as many of the reroute options being considered end up on Yellow Medicine County Roads.

2021-2030 CHIP Preview & Discussion (Lindsey Bruer)

- Lindsey presented the 2021-2030 Capital Highway Investment Plan list and map.
- Lindsey explained that some projects have been shifted and moved back to attain budgetary balance.
- MnDOT staff hopes to still do outreach of the CHIP over the summer and likely virtually share the map and list with the County Boards.

Round Robin

- Jim Dahlvang thanked everyone for their hard work to make this virtual meeting run so smoothly.
- Tiffany Collins updated everyone that transit is still working but has expanded some services to include food deliveries during the COVID-19 Pandemic. They've worked to get PPE for drivers and to keep users safe and functioning as best as they are able in this new normal.
- Gary Johnson stated he wants to be notified when the virtual meetings are scheduled for the TH 67 project and to please include the Yellow Medicine County Engineer and Administrator on those conversations.
- Rollie Nissen inquired if the delayed Bonding Bill has affected anything. Jon responded that it hasn't affected the program at this point, and everything is still in discussions. Wait and see at his point.

Next meeting will be October, 2020. Exact time and location are to be determined. A calendar appointment will be sent out closer to the date.

Adjourned at 9:48 a.m.