



Permian Basin MPO
9601 Wright Drive Midland, TX
Policy Board Meeting VIRTUAL via Zoom
July 20, 2020 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Policy Board Members Present

Debi Hays	Chair, County Judge, Ector County
Robin Donnelly	Chair, County Commissioner, Midland County
Jack Ladd	Vice-Chair, Councilman, City of Midland
Doug Provance	General Manager, MOUSD (EZ-Rider)
John Speed, P.E.	District Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Tom Sprawls	Councilman, City of Odessa

Policy Board Members Absent:

Bryan Cox	Martin County Judge
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Others in Attendance:

Cameron Walker, AICP	Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO
Alyssa Chavez	Office Manager, Permian Basin MPO
Kallie Hallmark	GIS Analyst, Permian Basin MPO
Matt Carr, P.E.	City Engineer, City of Midland
Jose Ortiz	Engineering Services Director, City of Midland
Gary Law, P.E.	Director of Project Development, MDC
Gene Powell	Public Information Officer, TxDOT Odessa District
Hal Feldman	Traffic Coordinator, City of Odessa
Andrew Avis	Director of Public Work, Midland County
Jessica Schuttler, P.E.	Dunaway Associates, Midland County
Chad Windham, P.E.	Director of Operations, TxDOT Odessa District
Gabriel Ramirez, P.E.	Advanced Planning Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Phillip Tindall, AICP	Planner, Texas Department of Transportation
Robert Ornelas, P.E.	Director of TP&D, TxDOT Odessa District
Valerie Alvarado (432) 661-8485	

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting of the Permian Basin MPO Policy Board was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Policy Board Chair, Debi Hays. A quorum was present.

2. Introductions and Announcements

None.

3. Public Comment Period

None.

4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from May 18, 2020

A motion was made by Doug Provance and John Speed to approve the Policy Board Minutes from May 18, 2020. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approve the March and April 2020 Billing Statements

March is the sixth billing period for fiscal year 2020; the tables below reflect the expenditures from Tasks and Subtasks as approved in the FY 2020 UPWP. During the month of March, Permian Basin MPO expended \$34,754.42 which brings the percentage of expenditures to 33.32% of the FY 2020 programmed funds. The actual balance of funds is \$760,212.88.

April is the seventh billing period for fiscal year 2020; the tables below reflect the expenditures from Tasks and Subtasks as approved in the FY 2020 UPWP. During the month of April, Permian Basin MPO expended \$33,109.51 which brings the percentage of expenditures to 37.86% of the FY 2020 programmed funds. The actual balance of funds is \$727,103.37.

A motion was made by Robin Donnelly and Jack Ladd approve the March and April Billing Statements. The motion passed unanimously.

6 . Approve the FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program

The FY 2021 Unified Transportation Work Program is the operating budget for the MPO and is required to be reviewed and approved by the Policy Board. Although some MPOs in Texas maintain a two-year budget, the Permian Basin MPO has operated on a one-year cycle since FY 2014. Beginning in FY 2020 the MPO increased its budget to \$700,000 from a previous trend of annual budgets between \$415,000 to \$450,000. The reason for the increase is that the MPO was maintaining an excess of what are known as “carry over” funds. While there will be carry over funds associated with each budget, the reduction in this resource will allow the MPO to program more funds for agency needs and planned corridor studies. As a reminder, these are federal transportation planning funds that come from USDOT through the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. The majority of the funds come from the FHWA. The funds are authorized under federal law for the MPO to maintain a coordinated, continuous, and comprehensive transportation planning process within the defined area, known as the Metropolitan Area Boundary.

In FY 2020 the staff included additional funds under Task 5, Special Studies, to commence numerous studies utilizing a large portion of the carry-over funds the MPO had intentionally left unprogrammed for a few years. The FY 2021 UPWP indicates \$220,000 of available funds for corridor studies; \$35,000 has been made available for the EZ-Rider comprehensive transit study, and

The main differences between this year's proposed budget and the current budget are:

- less money on the MTP in FY 2021
- more money on the CMP - congestion related topics
- \$35K that the Board agreed to contribute to EZ Rider for a comprehensive transit study
- continuation of the Bicycle/Pedestrian corridor alignment work
- commencement of studies that were discussed but not started
- creation of a Permian Basin Regional Freight Advisory Committee
- additional money on freight related topics
- continued assistance with public involvement and agency marketing
- more money on federal performance measures and targets
- assistance with Travel Demand Modeling exercises

A motion was made by John Speed and **Robin Donnelly** to table the numerical prioritization of the FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program. The motion passed unanimously.

7. MPO Staff Reports

a. 90-Day Calendar

Staff included a 90-day event calendar to inform the Policy Board of upcoming events.

b. Update on calendar for TxDOT Ports-to-Plains Study

The 86th Texas legislature passed House Bill 1079 (HB 1079) relating to a study by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) of the Ports-to-Plains Corridor, including an evaluation of the feasibility of certain improvements to Interstate Highway 27 (I-27). The governor signed the bill into law on June 10, 2019.

The Bill requires a report to be delivered to the governor by January 2021. TxDOT hired a consulting team to assist with a feasibility study for an extension to the north and south of the existing portion of I-27 which connects Lubbock to Amarillo. TxDOT has managed the process of completing the study. Early on the corridor was subdivided into three subsections. The Midland Odessa area is in Segment Two which extends from south of Lubbock to Sonora (I-10).

On June 26th, the TxDOT Freight Division team led a presentation covering the results of the work completed by the Segment Two Subcommittee. Five meetings of the subcommittee were held. All three subcommittee reports were due to the Advisory Committee by June 30th. The next step in this important work is for the entire Advisory Committee to submit its final recommendations to TxDOT by October 31, 2020. The final report will be sent to the Governor and the Legislature by

January 1, 2021. A copy of the summary document submitted by the Segment Two Subcommittee was emailed to the Board the week of July 13th.

c. Update on calendar for TxDOT 24-county regional freight study

The Permian Basin Freight and Energy Sector Steering Committee held a virtual meeting on June 26th. Judge Hays chaired the meeting. The TxDOT Freight Division staff (Caroline Mays/Casey Wells) and the consultants (Paula Dowell – Cambridge Systematics) presented the draft materials for review and comment. The draft final plan and executive summary will be made available for Steering Committee review in August. It is expected that the work will be complete in August as well.

8. Agency Project Reports:

a. TxDOT Odessa District – John Speed:

Robert Ornelas:

b. City of Midland – Matt Carr: Bond year number two is finishing up. Pilot Ave has been complete.

c. Midland County – Andrew Avis: 50% completed of the Fairgrounds rd. project. The burst of three pending cluster improvements. Cluster A is nearing completion and should be complete by the end of the fiscal year. CR 1150 N and S should be started soon and will be busy for the next 6 to 8 months.

Robin Donnelly: Currently waiting for TxDOT to approve the **STIP***?

d. City of Odessa – Hal Feldman: The University project is Andrews and Maple will be fully open, and the contractors will move to the section of Maple to Grandview. Also, roadway design project, Faudree and Grandview* is underway. Has a design for ____

e. Ector County – Has several West 42nd 385 to Ruby, widened and seal coated. 67th street figuring how to fix it to come up onto Andrews highway to fix drainage issues.

f. Martin County – Absent.

g. MOUTD – Doug Provance: MOUTD has 10 new busses ordered and has a plan in place for complete replacement within the next four years. PBMPO staff is currently helping review the RFP's for the Transit Comprehensive Operations Analysis project.

9. Future Meetings

Policy Board Meeting – Monday, August 17, 2020 at 3:00 pm

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 8:00 am

10. Conduct Executive Session concerning any and all subjects and for any and all purposes permitted by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government code, including, but not limited to:

Texas Government Code Section 551.071 for the purpose of consulting with the Board's attorney; Texas Government Code Section 551.072 to deliberate the purchase, lease, or value of real property; Texas Government Code Section 551.074 to discuss personnel matters.

11. Take Action Concerning Executive Session Matters

Debi Hays: Moved for Executive Session regarding personnel matters.

11 a. Return from Executive Session

A motion was made by Debi Hays to return from Executive Session, all in favor. Debi Hays moved to grant a 3% cost of living adjustment to Cameron Walker effectively immediately. Robin Donnelly seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Adjourn

A motion was made by to adjourn by John Love and seconded by John Speed. The motion passed unanimously with adjournment at 4:14 pm.