



# Permian Basin MPO

Metropolitan  
Planning  
Organization

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**Policy Board Meeting**  
Permian Basin MPO  
9601 Wright Dr., Suite 1, Midland, TX, 79706  
**March 18, 2019 4:00 p.m.**

## **Minutes**

### **Policy Board Members Present**

Robin Donnelly	Chair, County Commissioner, Midland County
John B. Love III	Vice-Chair, Councilman, City of Midland
John Speed, P.E.	District Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Bryan Cox	Martin County Judge
Debi Hays	County Judge, Ector County
Gennie Garcia	General Manager, MOUTD (EZ-Rider)

### **Policy Board Members Absent:**

David Turner	Mayor, City of Odessa
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### **Others in Attendance:**

Cameron Walker, AICP	Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO
Lorraine Quimiro	Senior Transportation Planner, Permian Basin MPO
Alyssa Chavez	Office Manager, Permian Basin MPO
Jessica Schuttler, P.E.	Dunaway Associates, Midland County
Roy Allen	Transportation Committee Chairman, Odessa Chamber
Matt Carr, P.E.	City Engineer, City of Midland
Thomas Kerr, P.E.	Director of Public Works / Utilities, City of Odessa
Gene Powell	Public Information Officer, TxDOT Odessa District
Phillip Tindall, AICP	Planner, Texas Department of Transportation
Aaron Tuley, AICP	Planning/Landscape Architecture Team Leader, Halff Associates
Landon Merritt	Operations Manager, Halff Associates

## **AGENDA ITEM**

### **1. Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting of the Permian Basin MPO Policy Board was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Policy Board Chair, Robin Donnelly. A quorum was present.

### **2. Introductions and Announcements**

Every attendee introduced themselves.

### **3. Public Comment Period**

There were no public comments.

### **4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from February 11, 2019**

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by Debi Hays to approve the Policy Board Minutes from February 11, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

### **5. Approve the January 2019 Billing Statement**

January is the fourth billing period for fiscal year 2019 and reflects the expenditures from Tasks and Subtasks as approved in the FY 2019 UPWP. During the month of January, Permian Basin MPO expended \$19,790.85, which brings the percentage of expenditures to 29.29% of the FY 2019 programmed funds. The balance of funds is \$318,174.23.

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by Bryan Cox to approve the January 2019 Billing Statement. The motion passed unanimously.

### **6. Discuss the regional freight study**

Cameron started off the discussion by mentioning the freight study flyers that were included in the policy board packet. TxDOT provided the flyers to bring more awareness to their regional freight plan project. The project identifies how many counties are involved in the production of the oil and gas in the Permian basin, considering that freight in this region is heavily tied to the oil and gas industry. The FHWA and TxDOT have agreed to fund the study which covers 24 counties, including two in New Mexico, with the data support of New Mexico DOT. The purpose of the freight study is to develop a Permian Basin Freight Plan that identifies freight activities, opportunities, challenges and strategies in the region. The Permian Basin Freight study is in addition to the truck parking and freight infrastructure design studies that were the subjects of a workshop back in February.

John Speed added that over the last month TxDOT has been receiving a lot of feedback from the oil industry for the need of becoming more active in the truck study. He believes there is going to be more input coming from the region and that there is also an acknowledgement from outside of our region. That acknowledgement addresses the corridors currently having a lot of heavy truck traffic. John Speed also believes that certain highways that are not in our region, such as SH 302, should have their own level of designation to the overall planning process. The oil industry acknowledges that there are going to be needs of plans for transfer of goods between rail and

trucking, as well as people via transit or rideshares. Various questions came up regarding addressing the current issues at hand, such as having resources for traffic control during wrecks, instead of planning for future issues. John Speed emphasized that one of the main goals of this study is to improve safety and reliability and that the designs from TTI are going to help immensely regarding the overall needs here in the Permian Basin.

## **7. Hold an election for the MPO Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**

The MPO's by-laws call for an election of Board officers at the February meeting. At the meeting, the Board voted to delay the election of officers to the March meeting. Board Chair Donnelly managed the election procedure.

A motion was made by Bryan Cox and seconded by Debi Hays to elect Robin Donnelly to continue in his position as the MPO Chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

A second motion was made by Bryan Cox and seconded by Debi Hays to John Love to continue in his position as the MPO Vice-Chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

## **8. MPO Staff Reports**

### **a. 90-Day Calendar**

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

### **Update on the Multi-Use Corridor Study**

Halff Associates are continuing to prepare a report for the TAC and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee to review a draft report. A final report to the Policy Board should be ready at the upcoming April meeting.

### **c. Update on development of the 2045 MTP**

The TAC held a special meeting to improve the project scoring process. On February 27<sup>th</sup> the list of 100+ projects were divided by priority into three classifications. The TAC agreed to complete a relatively quick prioritization in order to expedite future scoring. The process involved ranking projects as A, B, or C, with the A projects to be fully vetted and scored at a future special TAC meeting.

### **d. 30-Day Activity and Social Media Update**

- The MPO hosted the TxDOT 2050 public workshop meeting on March 6th.
- Staff participated in TxDOT public meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup> re – Midkiff at I-20

The Permian Basin MPO has 138 Facebook Likes and 117 Followers on Twitter.

## **9. Agency Project Reports**

**a. TxDOT Odessa District: John Speed:** TxDOT is currently in the process of refining what the needs are with respect of the energy sector. TxDOT has spent the last few days identifying and elaborating on the range of projects that are going to be critical to safety and the reliability to the system with the respect to business activities within the region. Although many of the projects are outside within the MPO boundaries, the I-20 project ranked first and is currently at

the top of the list. So, we will start seeing a lot more of these projects therefore it is suggested that people attend the public meetings regarding the schematics in order to gain valuable input. Also, the Fairgrounds Road overpass and mainlines will be open for the public to use soon.

- b. City of Midland: Matt Carr:** Stated that the bond project is proceeding well into the second year that will hopefully be awarded at the upcoming city council meeting, with construction to commence in the summer.
- c. Midland County: Robin Donnelly:** The rehabilitation project for CR 1200 is expected to start soon, with the help of the City of Midland fixing Midkiff rd. Midland County is still trying to require right of way for the southern portion of the project.
- d. City of Odessa: Thomas Kerr:** A proposal is being prepared for the University project and will be presented to city council soon. In April, they will be presenting the first draft of transportation master plan, with a multi-modal bicycle chapter added to it
- e. Ector County: Debi Hays:** The county has gone out to bid for various road projects to be subbed out in Ector County. Three public meetings regarding the new sales tax will be held this coming Tuesday in West Odessa, Wednesday in Gardendale and Thursday in South Odessa.
- f. Martin County: Bryan Cox:** Finally finished at the jail. Currently looking into what other projects to start now, such as a possibility of beginning to remodel the community center.
- g. MOUTD: Gennie Garcia:** Ez-Rider is currently celebrating driver appreciation week day. They are also having the final facility expansion construction meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Also, currently working on a project with the Senior Centers and WTO to coordinate a transfer center between Midland and Odessa.

#### **10. Future Meetings**

Policy Board Meeting – Monday, April 15, 2019 at 4:00 pm

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, April 4, 2019 at 8:00 am

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee – TBA

LEAP Rural Rail District Meeting – Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 8:15 am (tent.)

#### **11. 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.

#### **12. Take Action Concerning Executive Session Matters**

None.

#### **13. Adjourn**

A motion was made by to adjourn by Bryan Cox and seconded by Debi Hays. The motion passed unanimously with adjournment at 6:46 pm.