

Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization
“Local Governments and Citizens Working Together”

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
May 26, 2011

MEMBERS

PRESENT: Mayor Martin Porchas, City of Somerton
Supervisor Greg Ferguson, Yuma County
Councilmember Paul Johnson, City of Yuma
Paul Soto, Cocopah Indian Tribe
Mayor James Deermer, Town of Wellton
Mayor Al Krieger, City of Yuma
Scott Omer, ADOT

MEMBERS

ABSENT:
Councilmember Cody Beeson, City of Yuma
Supervisor Casey Prochaska, Yuma County
Councilmember Gerardo Sanchez, City of San Luis

OTHERS

PRESENT:
Charlene FitzGerald, YMPO
Paul Patane, YMPO
Charles Gutierrez, YMPO
Shelly Kreger, YMPO
Glen Gimbut, City Attorney, City of San Luis
Dunbar Norton, Citizen
Wayne Benesch, YMPO Legal Counsel
Georgi Ann Jasenovec, FHWA
Nathan Banks, FHWA
Alvin Stump, ADOT
Steve Moore, City of Yuma
Greg Wilkinson, City of Yuma

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Martin Porchas called the meeting to order at 1:27 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

II. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No response.

III. WHY WE NEED AN MPO

Charlene FitzGerald introduced Nathan Banks from FHWA. Mr. Banks was here a few months ago and gave a presentation on MPO 101, and is here today to do a follow-up presentation. Al Krieger asked why this item was needed at today's meeting, who asked for the presentation, and if there was a cost involved. Ms. FitzGerald replied that there was no cost, and that it is part of the Federal Highways presentation that Mr. Banks made a couple of months ago. Mr. Krieger asked if the meeting is being recorded, and Ms. FitzGerald replied that it is being recorded.

Nathan Banks made his presentation on what an MPO is, its purpose and responsibilities, and who is represented by an MPO.

After the presentation, Al Krieger asked that a copy of the presentation be made available to all Board members. Mr. Banks then answered questions.

Greg Ferguson asked if the FHWA approves the YMPO's Work Plan, and Mr. Banks replied that the FHWA only recommends a copy of the Work Plan – they want to see the process. Ms. FitzGerald added that YMPO meets yearly with FHWA, FTA, and ADOT to talk about the plan, ask questions, resolve issues, etc. Scott Omer asked who makes the decision as far as forming an MPO, and Mr. Banks replied that it depends on the law - any area that has a population of 50,000 or more are required to have an MPO. Mr. Omer asked if there was a mandatory timeline in forming an MPO and Mr. Banks answered one and a half years. Martin Porchas asked about the process of the money – is it based on per capita and Mr. Banks replied that it is based on population. Mr. Omer added that the money comes from the FHWA to ADOT, then to the MPO's.

IV. BY-LAWS SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

Al Krieger reported that no written presentation is available, but the based on previous meetings that the committee has had, they desire a coordinating effort on behalf of the YMPO to ensure that the information presented by the YMPO has the members included and at the table. Other than the issue of the membership, the committee has no recommendation to the bylaws. The consensus is that the MPO simply be a coordinating agency - to make sure that planning elements are coordinated with its members. Mr. Krieger added that Winterhaven, CA, Caltrans, and the Quechan Indian Tribe are mentioned in the original document; however, none of them have chosen to participate in any meetings, which Mr. Krieger finds odd. Greg Ferguson commented that 2-3 years ago there was much coordination with Caltrans when work was being done on the freeway/interstate (enhancement project). Ms. FitzGerald reported that invitations are sent to Quechan and Caltrans for both the Executive Board and TAC meetings. She added that YMPO has coordinated with Imperial County in the past, and is currently meeting with both Imperial County and Caltrans on a monthly basis. Quechan Indian Tribe is currently working on a transportation study and has supplied YMPO with a copy of their plan.

V. MINUTES OF THE MARCH 31, 2011 MEETING

MOTION: Greg Ferguson moved to approve the minutes of the March 31, 2011 meeting as presented.

SECOND: James Deermer.

ACTION: Motion carried.

VI. 2012 UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET

Charlene FitzGerald presented the Work Program, and Scott Omer added that that this format is consistent with all MPO's in the state. Greg Ferguson asked why 5307 was in last year's plan and not this year's, and Ms. FitzGerald replied that the 5307 monies have to be put in the TIP.

MOTION: James Deermer moved to approve the 2012 Unified Work Program and Budget as presented.

SECOND: Greg Ferguson.

ACTION: Motion carried.

VII. ADOT GRANT APPLICATION RANKING RECOMMENDATIONS BY TAC

Charlene FitzGerald reported that the human services transportation transit programs applications were received and presented to the TAC. The information presented today is the recommendations of the TAC.

Paul Johnson asked that in rankings, did the TAC take in consideration the performance of past experience? Ms. FitzGerald replied that the past was taken into consideration; however, ADOT has decided to continue providing funding to the agencies. ADOT is responsible for monitoring the programs and not YMPO. Paul Patane added that the presentation and evaluation were ranked at the TAC meeting and the TAC is comfortable with their recommendation. YMPO will not be responsible for monitoring the financial aspect nor the oversight of any of the ADOT special needs transportation grants.

MOTION: James Deermer moved to approve the TAC recommendations on the rankings of the FY 2011 ADOT Special Needs Transportation grants.

SECOND: Greg Ferguson.

ACTION: Motion carried.

VIII. REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATION PLAN UPDATE

Charlene FitzGerald reported that this has not been brought to the Board since 2007 and the plan has been updated since then. Al Krieger asked if this is supposed to be updated yearly, and Ms. FitzGerald replied that it is supposed to be updated on an annual basis and was overlooked in the past. Ms. FitzGerald explained the plan, the coordination strategies, and who is involved. The YMPO has updated the plan and is now holding quarterly meetings with all agencies involved in coordination. Ms. FitzGerald then made a presentation on the plan.

IX. APPOINTMENT OF BACK-UP REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND STB MEETINGS – (NEXT MEETING – MAY 20, 2011, FLAGSTAFF)

Charlene FitzGerald reported that this has been on the agenda since January, and the importance of having a representative attend these meetings when projects are needed in our area. After a short discussion, Scott Omer recommended that an elected official attend. Al Krieger recommended that all of the Board members be available to attend in case Paul Johnson cannot make the meeting. Greg Ferguson recommended that an elected official from San Luis attend the May meeting, and Ms. FitzGerald replied that Mayor Juan Carlos Escamilla is going to try to attend the May meeting and give a short presentation on the San Luis border. She added that city officials from the other entities also need to attend these meetings to support funding in their areas.

X. PROJECT UPDATES

PARA Projects

Wellton – Final draft being done.

Transit Needs Assessment – Underway.

Foothills Transportation Study – Kick-off meeting held yesterday.

Safe Routes to School

Price School – YPG - Charles Gutierrez explained this project.

South West Region for Border Health – No report.

XI. NEW ITEMS OF BUSINESS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- a. Rail Corridor Study and Rail Resolution.
- b.
- c.

XII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. March Financial Report – included in packet.

B. Staff Report – included in packet.

C. Conference Updates

Paul Patane gave a summary on the Roads & Streets conference he attended in April, 2011.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

XIV. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC MEETING *(If required from executive session).*

XV. PROGRESS REPORTS

A. **CTC Meeting**, April 7, 2011. Norma Lekan and Jess Segovia attended.

B. **AzTA & Rural Transit Conference**, Phoenix, AZ / April 10-12, 2011. Charlene FitzGerald and Shelly Kreger attended.

C. **Phoenix Centennial Meeting**, Phoenix, AZ / April 12, 2011. Shelly Kreger attended.

D. **TAC Meeting**, April 14, 2011. Paul Patane, Charles Gutierrez, Shelly Kreger and Norma Lekan attended.

E. **COG/MPO Planner's Meeting**, Phoenix, AZ / April 15, 2011. Charlene FitzGerald attended.

F. **AzTA Legislative Committee Meeting**, April 15, 2011. Charlene FitzGerald attended.

- G. Wellton PARA Meeting**, April 19, 2011. Paul Patane and Charles Gutierrez participated.
- H. Visitors Bureau Meeting**, April 20, 2011. Charlene FitzGerald, Paul Patane, Charles Gutierrez, and Shelly Kreger attended.
- I. RMC Quarterly Meeting**, April 26 2011. Norma Lekan, Jess Segovia and Paul Patane attended.
- J. Managing Community Mobility, Phoenix, AZ** / April 27-28, 2011. Norma Lekan attended.
- K. YCIPTA Meeting**, April 25, 2011. Charlene FitzGerald and Jess Segovia attended.

Paul Johnson asked for an update on the YCIPTA, and Charlene FitzGerald reported that they have met and approved by-laws, organizational structure, hiring the Transit Director and Contract Administrator, and discussed ridership and the Transit Needs Study. Al Krieger asked if YMPO is still actively looking for grant funding and Ms. FitzGerald replied that YMPO is still taking care of the grant aspects of transit. Mr. Krieger asked about the transition of transit from YMPO to the IPTA and Ms. FitzGerald replied that it is going slow and YMPO is still doing the majority of transit work and will continue to do so until the Transit Director and Contract Administrator are hired to take over the workload. FTA has to approve the YCIPTA to receive federal funding for transit prior to them operating the transit program.

Paul Johnson stated that if an area can show 5-10% local monies on the table, this is a key item to have when asking for finances for projects through ADOT.

XVI. ADJOURN

- MOTION:** Greg Ferguson made a motion to adjourn.
- SECOND:** Al Krieger.
- ACTION:** Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 2:17 pm.

Minutes prepared by:

 Norma M. Lekan
 Executive Assistant

Minutes reviewed to form by:

 Charlene FitzGerald, Executive Director
 Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization

Minutes adopted in regular session
 on the 26th day of May, 2011

 Martin Porchas, Chairman
 YMPO Executive Board