

EXECUTIVE BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Local Governments & Citizens Working Together

**Executive Board
Regular Meeting
Thursday, January 31, 2019
1:30 p.m.**

**City of Yuma
City One Plaza
Yuma, Arizona 85364
Room 190**

1. Call to Order and the Pledge of Allegiance.

YMPO Chairwoman, Mayor Cecilia McCollough, called the Executive Board (the Board) meeting of the Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization (YMPO) to order at 1:33 p.m. She called on Yuma County Supervisor Martin Porchas to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call Attendance.

The YMPO Executive Assistant/Accountant II, Crystal Figueroa, called the roll as follows:

YMPO Executive Board Members Present:

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|------------|---|
| Chairwoman | Cecilia McCollough, Mayor, Town of Wellton |
| Member | Gary Knight, Deputy Mayor, City of Yuma |
| Member | Maria Ramos, Vice-Mayor, City of San Luis * |
| Member | Paul Patane, ADOT SW District Engineer |
| Member | Lynne Pancrazi, Board of Supervisors, Yuma County * |
| Member | Martin Porchas, Board of Supervisors, Yuma County |

* Vice Mayor Ramos arrived at 1:40 p.m. and Supervisor Pancrazi arrived at 3:19 p.m.

YMPO Executive Board Members Absent:

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|---------------------|--|
| Secretary/Treasurer | J. Deal Begay, Junior, Vice-Chairman, Cocopah Indian Tribe |
| Member | Jacob Miller, Councilmember, City of Yuma |
| Member | Karen Watts, Councilmember, City of Yuma |
| Member | Miguel Villalpando, Councilmember, City of Somerton |

As members from four, of the seven, constituent member agencies were present, the quorum requirement was met.

YMPO Staff Present:

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Paul D. Ward | Executive Director |
| Charles A. Gutierrez | Senior Planning/Mobility Manager |
| Crystal Figueroa | Executive Assistant/Accountant II |
| DeLaurien McKenzie | Associate Planner |

Additional Attendees:

Gene Dalbey

Yuma Regional Bicycle Coalition

Paul Melcher

Yuma County Director of Economic Development and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Declaration of Votes.

City of Yuma Deputy Mayor, Gary Knight, submitted to Paul Ward, YMPO Executive Director, proxy letters from City of Yuma Councilmembers Jacob Miller and Karen Watts and declared their proxy votes, for a total of five votes for the City of Yuma. Supervisor Martin Porchas confirmed that he held the proxy vote for Supervisor Lynne Pancrazi.

3. Call to the Public.

A member of the public, Gene Dalbey, wished the Board a Happy New Year and stated that he was looking forward to great opportunities with YMPO in building Yuma County.

4. YMPO Title VI Program.

Mr. Charles Gutierrez, YMPO Senior Planning/Mobility Manager, presented the Title VI Program Report to Board members and explained that because YMPO is an agency that utilizes Federal funds it is required to follow a series of protocols on training all members attending policy and technical committees, including numerous public outreach activities. He also mentioned that, at the beginning of all future Board meetings, an element of the Title VI program will be read out loud as policy protocol.

Vice-Mayor Maria Ramos joined the meeting at 1:40 p.m., increasing the quorum present to five member agencies.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Knight moved to approve the YMPO 2019 Title VI Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Programs Report. Vice-Mayor Ramos seconded, and the item was unanimously approved.

9. Possible YMPO Policy on an Air Quality Emissions Bank.

The Chairwoman moved up item nine on the agenda, presentation by Paul Melcher, the Yuma County Director of Economic Development and Intergovernmental Coordination, regarding the possible policy on an Air Quality Emissions Bank.

Mr. Melcher briefed the Board on the purpose of his collaboration with staff from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and the Air Quality Implementation Plan Section. He mentioned that the main effort is to make changes to the existing language in the Arizona Emissions Bank rules that would allow the Yuma region to take credit for paving unpaved roads by taking advantage of the existing concept used by the MAG region. Mr. Melcher asked the YMPO stakeholders (the member agencies) for their support for the proposed requested application to change the language in the Arizona Emissions Bank rules for the Yuma region. He reported that he had been working in close

collaboration with Mr. Ward in this effort and expected that the process may take as much as a year for the request to be approved.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Knight moved to authorize YMPO Executive Director Paul Ward to work with Mr. Melcher to review options for establishing an Emissions Bank for the Yuma County region. Vice-Mayor Ramos seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

5. Consent Agenda.

A. Approval of the December 13, 2018, Meeting Minutes.

B. YMPO Income and Expenditure Report for November & December 2018.

MOTION: Supervisor Porchas moved to approve the consent agenda, as presented. Deputy Mayor Knight seconded, and the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

6. Annual Declaration of Votes

As required by YMPO By-Laws, Deputy Mayor Knight declared the annual votes for the City of Yuma for Calendar Year 2018 as follows: 2 votes for himself, 2 votes for Councilmember Watts and 1 vote for Councilmember Miller with a total of 5 votes for the City of Yuma.

Drafter's Note: Since this meeting, the City of Yuma has nominated Councilmember Edward Thomas to replace Councilmember Karen Watts.

7. Appointment of STB and RTAC Representatives and Election of YMPO Subcommittee Members.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Knight moved to defer agenda item to a future Board meeting, due to the lack of Board members in attendance. Supervisor Porchas seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Ward mentioned that, absent any objection, he will exclude the election of the By-Laws Subcommittee members unless, and until, changes to the By-Laws are needed.

8. Arizona Chamber of Commerce 'Accelerate-Arizona' Forum and Proposed Increase in Arizona Transportation Taxes.

Mr. Ward informed the Board members of the January 2019, briefing session held in support of the forthcoming 2019 Arizona State Legislature session, titled "Accelerate Arizona". This Transportation Forum was sponsored by the Arizona Chamber of Commerce. He reported that the Chairman of the State House Transportation Committee, Representative Noel Campbell, released a house bill (HB 2536) for consideration during the upcoming legislative session. The proposed bill would substantially increase transportation funding by increasing gasoline and use fuel (diesel) tax rates and by increasing registration fees for electric and alternative fueled vehicles.

Mr. Ward continued to report that at the January 28th, 2019, Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC) meeting, one hundred percent of the members were in favor of the "Accelerate Arizona" proposed bill. He mentioned that both YMPO and ADOT would benefit from such bill. He continued that Kevin Adams, the RTAC representative, requested a Resolution in support of the proposed bill to increase transportation funding. During, the meeting, a list of possible projects and priorities was requested for the Yuma region. Mr. Ward provided a list of potential projects to Board members based on discussions with member agencies and mentioned it would be presented to the TAC Board.

Supervisor Porchas stated that he supported additional funding for transportation purposes in general, but declined to support the proposed bill. He didn't doubt that Yuma region cities and towns could potentially benefit from such bill but, due to the Yuma region not getting our fair share of Highway User Revenue Funds (HURF) through the State Highway Program, distributed by ADOT, he cannot support the resolution and would need additional information.

Vice-Mayor Ramos expressed her support for the proposed bill to increase transportation funding. She reminded all that the recent increase in vehicle registrations would support the Department of Public Safety and should prevent HURF funds from being 'swept'. Supervisor Porchas explained it's not a subject that worries him, but he is aware that those funds can still be swept away any time the legislature decides. He is more concerned with the region not getting our fair share.

Mr. Knight pointed out that the State's transportation and infrastructure is deteriorating and there is a significant shortfall of revenue compared to the needs. Mr. Knight indicated he was in favor of supporting HB 2536. After many comments, Mr. Ward mentioned that the proposed bill was the best solution to date to increase transportation funding overall, although the "fair share" issue was still a concern.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Knight moved that the Board adopt Resolution 144, as shown in the agenda packet. Vice-Mayor Ramos seconded, and the motion was passed by a margin of 7 to 2, with the Chairwoman, Deputy Mayor Knight (5 votes) and Vice-Mayor Ramos voting for the motion, Supervisor Porchas (2 votes) voting no and Paul Patane, ADOT Southwest District Engineer abstaining.

10. The FY 2020-2024 YMPO Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Gutierrez, in conjunction with Mr. Ward, recommended that the TIP should be developed for a total of five years, on a two-yearly cycle. This process will allow member agencies to be as up to date as needed with their federally-funded projects and will minimize the number of TIP Amendments. He presented the Board with a proposed tentative schedule of TIP activities and committed to keeping the Board up to date as the

process continues, prior to submitting the TIP to ADOT for the Governor's approval and inclusion into the State TIP. There were no comments from the Board at this time.

11. Executive Director's Evaluation

The Chairwoman informed the Board that, on January 14, 2019, a Subcommittee that she had appointed met to evaluate the YMPO Executive Director's performance. At this point, the Chairwoman requested a motion to go into executive session.

MOTION: Vice-Mayor Ramos moved to recess into executive session. Deputy Mayor Knight seconded, and the item was unanimously approved at 2:55 p.m.

12. Executive Session

The Board met in Executive Session for a report on the Executive Director's evaluation. There are no minutes available for this period.

13. Reconvene to Public Meeting

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Knight moved to reconvene to Public Meeting. Supervisor Porchas seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved at 3:18 p.m.

14. Executive Director's Evaluation

MOTION: Southwest District Engineer Paul Patane moved to approve the Mr. Ward's evaluation and to implement a 2.1% cost of living increase and a 1.3% merit increase. Deputy Mayor Knight seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved

Board of Supervisors Lynne Pancrazi joined the meeting at 3:19 p.m.

15. Summary of Current Events/Board Member Reports/Executive Director's Report & Comments by Other Participants.

A. Staff Reports.

C. TAC Minutes.

D. Conference Updates.

E. MPO/COG Director/Planner Meetings.

F. Rural Transportation Advocacy Council activities. Supervisor Porchas, Vice-Mayor Ramos, Deputy-Mayor Knight and YMPO Executive Director attended.

G. Projects - Economic Development and Transportation.

16. Possible Future Agenda Items.

The following items will be heard at a future meeting

A. Election of YMPO Officers for Calendar Year 2019;

17. Progress Reports.

Members and staff will update the Board on the progress of ongoing projects and other events.

- A. Dec 14 – Statewide COG/MPO Planner's Meeting, Charles Gutierrez attended.
- B. Dec 14 – Statewide Title VI Coordination meeting, Charles Gutierrez attended.
- C. Dec 18-21 - ESRI Training Course, De'Laurien McKenzie attended.
- D. Dec 20 - Pavement Management System discussion with YC Public Works staff, Paul Ward and Charles Gutierrez attended;
- E. Dec 20 - Contracts Review session with YMPO Legal Staff. Paul Ward, Charles Gutierrez, and Crystal Figueroa attended;
- F. Dec 21 - State Transportation Board Meeting in Morenci, Deputy Mayor Gary Knight and Paul Ward attended.
- G. Dec 26 - INRIX and HERE Meeting, Paul Ward, Charles Gutierrez, and De'Laurien McKenzie participated.
- H. Dec 27 - Araby Road Roundabout Turning Movements field review, Paul Ward, Charles Gutierrez, and Robert Aguilar attended.
- I. Jan 3 - Yuma Crossing Rotary meeting Paul Ward and Charles Gutierrez attended;
- J. Jan 9 - YMPO Regional Mobility meeting, Charles Gutierrez and Melissa Ramos attended;
- K. Jan 10 - TAC meeting, Paul Ward, Charles Gutierrez, De'Laurien McKenzie and Melissa Ramos attended;
- L. Jan 11 - AZ Chamber of Commerce 'Accelerate Arizona' Transportation Forum, Biltmore, Paul Ward attended;
- M. Jan 14 - Yuma County Airport meeting, Paul Ward and Charles Gutierrez attended;
- N. Jan 14-17 - Walker and Armstrong (Audit staff) visit the office; Paul Ward and Crystal Figueroa attended;
- O. Jan 14 - YMPO Executive Director Evaluation Review Subcommittee meeting, Chairwoman Cecilia McCollough, Deputy Mayor Gary Knight, Supervisor Martin Porchas, and Paul Ward attended;
- P. Jan 14 - ADOT/YMPO Coordination meeting, Deputy Mayor Gary Knight, Paul Ward, and Charles Gutierrez attended;
- Q. Jan 15 - Follow up on Pavement Management meeting with YC Public Works staff, Paul Ward and Charles Gutierrez attended;
- R. Jan 17 - Internal YMPO Traffic Counters' meeting, Charles Gutierrez, De'Laurien McKenzie, and Robert Aguilar attended;
- S. Jan 18 - State Transportation Board Meeting (Kingman), Deputy Mayor Gary Knight and Paul Ward attended.
- T. Jan 22 - ADOT MPD COGs/MPOs Director's/Planner's Workshop, Paul Ward and Charles Gutierrez attended;
- U. Jan 24 - ADOT Data Analysis Teleconference, Paul Ward and De'Laurien McKenzie participated;
- V. Jan 28 - RTAC meeting (Lunch with Legislators); Deputy Mayor Gary Knight, Vice-Mayor Maria Ramos, Supervisor Lynne Pancrazi, and Paul Ward attended;
- W. Jan 29 - Emotional Intelligence Seminar - Melissa Ramos attended.
- X. Jan 31 - YMPO Executive Board meeting, Paul Ward, Charles Gutierrez, Crystal Figueroa and De'Laurien McKenzie attended.

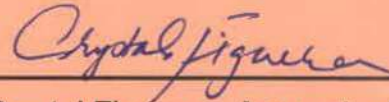
18. Adjournment.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Notice: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, YMPO does not discriminate on the basis of disability, in the admission of, or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs, activities, or services. For information regarding rights and provisions of the ADA or Section 504, or to request reasonable accommodations for participation in YMPO programs, activities, or services, contact Paul Ward at 928-783-8911

Preparation and Approval of Minutes:

Minutes prepared by:




Crystal Figueroa, Accountant II/
Executive Assistant, YMPO

Minutes approved in regular session on
February 28, 2019

Minutes reviewed to form by:



Paul D. Ward, Executive Director
Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization



Mayor Cecilia McCollough, Chairwoman
YMPO Executive Board