

EXECUTIVE BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Local Governments & Citizens Working Together

**Executive Board
Regular Meeting
Thursday, March 29, 2018
1:30 p.m.**

**Yuma County-Department of Development Services
2351 West 26th Street
Yuma, Arizona 85365
Aldrich Auditorium**

1. Call to Order and the Pledge of Allegiance.
YMPO Chairwoman Cecilia McCollough called the Executive Board (the Board) meeting of the Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization (YMPO) to order at 1:30 p.m. She called on City of Yuma Deputy Mayor Gary Knight 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:

Chairwoman	Cecilia McCollough, Mayor, Town of Wellton
Vice Chair	Jose Yopez, Mayor, City of Somerton
Member	Gary Knight, Deputy Mayor, City of Yuma
Member	Maria Ramos, Vice-Mayor, City of San Luis
Member	Michael Jones for Paul Patane, ADOT SW District Engineer
Member	Martin Porchas, Board of Supervisors, Yuma County
Member	Karen Watts, Councilmember, City of Yuma

YMPO Executive Board Members Absent:

Secretary/Treasurer	J. Deal Begay, Jr., Vice-Chairman, Cocopah Indian Tribe
Member	Jacob Miller, Councilmember, City of Yuma
Member	Lynne Pancrazi, Board of Supervisors, Yuma County

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

YMPO Staff Present:

Executive Director	Paul Ward
Assistant Planner	Melissa Ramos
Accountant II	Crystal Figueroa

Additional Attendees:

Gene Dalbey	YRBC
Blake Herzog	Yuma Sun

Declaration of Votes.

Deputy Mayor Knight submitted to Paul Ward, YMPO Executive Director, a proxy letter from Councilmember Jacob Miller and declared his proxy vote for a total of three votes for the City of Yuma.

3. Call to the Public
No public members addressed the Board.

4. Consent Agenda
A. Approval of February 22, 2018, Board Meeting Minutes.
B. YMPO Income and Expenditure Report for February 2018.

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

5. Appointment of Organization representatives

Mr. Ward clarified some confusion during the last Board meeting about the roles of State Transportation Board (STB) membership versus the role of a YMPO representative at STB meetings. He continued to explain that the Governor appoints members of the STB and the Arizona Senate confirms them.

STB members are responsible for establishing a complete system of state highway routes in Arizona and serve in an advisory capacity to the Director of the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT). They award construction contracts, monitor the status of construction projects, and have the exclusive authority to issue revenue bonds for transportation financing. Mr. Ward mentioned the Board has seven members, with Deputy Mayor Knight representing District 6, which comprises La Paz, Mohave, Yavapai and Yuma counties. Deputy Mayor Knight has recently been appointed and attended his first meeting on March 16, 2018. Deputy Mayor Knight mentioned full voting by the Senate is still pending but confirmed is only a matter of time and can happen as early as next week.

Deputy Mayor Knight mentioned that due to his appointment to the STB, and being regarded as a member of the STB/ADOT on the Executive Board, this would give the City of Yuma six votes. He explained that was not his intention and therefore had decided to name Paul Patane, the ADOT Southwest District Engineer, to continue representing the STB/ADOT during YMPO Executive Board meetings. He further confirmed that he will continue to serve on the Board as one of the three representatives of the City of Yuma. He is also now serving as an Executive Board member for the Lake Havasu City MPO.

Mr. Ward continued with his presentation and explained that, although mentioned in the By-Laws, YMPO usually identifies a representative and an alternate to attend STB meetings to ensure that the YMPO stays in touch with the actions of the STB, can deliver presentations and influence the STB for projects in the Yuma region. He clarified, the YMPO member and alternate are NOT members of the STB but attend the meetings as volunteers to try to keep Yuma County at the forefront of the STB's thinking. Chosen members can address the STB during the public participation segment. Mr. Ward mentioned that any costs associated with attending STB meetings will be covered by YMPO. In summary, he asked for action on choosing two individuals to attend STB meetings to keep YMPO needs and wants in the forefront of the STB's and ADOT's minds.

The Chairwoman opened nominations for a YMPO STB representative and an alternate.

MOTION: Mayor Jose Yopez nominated Chairwoman McCollough to serve as the STB representative and Deputy Mayor Knight seconded. Vice-Mayor Ramos nominated herself as an alternate and Deputy Mayor Knight seconded. Supervisor Porchas moved to close nomination and Deputy Mayor Knight seconded.

VOTE: The Chairwoman called for a vote to approve herself as the STB representative and Vice-Mayor Ramos as an alternate. The vote was unanimously approved.

6. Draft FY 2019 YMPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

YMPO Accountant and Executive Assistant, Crystal Figueroa, presented the FY 2019 YMPO UPWP and anticipated expenditures of studies forecasted for the year 2020. She mentioned the initial draft UPWP was reviewed on March 19 by the Federal Highway (FHWA), Federal Transit (FTA) Administrations, and the Arizona Department of Transportation. She further commented receiving favorable feedback and anticipated additional comments in due course. She explained that State and Federal approval of the work program will follow approval by the Executive Board, which is tentatively scheduled for April 2018.

Ms. Figueroa provided a handout to the Board which showed the anticipated expenditures of studies in the current and forthcoming FY 2019 UPWP. She mentioned the Safety, Traffic Count, Bike/Ped and PMS Studies would all have commenced in the current year and be completed in FY 2019. The Heavy Freight and ITS Studies were deferred from FY 2018 to FY 2019 and will be completed in FY 2020. Ms. Figueroa informed Board members about the new studies programmed in the new UPWP as the Short Transit Study, Port of Entry 1 Origin-Destination Study and the plan to set-aside some advance funding for the Regional Transportation Plan Update, which happens every 4 years. She mentioned that all will be started in FY 2018 and finished in FY 2019 or within the same year. In summary, she showed the Board how the studies and expenditures transition from one fiscal year to the next and presented the three new studies for FY 2019 expected expenditures.

The Chairwoman asked if there were any details on what the Port of Entry (POE) Study entails. Mr. Ward described it as an origin-destination (O-D) study. He reported that funds for construction at the POE had NOT been included in the current federal budget; however, he mentioned that the project is not going away and any expansion done in the future will require an O-D study to analyze where people are coming from and where are they are going to. He added that the details of how it will be done are undecided and will be guided by the City of San Luis and the General Services Administration (GSA) who are primarily responsible for the POE improvements.

7. Tentative FY 2019-2023 Five Year ADOT Facilities Construction Program

Mr. Ward reported on the Tentative State Program that was released during the recent STB meeting in Sahuarita. He shared an electronic copy of the 141-page program and focused his presentation on the Summary of Dollars by Section table which shows the spending of money in the next five years for Transportation Facilities Construction Program which the majority of construction projects are highways. Mr. Ward shared a comparison between Yavapai and Yuma Counties. He pointed out that Yavapai has an almost identical number of people as Yuma; however, they have four times the amount

of money programmed for projects and that Yavapai does have some construction (widening) projects programmed in 2022 and 2023.

Mr. Ward mentioned that during the STB Dinner in February held in Yuma, the STB members heard the Yuma Region wanted US-95 improved, although whether that is going to result in action is unknown. He mentioned that having US-95 improvements programmed is a possibility, maybe not in this version but possibly the next one.

Mr. Ward encouraged Board members to attend the next two ADOT study sessions and take a stance for the funding programmed, especially in comparison to other Counties. Mr. Ward affirmed working with the ADOT District Engineer and staff to try to encourage programming of the initial projects needed for US-95. Essentially, he mentioned there are a billion dollars at the state level that hasn't yet been programmed and it can go long way. Deputy Mayor Knight informed that the Board that the next STB study session is on June 4, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. in Phoenix.

8. Yuma Regional Transportation Planning Conference

Mr. Ward reminded the Board that there have discussions about a Regional Transportation Planning Conference and he's looking to hold one on April 12, 2018, between 6:30 and 9:00 p.m. He mentioned that the purpose of the meeting would be to establish what the needs and wants are for the transportation system within the Yuma region based on input from all the transportation agencies in the region. He will then take those needs and wants and monetize them to find out how much it's going to cost. The next step will then be to hold a second meeting to discuss how needs are going to be paid and potentially develop a plan to generate funding. Mr. Ward mentioned his intention is to get mayors, city administrators, county manager and the largest transportation committees out there attend the conference. The Board agreed on the date and Mr. Ward committed to sending an invitation and questionnaires to develop the needs of the region.

Supervisor Porchas asked how the process is going to work with having thirty people in the room developing a list of needs from different areas. He commented maybe having only the Executive Board meet first to discuss the needs as an idea. Mr. Ward assured members that his intention is not to develop a list at the meeting but to present scenarios that contribute to a shortage of funding and listen to the areas of transportation that need additional funds. Supervisor Porchas recommended to Mr. Ward to talk to other major entities such as AWC and YCIPTA who might also have the same interest in advocating for additional funding in a half-cent sales tax. He mentioned having a common interest in a ballot would not do well with voters. Mr. Ward thanked everyone for their comments.

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

- A. Staff Reports. Mr. Ward informed the Board that Executive Director of MAG Dennis Smith will be retiring and replaced by Eric Anderson.
- B. TAC Minutes.
- C. Conference Updates.
- D. MPO/COG Director/Planner Meetings.
- E. Rural Transportation Advocacy Council activities.
- F. State Transportation Board meeting (Yuma).
- G. Projects - Economic Development and Transportation.

H. Regional Transportation Summit.

10. Possible Future Agenda Items

- A. The FY 2016-17 Audit.
- B. Presentation on projects in the ADOT Southwest District.

11. Progress Reports

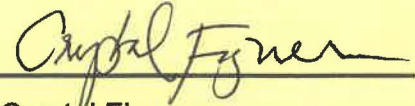
- A. Feb 1 - 2018 Arizona Regional Mobility Manager's Meeting, Charles Gutierrez attended.
- B. Feb 1 - San Luis POE 1 Meeting, Paul Ward attended.
- C. Feb 2 - COG/MPO Planner's Group Meeting, Charles Gutierrez attended.
- D. Feb 5 - RTAC Meeting, Deputy Mayor Knight, and Paul Ward attended.
- E. Feb 8 - YMPO TAC meeting, Charles Gutierrez and DeLaurien McKenzie attended.
- F. Feb 12- ADOT/YMPO Coordination meeting, Paul Ward, and Charles Gutierrez attended.
- G. Feb 14- YMPO AQ IAC Meeting, Charles Gutierrez participated.
- H. Feb 15- State Transportation Board Visit and Dinner, YMPO staff participated.
- I. Feb 16 - State Transportation Board Meeting, Paul Ward attended.
- J. Feb 21 - Special TAC meeting, Paul Ward, and Charles Gutierrez attended.
- K. Feb 22 - YMPO Executive Board Meeting, Paul Ward, Charles Gutierrez, and Crystal Figueroa attended.
- L. Feb 27 - Inactive Projects Presentation/Training, Paul Ward, and Charles Gutierrez participated.
- M. Mar 1 - Brief Incoming Executive Board Chairwoman, Paul Ward, and Crystal Figueroa attended.
- N. Mar 5 - YMPO Staff meeting, YMPO staff attended.
- O. Mar 5-7 - Joint Working Committee, Paul Ward attended.
- P. Mar 9- Possible MOU Discussion with ADOT, FHWA, FTA, MPOs and Public Transit Providers, Paul Ward attended, by teleconference.
- Q. Mar 12- RTAC Board Meeting, Paul Ward attended, by teleconference.
- R. Mar 16- Ozone Stakeholder Meeting, Charles Gutierrez attended.
- S. Mar 16- State Transportation Board Meeting, Deputy Mayor Knight, and Paul Ward attended.
- T. Mar 19- FHWA/FTA/ADOT UPWP Review Meeting, All YMPO staff participated.
- U. Mar 19- ADOT/Mexico representatives regarding Circulation Plans for POE 1, Vice-Mayor Ramos and Paul Ward attended

20. Adjournment.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:37 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.

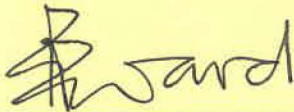
Minutes prepared by:



Crystal Figueroa
Accountant II/Executive Assistant

Minutes approved in regular session on
April 26, 2018

Minutes reviewed to form by:



Paul D. Ward, Executive Director
Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization



Mayor Cecilia McCollough, Chairwoman
YMPO Executive Board