

EXECUTIVE BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Local Governments & Citizens Working Together

**EXECUTIVE BOARD
Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 27, 2017
1:30 PM**

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

1. Call to Order and the Pledge of Allegiance.
Chairman Gary Knight called the Executive Board (the Board) meeting of the Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization (YMPO) to order at 1:30 p.m. He called on Gene Dalbey to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call Attendance.
The YMPO Executive Assistant, Crystal Alonzo, called the roll as follows:

YMPO Executive Board Members Present:

Chairman	Gary Knight, Deputy Mayor, City of Yuma
Vice Chair	Cecilia McCollough, Mayor, Town of Wellton
Secretary/Treasurer	Jose Yepez, Mayor, City of Somerton
Member	J. Deal Begay, Jr., Vice Chairman, Cocopah Indian Tribe
Member	Paul Patane, Southwest District Engineer, ADOT
Member	William "Bill" Craft, Councilmember, City of Yuma
Member	Maria Ramos, Councilmember, City of San Luis
Member	Lynne Pancrazi, Board of Supervisors, Yuma County

YMPO Executive Board Members Absent:

Member	Jacob Miller, Councilmember, City of Yuma
Member	Martin Porchas, Board of Supervisors, Yuma County

As members from all seven member agencies were present, the quorum was met.

YMPO Staff Present:

Executive Director	Paul Ward
Senior Planning Manager	Charles Gutierrez
Accountant II	Crystal Alonzo (Figueroa)

Additional Attendees:

Gene Dalbey	YRBC
Blake Herzog	Yuma Sun
Susan Thorpe	Yuma County

Declaration of Votes.

The Chairman submitted to Mr. Ward a proxy letter from City of Yuma Councilmember Jacob Miller and declared his proxy vote for a total of 3 votes.

3. Call to the Public.

Charles Gutierrez, YMPO Senior Planning/Mobility Manager, announced to the Board that the YMPO Executive Assistant, Crystal Alonzo, was recently married and would be henceforth be known as Crystal Figueroa. The Chairman congratulated her and the Board gave her a round of applause. No other members of the public addressed the Board.

4. Consent Agenda.

The Chairman entertained a motion on the consent agenda, specifically approval of the minutes for the March 30, 2017 Board meeting and approval of the FY 2017 YMPO Regional Coordination Plan. Mayor Cecilia McCollough requested a correction to the spelling of her name on page 5 of the Regional Coordination Plan.

MOTION: Mayor Jose Yopez moved to approve the minutes of the March 30, 2017, Board meeting and approval of the 2017 YMPO Regional Coordination Plan, with the correction requested by Mayor McCollough. Councilmember Bill Craft seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

5. FY 2014-18 YMPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #14.

Charles Gutierrez presented information regarding the requested changes to projects in the FY 2014-18 YMPO TIP:

A. Deferral of a Yuma County STP/STBG federally funded project on the North Frontage Road from FY 2017 to FY 2018 and approving an associated "loan" of the federal funds in the amount of \$1,050,102 to ADOT. Paul Patane expressed his surprise at the deferral of this project. Charles explained that a conflicting Yuma County Flood Control District project with the roadway improvements and would likely have required the digging up of a portion of the road, unless the project was deferred. Ideally, coordination to prevent this type of conflict should have occurred prior to the project reaching this stage, but the need to defer the roadway construction is, currently, the best option. Supervisor Lynne Pancrazi and Mr. Ward both apologized to Mr. Patane for not doing a better job of coordinating with his office;

B. Charles continued and introduced three projects that would like to take advantage of the renewed Highway User Revenue Funds Exchange program (HURF swap), These are a FY 2018 Yuma County construction project on 14th Street and a Somerton design project on Cesar Chavez; the FY 2020 Somerton construction phase of the Cesar Chavez project and the FY 2020 design phase and the FY 2022 construction phase of a Yuma County project on Avenue B.

The HURF swap rules allow for ADOT to provide HURF funds at 90% of the federal funds involved and the local matching funds remain as part of the project costs. The lower amount of HURF funds is almost always offset by savings in NOT having to follow the federal guidelines associated with such projects. Finally, a portion of the 10% reduction allows for ADOT project review fees.

Charles alerted the Board that similar changes will also be made to the new FY 2018-2022 Draft YMPO TIP to reflect the requested HURF Exchanges in the appropriate years, although approval of the changes for the new TIP is not being requested at this stage.

MOTION: Supervisor Pancrazi moved to approve Amendment #14 to the FY 2014-18 YMPO TIP. Councilmember Maria Ramos seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

6. FY 2018 Draft YMPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) & Annual Budget.

Mr. Ward called out three corrections to the draft version that had been sent to Board members regarding Supervisor Ferguson, TAC Vice Chair Jennifer Albers and Jonathan Fell. The main question still pertains to the six studies and their priorities. There was a brief hiatus while photocopies were made of the different recommendations by the TAC. While the photocopies were being made, the Chairman moved onto the next agenda item.

7. Update on the FY 2018-2041 YMPO Regional Transportation Plan.

Mr. Ward gave a presentation regarding the planning assumptions underlying the development of the YMPO 2018-2041 Regional Transportation Plan and the associated Air Quality Conformity Analysis (AQCA). This presentation covered the reasons why the AQCA was done, and the who-when-why-where and what. The result was that the region's plans and programs had met the Nation Ambient Air Quality Standards, fell within the air quality maintenance plan budget and could, therefore, be approved.

Paul Patane asked a question regarding the status of a specific project on Avenue E and the alignment of a new roadway on Avenue E where it transitions to Avenue D between 195 and County 18th Street. He asked whether the UPWP contained sufficient funds to carry out an additional air quality conformity analysis for this project as it moves forward.

Mr. Ward reported that this project had recently surfaced and it appears that a Design Concept Report had been completed many years ago and an environmental clearance had been stalled for several years. However, Paul's concern was to secure rights of way within the roadway corridor prior to developers building in the alignment. Mr. Ward agreed that the project could move forward but, as construction funds did not exist, the RTP was able to move forward without the project listed under the conformity analysis. However, he committed to bringing this item back to the Board when further action was needed.

As no action was agendized for this agenda item, the Chairman moved back to the previous agenda item.

6. FY 2018 Draft YMPO UPWP & Annual Budget (continued).

The discussion returned to the prioritization of the studies and a list of the TAC's priorities was distributed. Mr. Ward suggested that the funding situation was still fluid regarding funding options. Although there have been different priorities put forward by the TAC, after some discussion, the Board decided that it was not appropriate to set priorities at this stage and we should wait until the funding situation was clearer before making the call regarding what studies to move forward with, and in what order of priority.

One suggestion was made to have a member of the TAC attend future Board meetings to answer questions regarding. Mr. Ward committed to update the funds available and to

finalize the priorities until the funds are concerned. In the meantime, this item was on the agenda to open the UPWP for public comment with possible eventual approval at the Board meeting on May 25, 2017.

The second item was a request to approve Amendment #2 to the current FY 2016-17 UPWP and he called out the line items to be changed.

The Chairman suggested that he preferred to take action on this item in two separate actions and called for a motion o Amendment #2 to the FY 2016-17 UPWP.

MOTION: Mayor Yopez moved to approve Amendment #2 to the FY 2016-17 YMPO UPWP. Councilmember Ramos seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

The Chairman then called for a motion to approve the Draft FY 2017-18 UPWP for public review.

MOTION: Mayor Yopez moved to approve the Draft FY 2017-18 UPWP for public comment. Councilmember Ramos seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

8. Possible Policy for US/SR-95.

Mr. Ward continued the dialogue regarding US/SR-95 with a brief presentation regarding the importance of the route to the Yuma region. He provided a brief history of the route and ended with an estimate of \$263 million in State funding that had been allocated to the highway during the past 16 years.

He suggested that future steps would include analyzing the documents available and recommending which segments should be completed first. Mr. Patane reported that the ADOT 5-Year Highway Program was available for review and urged Board members to provide comments as they see fit.

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

A. Staff reports.

B. The TAC minutes for April 20, 2017, were provided to members as part of the agenda packet and no formal comment or action is anticipated. The TAC meeting was one week later than the usual date due to the Roads and Streets conference in Tucson.

C. Conference Updates: The annual Arizona Transit Association meeting and the annual Roads and Streets Conference in Tucson were held in early April. Mr. Gutierrez and Melissa Ramos, YMPO Assistant Planner, attended the first conference and Mr. Ward and Mr. Gutierrez attended the second. As a result of the scheduling, the TAC meeting was deferred a week to April 20.

D. The MPOs/COGs Director's/Planner's meeting confirmed that the October Rural Transportation Summit will be in Prescott.

E. The RTAC presentation was already covered.

10. Possible Future Agenda Items

A. Audit FY 206-17

11. Progress Reports.

- A. Meeting with Rick Engineering, April 3, Paul Ward and Charles Gutierrez attended.
- B. 5310 Webinar, April 4, Charles Gutierrez and Melissa Ramos attended.
- C. 5310 Site Visit (Audit), April 7, Charles Gutierrez and Melissa Ramos attended.
- D. RTAC Board Meeting, April 10, Paul Ward attended.
- E. Meeting with Saguaro Transportation, April 10, Paul Ward attended.
- F. AZTA Conference, April 9-11, Charles Gutierrez and Melissa Ramos attended.
- G. ACEC Roads and Streets Conference, April 12-14, Paul Ward and Charles Gutierrez attended.
- H. TAC Meeting, April 20, Paul Ward and Charles Gutierrez attended.
- I. ADOT Rail Plan Workshop, April 25, Paul Ward and Charles Gutierrez attended.

12. Adjournment.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

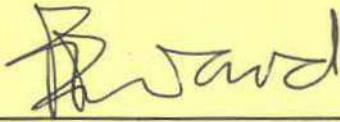
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Minutes prepared by:



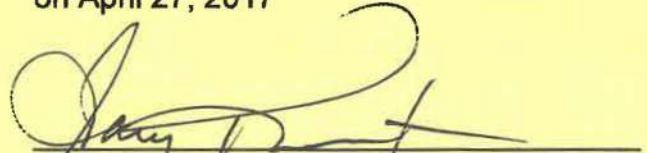
Crystal Alonzo
Accountant II/Executive Assistant

Minutes reviewed to form by:



Paul D. Ward, Executive Director
Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization

Minutes approved in regular session
on April 27, 2017



Deputy Mayor Gary Knight, Chairman
YMPO Executive Board