

*Local Governments & Citizens Working Together*

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD & Executive Session  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, April 28, 2016  
1:30 PM**

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

### **I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Executive Board Meeting called to order at 1:32 p.m. Vice Chair Gary Knight led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **II. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE YMPO EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Chairman	Russell "Russ" Clark, Board of Supervisors, Yuma County
Vice Chair	Gary Knight, Councilmember, City of Yuma
Treasurer	Cecilia McCollough, Mayor, Town of Wellton
Member	Jose Yepez, Councilmember, City of Somerton
Member	Greg Ferguson, Board of Supervisors, Yuma County
Member	Paul Patane, Southwest District Engineer, ADOT

### **YMPO EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Member	J. Deal Begay Jr., Vice Chairman, Cocopah Indian Tribe
Member	William "Bill" Craft, Deputy Mayor, City of Yuma
Member	Jacob Miller, Councilmember, City of Yuma
Member	Maria Ramos, Councilmember, City of San Luis

### **YMPO STAFF PRESENT**

Executive Director	Charlene FitzGerald
Senior Planning Manager	Charles Gutierrez
Accountant II	Vivian Hunter

### **ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES**

Gene Dalbey	Yuma Regional Bike Coalition
Tim Eisenmann	NFI (retired)

### **III. DECLARATION OF VOTES:**

Proxies submitted for Councilmember Jacob Miller and Deputy Mayor Bill Craft. Vice Chair Gary Knight declared a total of 5 votes for City of Yuma.

#### **IV. SR95 CORRIDOR PRESENTATION**

ADOT Southwest District Engineer Paul Patane updated the Executive Board on the US/SR95 Corridor focusing on the area located between Avenue 9E, up north through the Proving Grounds, to the county line. A Design Concept Report (DCR) covers the project at 15% intervals of the project. This DCR is divided into two segments totaling 16 miles and 3 bridges.

The first segment is from Avenue 9E to the Gila River, and the ultimate design configuration is five lanes with a flush median. The second segment, past the Gila River from Aberdeen Road to the county line, is designed in a highway/interstate configuration with two lanes headed northbound and two lanes headed southbound.

The DCR consists of four different phases. The project is currently in phase one at 95% design completion and includes the Fortuna wash and roundabouts.

US/SR95 fell to the side because the focus shifted to SR195. It is important to keep the US/SR95 project moving forward. The US/SR95 project will be submitted in a five-year program to the Arizona State Transportation Board June 2016.

#### **V. RURAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (RTAC) LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

RTAC Liaison Kevin Adam updated the Executive board on legislation. Mr. Adam informed the board that the transportation infrastructure is extremely underfunded, and Legislature continues to raid existing designated transportation funds.

This year, the transportation infrastructure will not receive any consideration for new revenue. Predominately decided by the private sector, a transportation measure will not be on 2016 November ballot. Mr. Adam has been working with Legislature members and Senator Bob Worsley, a member of the Transportation and Commerce Committee from East Valley, to increase support for the November ballot and to introduce a bill that would form a study committee focusing on revenue options to increase transportation funding. The report would be completed by the end of the calendar year and presented at the next legislative session requesting to be put on the 2017 or 2018 ballot. In the event that they are unsuccessful, the Arizona chamber of commerce and other private sector organizations may pursue a ballot measure, independent of Legislature, in 2017 or 2018.

More importantly, Legislature needs to be stopped from raiding existing money from Transportation. Since 2001, Legislature raided over 2 billion dollars from Transportation and diverted those funds to other state government programs such as DPS. Last year, Legislature transferred \$143 million from transportation to DPS. Congress gives some discretion to Legislature in deciding how much goes to DPS, but in statute, the amount was supposed to be a relatively nominal amount – \$20 million; however, Legislature has gone as high as \$250 million in a given year. This year, \$108 million will be transferred to DPS.

At the end of the year, the transportation fund will have an estimated ending balance of \$660 million not including the state rainy day fund, which is roughly \$470 million, for an approximated total of \$1.13 billion in reserves. At the same time, the structural balance projection is very low – only \$22 million. Meaning the transportation infrastructure expects to collect \$22 million more than anticipated spending next year. Consequently, leadership will minimize recurring spending in the new budget due to the small structural balance and allow a \$96 million one-time appropriation for transportation. \$30 million will go to the local

governments, and distributed through the local HURF distribution formulas, and the remaining \$66 million to the state system.

Out of the \$66 million, \$9.5 million will go into state highway fund, \$1.5 million to highway 60 on the Navajo Nation, \$30 million to the widening of I-10 in the Casa Grande and Eloy area, and \$25 million will go towards the SR189 from Nogales port of entry to the I-19. However, the I-10 and SR189 are conditional and depend on whether they can acquire federal grants such as the TIGER grant, FASTLANE grant, competitive programs, freight projects, and if the SR189 can be accelerated to FY 2017-2018. If the conditions are not met, the money will be freed up and remain in the state highway construction funds and not go back into the general fund. The State Transportation Board and ADOT would have discretion with that funding. If funding is used for these specific programs and identified in the 5-year program, these programs will remain in rural Arizona for other projects in later years.

Supervisor Greg Ferguson suggested that Senator Worsley not spend money conducting a revenue problem study because the identified problem is the raiding of funds.

The next RTAC meeting will be held on May 23, 2016.

Vice Chair Gary Knight questioned why DPS revenues/funding are not increased as opposed to continually transferring money from the transportation infrastructure. Increasing vehicle registration fees has been brought up in the past. Mr. Adams responded that Governor Ducey does not favor new taxes, and it costs at least \$3 million to run an unopposed statewide measure. The private sector was unsuccessful in two campaigns within the last decade and will not invest the money this year.

#### **VI. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

Gene Dalbey of Yuma Regional Bike Coalition (YRBC) discussed recent events to include a centennial plus 2 bike ride and stated it is anticipated to become an annual event. Steve Clark, a Bicycle Friendly Community Specialist from the League of American Bicyclists, will be visiting Yuma, exploring the area, and addressing the City of Yuma Council.

Councilmember Jose Yopez invited the bicycle community to Somerton.

## **VII. CONSENT AGENDA**

Vice Chair Gary Knight and Supervisor Greg Ferguson requested to amend and remove the last two sentences on item V. paragraph 4, last two sentences beginning with "to accommodate bike lanes..." because he never mentioned this. This was discussed in the TAC meeting, not the Executive Board meeting.

### **MOTION:**

Vice Chair Gary Knight motioned to approve Item A, Executive Board minutes for March 31, 2016 as amended.

Supervisor Greg Ferguson seconded the motion.

### **VOTE:**

The vote on motion was unanimous.

### **MOTION:**

Vice Chair Gary Knight motioned to approve Item B, Expenditure Report for March 2016. Treasurer Cecilia McCollough seconded the motion.

### **VOTE:**

The vote on motion was unanimous.

## **VIII. 2016 YUMA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATION PLAN**

Executive Director Charlene FitzGerald explained that YMPO Staff Charles Gutierrez is the Mobility Manager and stated a couple of changes occurred from the original documents given to the Executive Board. Somerton Councilmember Jose Yepez and a San Luis inventory were added. Ms. FitzGerald explained that San Luis was new to the program as of October 2015. Saguaro Foundation, Achieve, Horizon, and the City of San Luis are requesting funds to purchase vehicles with 5310 funds. YMPO is requesting approval of the 2016 Yuma Regional Transportation Coordination Plan in order to submit to ADOT.

Vice Chair Gary Knight stated there were a couple of errors on page 5. Councilmember Bill Craft should read Deputy Mayor Bill Craft, and Deputy Mayor Gary Knight should read Councilmember Gary Knight.

### **MOTION:**

Supervisor Greg Ferguson motioned to approve the 2016 Yuma Regional Transportation Coordination Plan as corrected.

Councilmember Gary Knight seconded the motion.

### **VOTE:**

The vote on motion was unanimous.

## **IX. FY 2017 UPWP / BUDGET**

Executive Director Charlene FitzGerald explained a couple of changes occurred from the original documents given to the Executive Board. Somerton Councilmember Jose Yepez was added, and the CTAA, a mobility management conference, was added to out of state travel.

Ms. FitzGerald explained that some of the carry forward amount from FY2016 was apportioned to the Freight Study plan and that she had planned to research more funding grants to fund the study. However, some if not all, of the funds apportioned to the Freight Study may transfer to



the Air Quality task to hire a consultant to assist with the EPA Ozone in the future. Ms. FitzGerald will have a better idea once she writes the Air Quality Plan and attends meetings and discussions with EPA.

YMPO staff requested approval of the FY 2016 UPWP / Budget as presented.

**MOTION:**

Vice Chair Gary Knight motioned to approve FY 2017 UPWP / Budget.  
Treasurer Cecilia McCollough seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

The vote on motion was unanimous.

**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**XI. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC MEETING**

**XII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT/SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS/BOARD MEMBER REPORTS & COMMENT**

- A. STAFF REPORTS
- B. TAC MINUTES
- C. CONFERENCE UPDATES
- D. MPO/COG DIRECTOR/PLANNER MEETINGS
- E. RTAC
- F. PROJECTS-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION
- G. MPO BORDER TO BORDER CONFERENCE
- H. LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2018 – 2041

**XIII. POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. SAN LUIS TRANSIT CIRCULATOR STUDY
- B. SAN LUIS WIFI PENETRATION STUDY
- C. SAN LUIS TRAFFIC GPS STUDY – MAIN STREET-ADOT
- D. PRESENTATION ON TAX INITIATIVES – MAY
  - a. Coconino County
  - b. Pima Association of Governments (PAG)
  - c. Yavapai County
  - d. City of Phoenix

Supervisor Greg Ferguson asked why YMPO was going to discuss tax initiatives when they have no authority. Executive Director Charlene FitzGerald explained that Councilmember Maria Ramos requested a presentation on tax initiatives. Vice Chair Gary Knight would like to hear the presentation as well.

- E. TITLE VI PLAN – JUNE/JULY

**XIV. PROGRESS REPORTS**

- A. HSIP and Safety Performance Management Measures Final Rules Overview, April 1, Charles Gutierrez participated
- B. San Luis Transit Circulator Study Route Alternatives Discussion, April 1, Charlene FitzGerald participated

- C. **Border Trade Committee**, April 5, Charles Gutierrez attended
- D. **JWC meeting**, April 6 - 7, Charlene FitzGerald attended
- E. **Yuma County Community Focus Group**, April 7, Charles Gutierrez attended
- F. **AzTA Conference**, April 11-12, Charlene FitzGerald and Charles Gutierrez attended
- G. **ADOT LRTP**, April 12, Charlene FitzGerald participated
- H. **Regional Coordination Meeting**, April 13, Charlene FitzGerald, Charles Gutierrez, and Melissa Ramos attended
- I. **San Luis Council meeting**, April 14, Charles Gutierrez attended
- J. **ADEQ/EPA Ozone Boundary**, April 14, Charlene FitzGerald attended
- K. **TAC Meeting**, April 14, Charles Gutierrez and Melissa Ramos attended
- L. **State Transportation Board meeting**, April 15, Charlene FitzGerald and Board Member Gary Knight attended
- M. **Executive Board Meeting**, April 28, Charlene FitzGerald, Charles Gutierrez and Vivian Hunter attended

## **XV. ADJOURNMENT**

**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 Charlene FitzGerald at 928-783-8911.

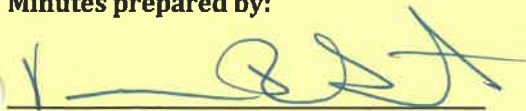
### **MOTION:**

Vice Chair Gary Knight motioned to adjourn the meeting.  
Councilmember Jose Yepez seconded the motion.

### **VOTE:**

The vote on motion was unanimous.  
Meeting adjourned at 2:34p.m.

**Minutes prepared by:**



Vivian R. Hunter  
Accountant II

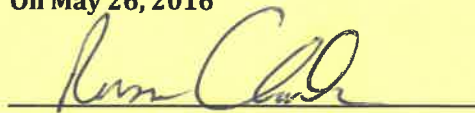
**Minutes reviewed to form by:**



Charlene FitzGerald, Executive Director  
Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization

**Minutes adopted in regular session**

**On May 26, 2016**



Russell "Russ" Clark, Chairman  
YMPO Executive Board