

Rural Task Force #3 Meeting

March 27, 2017

Road Commission of Kalamazoo County - Kalamazoo, MI

Members in Attendance:

Angela Kline	Calhoun County Road Department
Trent Arver	Branch County Road Commission
Ryan Minkus	Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
Jacob Welch	Barry County Road Commission
Chris Minger	St. Joseph County Road Commission

Others in Attendance:

Kathy Schultz	Kalamazoo Metro Transit
Debbie Jung	Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
Elizabeth Renaud	Mashall Dial-A-Ride
Jamie Baker	Oshtemo Township
Garrett Myland	St. Joseph County Road Commission
Kara Derrickson	Branch Area Transit Authority
Fred Nagler	Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study

Call to Order

Chair Minkus called the meeting to order at 1:12 p.m. at the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County

Approval of January 11, 2017 Rural Task Force 3# Meeting Minutes

No comments or changes were offered to the draft minutes of the June 20, 2016 minutes.

MOTION by Welch, SUPPORT by Minger, "***to approve the January 11, 2017 Rural Task Force #3 Minutes as presented.***" Motion passed.

Review of 2017 Projects and Target Balances

Nagler presented the current STL and EDD obligation authority targets and balances.

Kline noted that the agreement for trading STL funding between Branch and Calhoun was fully approved. She stated that Calhoun proposes to program its full STL balance for 2017 to 25 ½ Mile Road and to reduce its EDD programming for 28 Mile Road by \$62,780.

Task Force members discussed the most recent increase in EDD targets from MDOT. It was generally agreed that the increase should be distributed to the counties as per the MDOT spreadsheet. Kline proposed and Minkus agreed that Calhoun use Kalamazoo's allotment of EDD for 2017 and pay it back in 2018.

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MOTION by Kline, SUPPORT by Welch ***“to distribute the region’s most recent increased EDD obligation authority as shown by the Michigan Department of Transportation; that Calhoun County program \$22,859 in EDD funding from Kalamazoo County in 2017 to be paid back in 2018; and that Calhoun County program \$288,091 in STL funding for 25 ½ Mile Road in 2017.*** Motion passed.

Welch indicated that Barry County’s proposal to use the additional available EDD funding fell within administrative adjustment limits but decided to seek Task Force approval nonetheless.

MOTION by Welch, SUPPORT by Kline ***“to change programming for Barry County’s 2017 Lawrence Road project as follows: increase EDD funding to 391,578, decrease local funding to \$56,992 and reduce the total cost to \$2,242,849.”*** Motion Passed

Updates of 2018 – 2020 Projects

MOTION by Kline, SUPPORT by Welch ***“that Calhoun County deduct \$22,859 in EDD funding from the 2018 County-wide Preventive Maintenance project; and Kalamazoo County add \$22,859 in EDD funding to its 2018 D Avenue project and reduce the local cost by the same amount.”*** Motion passed.

Review of Bylaws

Suggestions of changes to various sections of the bylaws were made. It was agreed that Nagler will compile the suggestions in a draft revision and distribute them to Task Force members for their consideration. Any potential amendments will be put forward for approval at the next full Task Force meeting.

Public Comment

Garrett Myland raised a concern stemming from the individual county EDD carry-forward amounts shown by MDOT on the most recent target spreadsheet. He said that the carry-forward amounts indicate that Barry and Branch counties have programmed significantly more, and Kalamazoo and St. Joseph significantly less than their target EDD funding amounts in previous years. He believed that it would be fair for the two counties with higher carry forward amounts to be allowed to program more in EDD and the two with large negative carry forwards to program less over time to balance the discrepancy. Task Force members discussed the matter. Some believe group consensus at previous meetings was that past balances for both EDD and STL were reconciled and no further corrective action is warranted. Questions were raised regarding the methodology used by MDOT to calculate EDD carry forward amounts and whether they take into account past practices of trading EDD and STL between counties. A suggestion was made that moving forward the Task Force use target numbers as given by MDOT and any trading between counties be balanced within the current call period. After discussion was finished, it was agreed that Nagler will contact MDOT Planning staff and ask for an explanation of how carry-forward totals are calculated and whether trading within a task force is taken into account. Arver indicated he possesses old RTF tracking spreadsheets and he will make them available to the rest of the task force. Task Force members will take into consideration whatever information is received and will bring the subject back for discussion at a future meeting.

Other Business

A reminder was given of the Michigan Rural Transportation Conference on March 30 in Mt. Pleasant. It was noted that the afternoon timeframe was less than optimal for some members.

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Adjourn

MOTION by Kline, SUPPORT by Arver, ***“to adjourn the meeting.”*** Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

Minutes approved: _____, 201_

Questions or comments on these minutes can be directed to:

Fred Nagler

Associate Planner

Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study

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