

Rural Task Force #3 Meeting

December 20, 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
Brian Sanada	Michigan Department of Transportation

Others in Attendance:

Tony Bowling	Village of Tekonsha
Gary White	Village of Tekonsha
Kristine Parsons	Calhoun County Road Department
Gary Tompkins	Calhoun County Board of Commissioners
Steve Yorks	St. Joseph County Transit
Steve Deisler	Texas Township
Sean McBride	Kalamazoo Metro Transit
Jamie Baker	Oshtemo Township
Jerry VanderRoest	Charleston Township
Garrett Myland	St. Joseph County Road Commission
Kara Derrickson	Branch Area Transit Authority
Fred Nagler	Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study
Brad Lamberg	Barry County Road Commission

Call to Order

Chair Minkus called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. at the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County

Approval of March 27, 2017 Rural Task Force 3# Meeting Minutes

No comments or changes were offered to the draft minutes of the March 27, 2017 meeting.

MOTION by Kline, SUPPORT by Minger, ***“to approve the March 27, 2017 Rural Task Force #3 Meeting Minutes as presented.”*** Motion passed.

Phone Call with Don Mayle of MDOT Planning

Mr. Mayle, the new Rural Task Force program manager for the Michigan Department of Transportation joined the meeting at approximately 10:12. He opened by discussing the new MDOT policy of not allowing counties with negative EDD balances obligate EDD funding. There were questions from task force members regarding the method used to determine individual county balances. It was noted that in prior years deals had been made within the task force to forego EDD funding for several years in order to program larger projects and that such deals may not be properly reflected in the current balance calculations. Mr. Mayle agreed to pull reports from as far back as possible to illustrate how the balances were determined and provide them to Welch and Nagler, who will distribute them to the rest of the task force.

Mr. Mayle stated that MDOT is in the process of working to see that the map of all-season "D" routes is up to date. He will send pdf and shape files of the maps to Nagler who will distribute them to the rest of the task force members.

It is anticipated that the new guidelines for the County Local Federal Fund Exchange Pilot program will be completed by January. In response to a question he said that counties must have their projects prioritized and in the TIP prior to the sale of federal funds to counties outside of the RTF so that it can be documented that the planning process is being followed and work on those RTF-approved federal aid projects is still being done. In response to another inquiry, he said that trading EDD for MTF funds within the RTF is acceptable as long as he is informed so that MDOT Finance can make the proper adjustments to the individual counties' EDD balances.

More discussion took place regarding the EDD balances and how they were determined. Barry County will send Mr. Mayle copies of previous years' balance sheets in their files. Mr. Mayle suggested that the group not make any changes to the EDD program until he has a chance to see that everything is in order with the balances.

Review of 2018 Projects and Target Balances

Nagler presented the current STL and EDD obligation authority targets and balances. More discussion was had regarding targets and balances and difference in how federal and state funding is currently being accounted for within the RTF by MDOT.

MOTION by Arver, SUPPORT by Welch **"to not make any changes to currently approved EDD targets and to change the Region Approved Target amount to the MDOT Obligation Constraint Target for STL."** Motion passed after discussion regarding obligation timeframe.

MOTION by Arver, SUPPORT by Kline **"to transfer \$40,000 of EDD from Branch to Calhoun for 2018, to be repaid in 2019."** Motion Passed.

MOTION by Myland, SUPPORT by Welch **"to delete St. Joseph County's 2018 Featherstone Road, Fawn River and Michigan Avenue/Silver Street projects and to add a 2018 Countywide Preventive Maintenance Project for \$526,843 in STL and \$131,711 in local cost."** Motion Passed

Discussion of Fund Exchanges within RTF #3

Arver and Kline indicated that Branch County is working on an agreement with Calhoun County for exchange of STL funding at a rate to be agreed upon.

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MOTION by Welch, SUPPORT by Kline ***“to approve a trade between Branch and Calhoun counties where Branch will sell all their 2018 STL funding.”*** Motion Passed after discussion and indication from Branch County Transit of their approval.

Discussion of Fund Exchanges Outside of RTF #3

St. Joseph and Barry Counties are in discussion with Jackson County to sell them all their STL funds not already allocated to transit projects. Barry County does not have a total dollar amount yet as it will depend on the status of the EDD fund balance review. It was agreed that no action would be taken at this time.

Updates of 2019 – 2020 Projects

Branch County indicated that they would like to move their 2018 Sherwood project to 2019 and the 2020 Transit project to 2018, keeping the funding levels the same. It was noted that this can be done via Administrative Modification but members of the Task Force informally indicated their approval.

St. Joseph Transit indicated that their 2020 project is incorrectly listed as a Bus Shelter and should be changed to a Bus Replacement.

MOTION by Welch, SUPPORT by Minger ***“to delete the Barry County 2019 Hickory Road project and add a Replacement Transit Vehicle for \$50,000 in STL funding, and add Countywide Preventive Maintenance for the remainder of available STL and EDD with no local match.”*** Motion passed.

Review of Bylaws

Copies of the current and proposed revised bylaws were included in the meeting packet. Minkus suggested two changes to make wording and terminology more consistent with the remainder of the document.

MOTION by Welch, SUPPORT by Kline ***“to approve the revised bylaws, amended as suggested by Minkus.”*** Motion Passed. Nagler will make the changes and bring the final draft to the next full RTF #3 meeting for signatures of the five county representatives.

Public Comment

Tony Bowling and Gary White of the Village of Tekonsha expressed interest in having a Preventive Maintenance project in the village added to the RTF Transportation Improvement Program. It was suggested that they attend the Calhoun County Local Task Force meeting that will be with the 2020 – 2023 Call for Projects, as the 2017 – 2020 TIP is already programmed.

Spring 2018 Meeting Schedule

It was decided that a meeting should be scheduled for mid to late January to revisit programming of EDD projects and finalize details for any federal fund exchanges outside of RTF #3. This should give MDOT and locals time to locate and review historical documentation of individual county balances and finalize the new fund exchange guidelines. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 31, 2018 at the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County. The date may be changed if the needed information is not ready by then.

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Other Business

No other business was brought forth.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Minutes approved: January 31, 2018

Questions or comments on these minutes can be directed to:

Fred Nagler
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Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study
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