

Northwest Missouri Transportation Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting Minutes, November 1, 2016

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Bob Westfall at 6:15 pm at the Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments. Dinner was served.

Roll Call

Roll call was completed by sign-in sheet and introductions were made around the room. The following members and guests were present:

TAC Members

Regan Nonneman, Worth County
David Carroll, Holt County
Gary Carlson, Gentry County
Kathy Morgan, Gentry County
Curtis Livengood, Atchison County
Bob Westfall, Nodaway County
Bruce Johnson, Gentry County
Jim Fletchall, Worth County
Bob Stiens, Nodaway County
Ted Findley, Worth County

Ex-Officio Members

Shannon Kusilek, District Planner, MoDOT
Michael Rinehart, Area Engineer, MoDOT

NWMORCOG Staff

Jackie Spainhower, Executive Director
Steve Houts, Program Assistant

Guests

Tyler Paxon
Gene Auten

Introductions

Went around the table and introductions were made. Jackie introduced Steve Houts, who has been hired by the Regional Council as a program assistant. Steve will assist with several transportation projects currently underway.

Minutes

A motion was made by Kathy Morgan and seconded by Bob Stiens to approve the minutes from the August 9, 2016 meeting. Motion passed.

Old Business

Road Safety Assessment

Jackie Spainhower reported that the County Road Assessments for Holt and Worth counties funded with CDBG disaster funding are running behind schedule. Should be able to make up time now that Steve Houts has been hired to assist with the projects.

Synopsis of Blueprint Grant Ranking

Spainhower reported due to the timing of the Blueprint for Roadway Safety grant process, a poll of the membership was taken in late September as to how members would like to rate the received projects: email or by hosting a special meeting. It was split and so the decision was to have members review the grants independently and then have Jackie tally the scores and provide the rankings. This took place in mid-October and the rankings were provided to MoDOT staff on October 14. Information and the ranking

were provided to the members. (See attached ranking sheet.) Jackie stated that since the grants have not yet been reviewed, it would be a good idea to have the TAC members discuss any concerns with the rankings. Jackie reviewed the grants with the members and a discussion took place. There were no changes to the rankings. **A motion was made by Bob Stiens and seconded by Ted Findley to approve the rankings as-is and confirm this with MoDOT staff. Motion passed.**

New Business

Process for Collecting Proposed Projects

Spainhower asked for confirmation from Shannon Kusilek on the timeline for the upcoming Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. The response is that MoDOT will start programming in January with the draft STIP ready by March of 2017. Hearing this, Jackie and Steve will visit with the county commissions between now and then end of November to collect both project needs (improvements on routes with 400+ ADT) and maintenance needs (improvements on routes with 400 or less ADT). All potential bridge projects are eligible for STIP funding. Jackie will provide this information to Shannon the first week in December so that he can provide safety and other data to the Regional Council. Prioritization will take place at the January 2017 meeting. Looking for projects in 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Great Northwest Day Priorities Discussion

Jackie explained that the Great Northwest Day steering committee is taking a different approach this year to collect issues to take down to the legislators in February 2017; the group is asking existing regional groups to provide input rather than going county by county. A discussion took place on what the Northwest Regional TAC should submit as the top priorities. **Ted Findley made a motion and seconded by David Carroll to have the top issue be support for a 5.9 cent gas tax increase for transportation projects. Motion passed.**

Kathy Morgan made a motion and seconded by Bob Stiens to have the second issue be support for a regional policy division/office in the state of Missouri. Motion passed.

MoDOT Updates-Shannon Kusilek

- Kusilek provided an update on recent projects let by the Highways and Transportation Commission, including resurface and shoulders on Highway 136 from Tarkio to Route M. Project is a 1 ¾ in overlay and 2 ft shoulder with rumble strips. Coming awards will include Worth County bridges on 46 and 246; resurfacing of Highway 111 between Corning and Craig; resurfacing of Highway 113 from Burlington Junction to Route B. January they look to award painting of the newly re-decked bridges on Route JJ, Route FF, Route U and Route 71 in Nodaway County. It was noted that the two bridges on I-29 in Holt County, south of Mound City over Davis Creek and an abandoned RR, will be moved to a May 2017 bid opening. MoDOT is having issues acquiring the needed right of way.
- Transportation Alternative Programs applications were due to the Northwest District Office on November 1. At noon there were only four (4) projects

submitted, none from our five counties. Jackie mentioned that Stanberry should be submitting a sidewalk application before the deadline.

- Shannon discussed the LEAP program which is a pilot program that will allow local public agencies (LPAs) take more control over their federally funded programs, such as TAP and BRO. This is most likely not a good fit for the small communities in our region.

MoDOT Updates-Mike Rinehart

- Mike handed out two fact sheets on the tobacco issues that will be on the November 8 ballot. (See attached.) The first is Constitutional Amendment 3, which is supported by big tobacco business and the 60 cent tax will go towards early childhood education. Proposition A is supported by the convenience stores and small tobacco companies and increases the tax by 23 cents per pack. This proposition if fully implemented could provide \$90M in new revenue to the state, and does include a designation of some of those funds for transportation. The poison pill with Proposition A is that if at any time in the future any other ballot issue is put forth regarding tobacco, this one goes away. The concern: what if they both pass? Will they both be tied up in the legal system? At this time, it is still unknown. Mike provided his opinion that he will vote for Prop A, as it will provide some funding for transportation, even if only temporarily. Legislators do not support either.
- Project updates were provided. Holt Highway 118 is done, resurfacing and shoulders. Gentry Highway 169, C & C deck replacements complete. Route JJ and Route FF re-decks are complete. Route N bridge replacement over the East Fork of Tarkio Creek is complete. Worth Highway 46 resurfacing will be completed next season, working on Highway 169 now. Currently working on Route C in Nodaway County on bank stabilization. A slip lane onto Highway 71 southbound at Kawasaki is close to construction. Work is being done via permit. Hoping to do some dirt work before winter. Six miles of US 136 will be reserved next season, from Route O to Route M in Atchison County.
- Will be submitting an application for FLAP funding to complete preventative maintenance (micro-resurface) on Highway 159 in Holt County near Squaw Creek. Jackie will provide Mike with a letter of support for the project.
- Shared the results of a seatbelt survey that was conducted in Nodaway County. (See attached.)

Other Business

Next TAC will be January 5, 2017 at the Regional Council of Governments. Normally the quarterly meeting would take place in February, but a conflict exists with Great Northwest Day at the Capitol.

Adjourn

Kathy Morgan made a motion to adjourn at 7:35 p.m., seconded by Ted Findley. Motion passed.

Chairman or Vice-Chairman

Minutes recorded by Jackie Spainhower