

43 **V. Transition of representative for the City of Denison-**
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45 Mr. Johnson presented a resolution from the city council from the City of Denison appointing Mayor
46 Robert Brady as their representative. Chairman Short asked for a motion to approve Mayor Brady
47 as the representative from Denison. Mayor Magers made the motion. The motion was seconded by
48 Bobby Littlefield. The motion passed unanimously.
49

50 **VI. Recognition of Tom Speakman for years of service to the Transportation Policy Board -**
51

52 Chairman Short presented Mr. Speakman with a plaque thanking him for over 17 years of service
53 representing not only the city of Denison but all interests within the Sherman-Denison study area.
54

55 *In an effort to improve the flow of agenda items, Chairman Short requested that items XIV - FTA*
56 *5307 transit funds, XV - MOU between MPO and TCOG and XVI - contract with MPO, TCOG &*
57 *TxDOT be moved forward. The sequence will resume with item VIII - Small Cities Representative*
58 *afterwards.*
59

60 **XIV. Request to move urban FTA 5307 transit funds from TCOG to TAPS -**
61

62 Mr. Wood briefly explained the history of the small urban 5307 transit funds at the COG. This move
63 would allow for consolidation and reduction in costs. The financial stability at TAPS as well as the
64 increased volume of work required under SAFETEA-LU for transportation planning makes this a
65 good time for this transition. Mr. Wood went on to explain that he has two jobs (MPO job and the
66 grant manager for the MPO area). Both jobs are taking more time and hurting one or the other by
67 trying to do both. TAPS already prepares the paperwork. TxDOT indicated that they did not have
68 any objection to the move. A small amount of work will remain with the MPO ‘for planning
69 purposes only’. Currently the MPO receives \$64,000 (FTA Section 5307 grant) for planning
70 purposes. Of this the MPO would move \$20,000 to TAPS. Mr. Wood stated that he still needs to
71 go to the cities of Sherman and Denison as well as TCOG with resolutions for this purpose. They
72 would all have to agree. However, if the policy board does not agree since the final decision for
73 federal funding is made by the MPO, he cannot proceed. Chairman Short reiterated to the board that
74 this would free up Mr. Wood to do more planning as well as provide TAPS with some additional
75 funding. Chairman Short asked for a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion made by Mayor
76 Magers and seconded by Mayor Brady. The motion passed unanimously.
77

78 **XV. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between MPO and Fiscal Agent (TCOG) -**
79

80 Mr. Wood explained to the board TxDOT’s request for all MPO’s to update their contracts. Part of
81 that update requires that the MPO board have a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with its fiscal
82 agent. Mayor Magers asked what was being paid on that. Mr. Wood said that includes the salaries
83 of staff with direct on site overhead as well administrative overhead. Mayor Magers asked what it
84 represented. Mr. Wood stated that the figure is 17% of salary and benefits. Mayor Brady asked if
85 Mr. Wood would be working exclusively for the MPO. Mr. Wood stated that once the 5307 issue

86 is addressed he would be. Chairman Short stated that the cost issue is why he had considered
87 moving the MPO to TAPS (lower overhead). The MPO would have gone there for ‘half the cost’.
88 However, due to the financial problems TAPS encountered last year, the matter was not pursued
89 further. Chairman Short stated ‘if we can get a better deal’ we should consider it. Mayor Brady
90 made a motion to approve the contract. Danny Offill seconded the motion to approve the MOU
91 between the MPO and TCOG. The motion passed unanimously.
92

93 **XVI. Contract with MPO, TCOG & TxDOT -**
94

95 Mr. Wood stated that the current contract has been in place for eight or nine years and has been
96 extended every year. The state has been trying to get all the MPO to change over to the new contract.
97 Mayor Magers asked what was new. Mr. Wood stated that the state wants to make sure that the
98 MPO board is responsible for planning and that the MPO staff is responsive to the board. There
99 have been some instances that the MPO staff has to respond to the fiscal agent and not the board.
100 That has caused some ‘heart burn’ with TxDOT and Federal Highways. This contract delineates
101 some of those responsibilities. ‘It basically means that I work for you (MPO board) and you alone.’
102 Chairman Short reiterated that the board by federal law is the MPO not TCOG. Mr. Wood
103 explained how at times this has caused some ‘trouble’ because on his ‘second job’ he is also the
104 transit grant manager. That is strictly under TCOG. Under that scenario he has two bosses. Danny
105 Offill made a motion to accept the contract as written. The motion was seconded by Bobby
106 Littlefield. The motion passed unanimously.
107

108 *At this point, Chairman Short resumed the agenda sequence with agenda item VII - MPO By-Laws*
109

110 **VII. MPO By-Laws -**
111

112 Mr. Wood let the board know that these are the first by-laws for the board. The draft document was
113 brought before the board previously. The staff made appropriate changes as requested by the board.
114 Mr. Littlefield asked that on the cover sheet we needed to add the city of Gunter. Danny Offill
115 asked if the board had agreed to only have the cities of Sherman, Denison and Grayson County be
116 eligible for the chairman position. At that point Mr. Offill moved “to strike the mpo chairman to be
117 elected from representatives from Dension, Sherman and Grayson County. I think it ought to be
118 from any other member of the board”. Chairman Short asked for a second. With no second to the
119 motion, the motion died. Mayor Magers commented that as the county grows the make up of the
120 board will change and at that time the issue could be revisited. Mayor Magers made a motion to
121 adopt the by-laws with the one change (Gunter). The motion was seconded by Mayor Brady. The
122 motion passed unanimously.
123

124 *At this point Chairman Short ceded the Chair to Mayor Magers.*
125

126 **VIII. Small Cities Representative -**
127

128 With the adoption of the by-laws under Article I - Organization and Management, Chairman Magers

129 accepted the city of Pottsboro as the next small cities representative. The term runs for two years
130 through October 2010. At the regularly scheduled meeting on October 7, 2008, the city council of
131 Pottsboro, passed a resolution was appointing Mayor Budra to represent the City of Pottsboro. The
132 motion to accept Mayor Budra as the small cities representative was made by Commissioner Short
133 and seconded by Mayor Brady of Denison. The motion passed unanimously.

134
135 Mr. Littlefield thanked Danny Offill for being the small cities representative stating that he has been
136 the most active small cities rep the MPO board has had.

137
138 **IX. Vice Chair for Transportation Policy Board -**

139
140 Commissioner Short nominated Mayor Robert Brady of Denison to be Vice-Chair of the board. The
141 motion was seconded by Mr. Littlefield. Motion passed unanimously.

142
143 **X. 2030 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Amendment -**

144
145 Mr. Johnson began his presentation by reminding the board that it had previously adopted the
146 Category 3 (Urban Mobility) projects. The projects were prioritized based on ranking by the board.
147 The top project was the construction at the intersection of FM 691 and US 75. He went on to explain
148 that before a project is selected for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) it must first be
149 listed in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Chairman Magers asked Mr. Johnson to
150 further clarify why this project was to be 'elevated' to the MTP while the rest were not. Mr.
151 Johnson explained that there was a need to expedite this project due to the new development
152 occurring at the FM 691/US 75 intersection. Mr. Johnson went on to explain that all projects would
153 be added to the metropolitan transportation plan with the next iteration of the document. Mayor
154 Magers contention was that the four lanes at that intersection would not be needed until the
155 development at the subject intersection were in place. He stated that during the consultant's
156 presentation he made such a statement. That it was not a priority in the next five years. His concern
157 is that with the consultant making that statement, the board is making that project a priority and is
158 ready to approve \$3,000,000 for the project. Mr. Littlefield went on to explain that the Metropolitan
159 Transportation Plan (MTP) is a 30 year document and can be reviewed every year. The process is
160 ongoing. Mr. Johnson added that staff is in the process of updating the MTP. Mr. Littlefield added
161 that both the MTP and TIP were fiscally constrained documents. Chairman Magers felt that the 'deal
162 had been changed'. Mr. Wood explained that the best solution at the time was to place this one
163 project on the MTP, while adding the rest during the update to the document since it will be updated
164 next year. Mr. Littlefield interjected that this (Category 3 Urban Mobility) is an eleven year plan. Mr.
165 Short stated that there is plenty of time to get the rest of the projects in the MTP. Mr. Littlefield
166 reminded the board that the priority (Category 3) list can be changed by the board. Chairman Magers
167 felt that he understood that the list had been agreed upon 'between neighbors' but that since this was
168 the only project being added to the MTP, the only consideration of a ten or eleven year plan was to
169 this project. Commissioner Short that all that money is not going to be available at one time. Mr.
170 Littlefield went on to explain that our study area would have \$24,000,000 over the next eleven years
171 for category 3 projects. They (TxDOT) have not told us which year we would get 'any of this

172 money'. As of today we have zero. A motion was made by Mayor Brady and seconded by
173 Commissioner Short. Motion passed unanimously.

174
175 **XI. Proposed amendment to FY 2008 - 2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)-**

176
177 Based on the need to further clarify the process and gather additional information, this agenda item
178 was tabled by the board. It will be placed in a future agenda. Mayor Brady moved to table the item.
179 Seconded by Mayor Budra. The motion passed unanimously.

180
181 **XII. Prioritization of Category 3 (Urban Mobility) 'backlog' projects -**

182
183 Mr. Johnson presented to the board the request by TxDOT's Assistant Executive Director of
184 Engineering and Operations to prepare a list of 'backlog' projects should the state legislature approve
185 \$18.7 million in construction costs. The list would be provided to the Texas Transportation
186 Commission for consideration. The deadline given to all statewide mpos' was November 1, 2008.

187
188 After some discussion amongst the board members they voted to rank the backlog list as follows:

- 189
190 • FM 120 (Denison) from York to SH 91 - Construct 5 lane roadway with Continuous
191 Two Way Left-Turn Lanes (CTWLTL) **\$4,900,000.00**
192 • FM 120 (Pottsboro) from FM 996 to SH 289 - Construct 4 lane roadway with raised
193 median **\$6,820,000.00**
194 • FM 120 (Pottsboro) from SH 289 to FM 406 - Construct 4 lane roadway with raised
195 median **\$8,525,000.00**

196
197 A motion was made by Mayor Brady to approve the list. It was seconded by Commissioner Short.
198 Motion passed unanimously.

199
200 **XIII. Draft FM 691 Corridor Study-**

201
202 Chairman Magers asked Mr. Johnson if the draft document was the same as the one previously
203 mailed. Mr. Johnson responded affirmatively. At that point Chairman Magers pointed out a
204 'misquote' on page 37 of the draft study which states..... "*The planned development of the Texoma*
205 *Medical Center on the northeast quadrant as well as the hotel/convention Center and Town Center*
206 *on the northwest quadrant will produce an immediate need for capacity improvements.*" Per
207 Chairman Magers 'that is not what the engineer said'. "What the engineer said was 'when the
208 northwest corner of (FM) 691 and (US) 75 develops, that will produce the need for four lanes.
209 Mayor Brady asked when the comment was made, Mr. Johnson stated that the comment was made
210 during the consultants presentation. Mayor Brady asked if we could get clarification on that
211 statement, Mr. Johnson said that the document the board was looking at was a draft and it could be
212 corrected. Mr. Johnson reiterated that this was only a document to be used for a plan for potential
213 improvement which may be needed. Chairman Magers repeated that what the consultant said was
214 there was no immediate need to do four lanes until the northwest corner..develops. He again stated

215 that the sentence was not right. Commissioner Short read the sentence and said..”what he is
216 saying..the northwest quadrant has got to develop before the need is there. That is what he is
217 saying.” Mayor Magers said “To me that is not what he is saying. We have different definitions of
218 a need.” Mayor Brady stated “That’s the way I read it.” We can change the verbiage to be more
219 specific can’t we? Mr. Johnson stated that the document was a draft. Mayor Magers said that years
220 from now when people read this document and dollars begin to kick in, I would like it to reflect
221 accurately what was said. What the consultant said was...’TMC and CIGNA don’t create a problem,
222 its only after the hotel and town center go in that it creates a problem.’ Commissioner Short said he
223 agreed with that. Mayor Brady stated that he agreed with the way Gene reads it. Chairman Magers
224 asked if we could table the item. Mayor Brady asked if there was any urgency to get the document
225 approved today. Mayor Brady made a motion to table the item. He wanted to get Mr. Speakman,
226 the city manager and the city engineer look at the document in more detail. There may be other
227 things I want to talk about. Commissioner Short seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
228

229 **XVII. Executive Session -**

230
231 Commissioner Short moved that the board go to executive session to discuss personnel matter. The
232 motion was seconded by Chairman Magers. The board went into executive session at 10:25 am and
233 returned at 10:40 am. Taking no action in executive session.
234

235 **XVIII. Public Comments -**

236
237 Commissioner Short made a recommendation that staff meet independently with, Mayor Budra,
238 Mayor Brady and Chairman Magers to go over the organization and how we operate.
239

240 Ms. Pelley gave the board an update on TAPS. They have reduced their aged payables to \$14,000
241 from \$300,000. They have been current with their payments. Have reduced their loan ‘in half’.
242 They have transition to put elected officials on their board and replace non elected officials.
243

244 **XIX. Adjournment -**

245
246 The TPB meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.
247