

MINUTES

AMARILLO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Policy Advisory Committee for the Amarillo Metropolitan Planning Organization met at 1:30 p.m., December 11, 2008, in Room 306 of City Hall, 509 South East 7th Avenue, Amarillo, Texas.

Voting members present were: Alan Taylor, Howard Holland, Kenneth Petr, David Miller, Tracy Cain, Vicki Covey, Judy Phelps, Michael Rice, and Taylor Withrow.

Voting members not present were: Arthur Ware, Gene Parker, and Ernie Houdashell.

Staff coordinators present: Gary Holwick and Travis Muno.

Item 1. Consideration of approval of the October 23, 2008 meeting minutes.

Alan Taylor, City Manager, called the meeting to order. He introduced and welcomed Tracy Cain, the new TxDOT Amarillo District Design Engineer. The minutes of the previous meeting on October 23, 2008, were presented. Mr. Taylor asked if there were any changes or deletions; there were none. Howard Holland, TxDOT District Engineer, made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Taylor Withrow, City of Amarillo Traffic Engineer, seconded the motion. The motion was carried on a 9:0 vote.

Item 2. Consideration of Bylaws for the Amarillo Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Mr. Taylor stated that in continuance of the discussion at the previous Policy Advisory Committee meeting in October, he would open the discussion to consider changing the structure of the MPO committee to include more diverse participation rather than consisting primarily of City of Amarillo and TxDOT staff. He stated that he thought participation of more elected officials and citizen representation would be beneficial and possibly be a catalyst for additional state and federal transportation funding for the area.

He introduced Randy Criswell, City Manager of the City of Canyon, and said that the Extended Territorial Jurisdiction of the cities of Amarillo and Canyon have grown to where they now touch one another. Mr. Taylor proposed that the inclusion of City of Canyon representatives on the MPO Policy Committee would have a positive impact on the future of both cities.

Gary Holwick, MPO Director, referred to the draft of MPO Bylaws included with the committee's information packet. MPO staff had prepared this draft for the committee's review. The purpose of the bylaws was to provide a more diverse membership for the MPO and result in greater local participation in the transportation planning process. He explained that the City of Canyon was not currently inside the MPO boundary, but after Census 2010 the boundaries may need to be redrawn or redesignated by the Governor. He said the City of Canyon was eligible to participate as an ex-officio member of the MPO at the present time until they could be considered as a voting member at some point in the future.

Randy Criswell stated that the City of Canyon welcomed the opportunity to participate in the MPO. Howard Holland suggested other entities to be considered for participation: Potter and Randall Counties, Panhandle Regional Planning Commission, Amarillo Chamber of Commerce, area school districts, as well as other citizen participation. Discussion proceeded about the membership composition, appointment process, length of member term, etc.

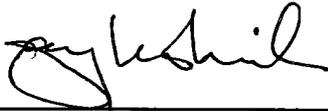
Vicki Covey, Director of Community Services, made a motion to change the structure of the committee and to approve the draft of bylaws as follows: two City of Amarillo elected officials, two Potter County elected officials, two Randall County elected officials, two TxDOT Amarillo District officials, City of Amarillo City Manager, two citizen representatives selected from the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission, the Amarillo Planning and Zoning Commission, the Amarillo Traffic Commission, or the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce, and one representative from the City of Canyon as an ex-officio member. Howard Holland seconded the motion. Mr. Taylor clarified the motion and asked staff to prepare a new draft of the bylaws to reflect the changes discussed today. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Holwick said that the next meeting would be on January 22, 2009, and a revised draft of bylaws reflecting today's discussion would be prepared for the committee to review at that meeting. The motion passed on a 9:0 vote.

Item 3. Open Forum, time reserved for anyone to speak on any transportation related item; however, no action can be taken on items not on the agenda.

Mr. Taylor asked if any member of the committee or anyone from the audience had any comment or concern to address. Mr. Holwick invited the citizens present and the committee members to the public meeting for development of the 2010-2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan and 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program, today from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, at the Amarillo Central Library. Mr. Holland and Mr. Petr presented some information on recent developments and requests regarding transportation projects for a transportation stimulus package from federal legislation. Mr. Holland updated the committee on Category 3 projects listed for a possible stimulus package. Among those projects for regional mobility such as additional lanes on IH-27, IH-40, and Loop 335 were. There were no other comments from the committee or those in attendance.

Item 4. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned with no further business to discuss.



Gary Holwick
Director, Amarillo MPO

Amarillo Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Advisory Committee Meeting Attendance Record

Date: December 11, 2008
Time: 1:30 P.M.

Place: Room 306, City Hall
509 SE 7th Ave, Amarillo, TX

	Name	Organization Represented	Phone Number	E-mail Address
1	GARY HOLWICK	AMARILLO MPO	378 6293	gary.holwick@amarillo.gov
2	Travis Munro	Amarillo MPO	378-4219	Travis.Munro@amarillo.gov
3	Judy Phelps	Transit	3780842	judy.phelps@amarillo.tx.us
4	Taylor Withrow	City of Amarillo	378-4218	
5	Brenda Womack		352-9266	
6	Randy Criswell	City of Canyon	655-5000	rcriswell@comyntx.com
7	Michael Rice	City of Amarillo	378-9337	
8	Vicki Covey	"	378-4222	
9	Kelley Shaw	COA	378-3020	
10	DAVID MILLER	TXDOT		
11	Howard Holland	TXDOT		
12	Kenneth Lee	TXDOT		

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	Name	Organization Represented	Phone Number	E-mail Address
13	TRAY CAIN	TXDOT	356-3200	
14	ALAN TAYLOR	CITY OF AMARILLO	378-3012	
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