

# GNRC MEETING MINUTES

## Transportation Policy Board

### INFORMATION

**DATE:** August 16, 2023

**LOCATION:** TN State Library and Archives, 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way, Nashville, TN 37201

**QUORUM:** Yes

**CALLED TO ORDER:** 11:04 a.m.

**ADJOURNED:** 11:25 a.m.

### ATTENDANCE

	<b>Members Present</b>
Davidson Representatives	Diana Alarcon (Metro Nashville) Addam McCormick (Goodlettsville)
Maury Representatives	Trent Linville (Spring Hill)
Robertson Representatives	Billy Vogle (County), Gerald Herman (White House)
Rutherford Representatives	Jim Kerr (Murfreesboro), Kevin Rigsby (Smyrna)
Sumner Representatives	John Isbell (County), Paige Brown (Gallatin), Jamie Clary (Hendersonville), Mike Callis (Portland), David Leath (Westmoreland)
Williamson Representatives	Rogers Anderson (County), Lisa Anderson (Fairview), Ken Moore (Franklin), Ken McLawhon (Thompson's Station)
Wilson Representatives	Randall Hutto (County), Rick Bell (Lebanon), Abraham Farias (Mt. Juliet)
Transit Representative	Steve Bland (WeGo Public Transit)
County Highway Representative	<i>Not present</i>
Federal Representative	Dan Hinton (FHWA)
Governor's Representative	Matt Meservy (TDOT)
Board Secretary	Michael Skipper (GNRC)

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary

  
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Board Chair

## **AGENDA ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Billy Vogle, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. He thanked Congressman John Rose for attending.

**Mayor Randall Hutto moved to approve the July 19, 2023 meeting minutes. Mr. Gerald Herman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **AGENDA ITEM 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment. Members of the public were reminded that comments can also be emailed to GNRC at [comments@gnrc.org](mailto:comments@gnrc.org).

## **AGENDA ITEM 3. ACTION ITEMS**

### [3a. Call for Projects: Carbon Reduction Program Funds](#)

Mr. Daniel Capparella, GNRC Transportation Planner, presented the details of the Carbon Reduction Program. He said that the following funding amounts are available through a new program to reduce transportation emissions:

- \$6.4B available nationwide
- \$139M apportioned for Tennessee
- \$13.8M suballocated to the Nashville-Davidson Urbanized Area
- \$1.9M suballocated to the Murfreesboro Urbanized Area

The eligible projects include:

- ITS
- Electrification upgrades
- Vehicle-to-vehicle infrastructure
- Public transit
- Bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Street lighting and traffic signal upgrades

He said the requirements include a 20% non-federal match (limited exceptions for 0% match) and funds must be obligated within four years of apportionment.

Mr. Capparella provided an overview of the staff's recommendations for the call for projects. For funding prioritization, he said staff recommends two phases for the call for projects to prioritize funding apportioned in FYs 2022 and 2023 for use on existing TIP projects where CMAQ, TAP, and MMAG funds are insufficient to cover cost overruns. Projects must demonstrate a reduction in transportation emissions.

The recommended timeline is as follows:

- Phase I: Funding for existing projects
  - Phase I Application Available: August 16, 2023
  - Phase I Application Deadline: September 1, 2023
  - Phase I Award Recommendations: September 20, 2023

- Phase II: Funding for New Projects
  - Phase II Application Available: September 20, 2023
  - Phase II Application Deadline: November 30, 2023
  - Phase II Award Recommendations: January 17, 2024

Mr. Capparella directed members to apply online at [www.gnrc.org/Grants/Transportation](http://www.gnrc.org/Grants/Transportation).

**Mayor Hutto moved to approve the call for projects to solicit applications for the suballocated Carbon Reduction Program Funds, with Mayor Jamie Clary seconding. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **AGENDA ITEM 4. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

There were no informational items presented.

## **AGENDA ITEM 5. REGULAR REPORTS**

### 5a. Federal Report

Mr. Dan Hinton, Acting Division Administrator for FHWA Tennessee Division, shared deadlines for upcoming discretionary grant programs.

- August 18 for the PROTECT Discretionary Grant Program with \$848M available
- August 21 for the Multimodal Projects Discretionary Grant program, a joint funding opportunity covering three programs for \$5.5B on the Infra, Mega, and the Rural Service Transportation Grant program.
- September 28 for the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program and Neighborhood Access and Equity Program for \$3B.

Mr. Skipper noted that details related to the grant information Mr. Hinton shared are available online at [www.gnrc.org/grants](http://www.gnrc.org/grants).

### 5b. TDOT Report

Mr. Matt Meservy, Director of Long Range Planning for TDOT, said the agency has received 102 applications for the Statewide Partnership Program. He said that the staff is reviewing them now. TDOT will have more information at the September meeting and will meet with the MPOs in the state to coordinate these applications.

He said that the Statewide Partnership Program (SPP), part of the Transportation Modernization Act, supports local jurisdictions in maximizing their funding dollars for critical transportation investment. He said that eligible SPP projects must be included in the MPO/RPO Transportation Plans and address the following improvements:

- Capacity (e.g., lane addition, roadway extension)
- ITS/System Operations (e.g., technology upgrades, operational improvements that do not involve significant additional capacity)
- Safety (e.g., roadway geometric, design, or operational improvements targeted to an identified safety need)

- Major bridge projects (e.g., replacement or reconstruction)
- Major pavement project (e.g., rehab or reconstruction)

Mr. Meservy introduced Mr. Jay Norris, Region 3 Assistant Chief, and Mr. Shaun Armstrong, Region 3 Project Manager. He said that the Region 3 staff will begin to attend TPB meetings.

### 5c. Chair's Report

There was no Chair's report.

### 5d. Staff Report

Mr. Skipper said he looks forward to working more closely with the Region 3 team on projects.

Mr. Skipper gave an overview of the TIP status report that will be provided at every meeting moving forward. Mr. Skipper explained that the TIP Status Report tracks the performance of the Transportation Improvement Program for FYs 2023-2026.

He reviewed the upcoming meeting dates and the anticipated agenda items:

#### *September 20 Transportation Policy Board*

- CRP Phase 1 Award Recommendations
- Adopt TIP Amendments
- Project Delivery Task Force Recommendations
- Updates on Regional Planning Activities

#### *September 20 Annual Partnership Luncheon*

- Governors Bredesen and Haslam will provide keynote
- Annual Awards Ceremony
- Release of GNRC's Annual Report

#### *October 18 Regional Council Body*

- Update on Solid Waste Planning
- Cybersecurity Awareness Month
- Information about Available Grant Opportunities

## **AGENDA ITEM 6. OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was introduced.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7. ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.