

**Bristol Urban Area
Metropolitan Planning Organization
February 4, 2021**

The February 4, 2021 Bristol MPO Executive Board meeting was conducted electronically (no physical location). The meeting was broadcast live on YouTube and BTN-TV and public comment was available by the use of video conferencing.

Board Members Present:

Tim Beavers - Bristol, Tennessee
Ambre Torbett - Sullivan County, Tennessee
Supervisor Phillip McCall - Washington County, Virginia
Troy Ebbert - Tennessee Department of Transportation
Blake Ailor - Virginia Department of Transportation

Members Absent:

Abingdon, Virginia
Bristol, Virginia

Others Present:

Rex Montgomery	David Metzger	Sean Santalla
Kwabena Aboagye	Ronda Sawyer	

Item 1 - Call to Order

MPO Chairman Ambre Torbett call the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., February 4, 2021.

Item 2 - Roll Call:

Rex Montgomery, Secretary to the MPO Executive Board, conducted roll call. A Quorum of members were present.

Item 3 – Discussion of Necessity for Conducting Electronic Meeting

Rex Montgomery read the following statement:

Tennessee Executive Order #71 and Virginia House Bill 29 suspended State Law in reference to public meetings to allow governing bodies to conduct business by electronic means rather than being required to gather a quorum in the same location. The MPO governing body should make a determination, and vote accordingly, that meeting electronically is necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare for all concerned in light of the COVID-19 outbreak. If the members do not agree that meeting electronically is appropriate, then this meeting should be adjourned until members can meet in person.

The Secretary called the roll with YES indicating concurrence that meeting electronically was necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of all concerned. Mr. Ebbert "YES"; Mr. Ailor "YES"; Mr. Beavers "YES"; Supervisor McCall "YES"; Chairman Torbett "YES".

Item 4 – Election of Officers:

Supervisor McCall moved for Ambre Torbett to continue her service as Executive Board Chairman and he [Supervisor McCall] would continue serving as Vice-Chairman; seconded by Mr. Ailor. Roll call vote: Mr. Ebbert "YES"; Mr. Ailor "YES"; Mr. Beavers "YES"; Supervisor McCall "YES"; Chairman Torbett "YES". Motion carried unanimously.

Item 5 - Approval of Minutes:

Supervisor McCall moved to adopt the minutes of August 6, 2020 as submitted; seconded by Mr. Ailor. Roll call vote: Mr. Ebbert "YES"; Mr. Ailor "YES"; Mr. Beavers "YES"; Supervisor McCall "YES"; Chairman Torbett "YES". Motion carried unanimously.

Item 6 - Comments from the Public: None.

Item 7 – Safety Performance Measures:

Presenter: Rex Montgomery.

Federal regulations require the State DOT and MPOs to define and maintain targets for Safety Performance Measures. The safety performance targets must be reported annually as part of each state's Highway Safety Improvement Program. Numerical targets are defined for: 1) number of fatalities, 2) number of serious injuries, 3) fatality rate, 4) serious injury rate, and 5) number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. Both the TDOT and VDOT have submitted 2021 safety performance targets to the Federal Highway Administration.

The MPO can either adopt the State's performance targets or establish their own targets. Due to the technical documentation and administrative requirements for the MPO to develop and maintain performance targets independent from the State DOT, the staff recommendation is to support the State DOT targets. Separate performance targets are adopted for each State DOT pertinent to each State's portion of the Metropolitan Planning Area.

Mr. Ebbert moved to adopt Resolution 21-01 [supporting the TDOT safety performance targets] and Resolution 21-02 [supporting the VDOT safety performance targets]; seconded by Mr. Ailor. Roll call vote: Mr. Ebbert "YES"; Mr. Ailor "YES"; Mr. Beavers "YES"; Supervisor McCall "YES"; Chairman Torbett "YES". Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 – Infrastructure Condition and System Performance Measures

Presenter: Rex Montgomery.

State DOTs and MPOs are required adopt performance targets for Infrastructure Condition (pavement and bridge conditions), and System Performance (travel time reliability). In response to this requirement, the MPO adopted the 4-year targets established by the Tennessee and Virginia DOTs at the November 8, 2018 Executive Board meeting. State DOTs have the opportunity to adjust their 4-year targets with the submittal of their *State Biennial Performance Report* (i.e. *Mid Performance Period Progress Report*). This adjustment allows the State DOT to address changes they could not have foreseen in the initial establishment of 4-year targets.

Both Tennessee and Virginia have submitted their *State Biennial Performance Report* to the Federal Highway Administration with target adjustments. Two adjustments to the TDOT performance targets include the “*Percent of Non-Interstate NHS in Poor Condition*” and “*Truck Travel Time Reliability*”. One adjustment to the VDOT performance targets is for the “*Percent of NHS Bridges by Deck Area in Good Condition*”.

The MPO can concur with the State DOT adjusted performance targets or establish their own targets. Due to the technical requirements for the MPO to develop performance targets independent from the State DOT, the staff recommendation is to support the State DOT targets. Separate performance targets are adopted for each State DOT pertinent to each State’s portion of the Metropolitan Planning Area.

Supervisor McCall moved to adopt Resolution 21-03 [supporting the TDOT targets for infrastructure condition and system performance] and Resolution 21-04 [supporting the VDOT targets for infrastructure condition and system performance]; seconded by Mr. Beavers. Roll call vote: Mr. Ebbert “YES”; Mr. Ailor “YES”; Mr. Beavers “YES”; Supervisor McCall “YES”; Chairman Torbett “YES”. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 9 – Transit Agency Safety Plan and Performance Measures

Presenter: Rex Montgomery

Recipients of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grants are required to develop and implement a Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP). The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) and Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) have both sponsored the PTASP on behalf of each state’s smaller transportation providers. Public transportation agencies providing service within the Bristol MPO Metropolitan Planning Area participating in the statewide PTASP include: *Bristol Tennessee Transit*; *First Tennessee Human Development Agency (NetTrans)*; *Bristol Virginia Transit*; and *Virginia District 3 Governmental Cooperative (Mountain Lynx Transit)*.

As part of the PTASP requirements, transit agencies set safety performance targets for the 1) number of fatalities, 2) fatality rate, 3) number of injuries, 4) injury rate, 5) number of safety events, 6) rate of

safety events, and 6) mean distance between major mechanical failures. In turn, the MPO must reference the transit agency's safety performance targets and plans within the MPO transportation improvement program and long-range plan. The safety performance targets and performance-based plans establish investment priorities for the transit agency, and those investment priorities are carried forward within the MPO's planning processes.

Mr. Beavers moved to adopt Resolution 21-05 [adopting the Tennessee transit agency safety plans and performance targets] and Resolution 21-06 [adopting the Virginia transit agency safety plans and performance targets]; seconded by Mr. Ailor. Roll call vote: Mr. Ebbert "YES"; Mr. Ailor "YES"; Mr. Beavers "YES"; Supervisor McCall "YES"; Chairman Torbett "YES". Motion carried unanimously.

Item 10 – Other Matters:

Project updates were provided by MPO staff. Federal and State updates were provided by FHWA [Tennessee Division], TDOT, and VDOT.

Item 11 – Adjournment:

There being no further business to discuss, meeting was adjourned.