MEETING MINUTES
OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
OHIO-KENTUCKY-INDIANA REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
NOVEMBER 10, 2016 - 10:30 A.M.
OKI BOARD ROOM

- Call to Order

President Lynch, noting that there was a quorum, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. The following members were in attendance:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Kevin Lynch, Dearborn County Board of Commissioners, President
Judge Gary Moore, Boone County Fiscal Court
Mr. T.C. Rogers, Butler County Board of Commissioners, First Vice President
Judge Steve Pendery, Campbell County Fiscal Court
Mr. Ed Humphrey, Clermont County Board of Commissioners
Mr. Todd Portune, Hamilton County Board of Commissioners, Past President
Judge Kris Knochelmann, Kenton County Fiscal Court, Second Vice President
Mr. Michael Moore, alternate for David Mann, Cincinnati, Ohio
Ms. Sherry Carran, Covington, Kentucky
Mr. Robert Brown, Hamilton, Ohio
Mr. Josh Gerth, Anderson Township
Mr. Geoff Milz, alternate for Jeff Ritter, Colerain Township
Mr. David Linnenberg, Green Township
Mr. Karl B. Schultz, Miami Township
Mr. Cory Wright, alternate for Matthew Beamer, Union Township
Mr. Tom Willsey, alternate for Christine Matacic, Butler Co. Assn. of Township Trustees & Clerks
Mr. Jonathan D. Sams, Warren County Assn. of Township Trustees & Clerks
Mr. Brian Painter, Campbell County Fiscal Court
Mr. Dennis Andrew Gordon, PDS of Kenton County
Mr. Ken Bogard, Resident Member
Mr. William Brayshaw, Resident Member
Mr. Anthony Simms-Howell, Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs, Resident Member
Mr. Ted Hubbard, Hamilton County Engineer
Mr. Dwight A. Ferrell, Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority
Mr. Andrew Aiellc, Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky

Kevin J. Lynch
President

Mark R. Polickinski
CEO/Executive Director

Serving the Counties of: Boone, Butler, Campbell, Clermont, Dearborn, Hamilton, Kenton, Warren
BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Tom Adamec, Blue Ash, Ohio
Mr. Charles Tassell, Deer Park, Ohio
Mr. Charles Southall, Forest Park, Ohio
Mr. Randy Shank, Harrison, Ohio
Mr. Stephen Kaiser, Lebanon, Ohio
Mr. James Bonsall, Norwood, Ohio
Mr. Steve Dana, Oxford, Ohio
Ms. Marjorie Harlow, Springdale, Ohio
Mr. Bryan H. Miller, Union, Kentucky
Ms. Cathy Flaig, Boone County Fiscal Court
Ms. Liz Morris, Dearborn County Council Member
Mr. Greg Breetz, Boone County Planning Commission
Mr. Taylor Corbett, Clermont County Planning Commission
Mr. Mark McCormack, Dearborn County Plan Commission
Mr. Ralph Grieme, Jr., Resident Member
Mr. Roger Kerlin, Resident Member
Mr. Thomas Voss, Resident Member
Mr. Todd Listerman, Dearborn County Engineer

GUESTS

Mr. Jim Lukas, representing Kevin Hardman, Sharonville, Ohio
Mr. Pete Metz, representing Jill Meyer, Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, Resident Member
Ms. Lanita Hanekamp, representing Chris Monzel, Hamilton Co. Bd. of Comm., Resident Member
Ms. Caroline Duffy, JMT
Mr. Antonio Johnson, FHWA-Indiana
Mr. Joe Cottrill, CT Consultants
Ms. Cindy Wallace, TranSystems
Mr. Steve McDevitt, Burgess & Niple
Mr. Jay Hamilton, Mead & Hunt
Ms. Corrine Gulick, PB
Mr. Matt Davis, DSD Advisors
Mr. Jon Brunot, Burgess & Niple
Mr. Bill Wells, City of Covington
Mr. Jayson Gardner, O.R. Colan
Mr. Andy Shenk, Citizen
Mr. David Wormald, AECOM
Mr. Gordon Perry, City of Blue Ash
Mr. Shane Noem, Senator Mitch McConnell’s Office
Ms. Marilyn Hyland, I&O/CIND Railroad

LEGAL COUNSEL

Mr. Ed Diller, Taft, Stettinius & Hollister
Mr. Geoff Milz led the Executive Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

• Announcements

President Lynch reminded everyone to sign in for attendance purposes. He also reminded everyone that this is an Executive Committee meeting and that Executive Committee members or their alternates are able to vote, Board members are not able to vote.

ITEM #1: ADMINISTRATIVE

A. President’s Report

• Election

President Lynch congratulated all those members who were elected on Tuesday. He also thanked those who ran but were not successful and expressed his hope that they will continue to serve the community. He stated that they are excited in Indiana with the election of former Governor Pence as Vice President and that good things are to come with Governor-Elect Holcomb, who spoke at the Annual Luncheon in August.

• Ed Humphrey

President Lynch recognized Board Member Ed Humphrey who will be the next President of the County Commissioners Association of Ohio. His term begins in December.

• Appointment of Alternate

President Lynch announced that Colerain Township has requested that Geoff Milz, Assistant Administrator and Director of Economic Development, be appointed as Jeff Ritter’s Executive Committee alternate. Mr. Gordon moved that the Executive Committee concur with the President’s appointment of Geoff Milz as an Executive Committee Alternate. Ms. Carran seconded the motion: motion carried.

• Cincinnati Federal Certification Review Public Notice

President Lynch reported that every four years, the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration conduct a review that will assess OKI’s compliance with Federal regulations pertaining to the transportation planning process. He announced that as part of that
process, a public meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 13 from 5-6 p.m. in the OKI Board Room. He reported that an email will be sent out with more information. If members are unable to attend the meeting but would like to provide written comment, he invited them to do so. Details were available at the back table.

B. Approval of October 13, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

President Lynch called for corrections and/or additions to the October 13, 2016 minutes of the Board of Directors meeting. There being none, Judge Moore moved that the minutes be approved as mailed. Mr. Bogard seconded the motion; motion carried.

C. Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Mark Policinski reported that the Department of Transportation recently released their airfare report for the second quarter and CVG was ranked at #40, which is the best ranking since the report was first published in 1995. DHL has completed a $109 million investment and are looking to hire an additional 250 people. He congratulated the airport on the strengthening of this regional asset.

Mr. Policinski reported that the Philadelphia MPO is hosting a panel to gain input on how their Board will function in the future. They have asked three MPOs to attend—in addition to OKI, Directors from D.C. and St. Louis will participate. He congratulated the OKI Board for this national recognition in regard to how they conduct their business.

Mr. Policinski stated that OKI has talked about the need to improve our infrastructure for about 15 years, he commented that it seems that times are changing. He noted that the transportation bill passed last year and included higher than anticipated funding directed toward major infrastructure projects, and on Tuesday about 200 new infrastructure projects were approved in local and state elections. He explained that in most cases the projects are BRT systems. Increased taxes are usually the stumbling block but there now appears to be a link between something the public can believe in and their desire to provide funding to see it happen. Mr. Policinski also reported that President-elect Trump has stated his intent to fund a trillion dollars’ worth of projects over the next ten years. One method to do this is through the private sector with tax credits. He explained it appears this will only apply to big projects that connect rail, roads and ports. The Brent Spence Bridge is a perfect example of this type of project and the only way to attract investors is if there is a viable, dedicated source of funding.

D. Legislative Update

Ms. Platt, staff, reported that USDOT recently announced that it is accepting applications for the next round of funding for FASTLANE grants. She reminded everyone that FASTLANE grants fund upgrades to our freight and highway infrastructure to increase efficiency and economic growth. For FY 17, there is an extra $50 million, for a total amount of $850 million available funding. Ms. Platt reported that in FY 16, there was great interest in the funding, with over 200 applications submitted (two from our region) and 18 projects were selected. Applications are being accepted
beginning November 14 through December 15. She reported that applications must be made at
www.grants.gov. Ms. Platt pointed out that DOT is encouraging those who applied last time to
do so again and they suggest to highlight new or revised information in the application. She asked
that anyone submitting an application let her know.

Mr. Portune reported that Hamilton County is working on submitting an application and would
like to partner with OKI, as well as reach out to others. He stressed that they want their
application to be as competitive as possible. Ms. Platt pointed out that the Western Hills Viaduct
is a regional freight corridor that carries 55,000 vehicles per day and is the perfect type of project
to apply for a FASTLANE grant. She reported that she attended the City of Cincinnati’s major
transportation and regional cooperation committee meeting earlier in the week. She shared
some information that Director Moore shared with the committee. The project was initiated
almost 5 ½ years ago. Currently, they are completing preliminary engineering. An environmental
document is to be submitted to ODOT by the end of this calendar year. Once this is done, the
investment from OKI, which was $5.4 million, will come into play for right-of-way acquisition.
They are also waiting to hear from other funding opportunities from TRAC. The total project cost
is $310 million in today’s dollars. Ms. Platt stated that OKI was happy to provide some of the first
dollars for the project and looks forward to staying informed as it moves along. Mr. Hubbard
thanked Commissioner Portune for the update and work regarding the application. He added
that the local match is critically important. He reported that Ohio House Bill 528 will give local
government opportunity to pass additional local motor vehicle permissive license taxes.

E. Finance Officer’s Report

Ms. Purcy Nance, staff, reported that the Finance Officer’s Report was distributed around the
table. She explained that the report is on the financial statements for the period ended
September 30 and includes current cash information.

Ms. Nance referred members to page 2 for the current information. As of November 4, OKI had
$182,257 in the PNC checking account, $14,325 in the HSA/FSA checking account and $551,913
in the STAR Ohio money market mutual fund. She reported that there has been no recent activity
on OKI’s line of credit and there is no outstanding balance at report date.

Ms. Nance stated that page 3 contains the balance sheet as of September 30. She reported that
Cash and Investments are up 19% from this time last year. Receivables are down 15% from this
time last year. Ms. Nance reported that as of September 30, there were $765,000 in receivables,
$750,000 associated with August and September invoices and $15,000 outstanding from July and
earlier. She further stated that payables are down 43%, or $123,000, from this time last year due
to the completion of :he KY 536 Scoping Study and the Plan 4 Health project.

Ms. Nance stated that Revenue information is located on page 4. She reported that as of
September 30, OKI is 25% of the way through the budgeted year. Overall, revenues are at 25%,
which is on budget. She noted the following items: Federal revenues are behind budget due to
the timing of Forestry project activities; State revenues are behind budget—Kentucky revenues
are behind budget due to the timing of the Boone County study which is scheduled to begin after
the first of the year, offset by Indiana revenues which are ahead of budget due to the timing of the Bright 74 study which is scheduled to be concluded by the end of this calendar year; local revenues are ahead of budget due to the timing of county funding payments; Miscellaneous revenues are ahead of budget due to the timing of OKI’s annual meeting; and Contributed Services are behind budget due to the timing of FTA and US Forestry projects and the seasonal nature of the RideShare outreach campaign.

Ms. Nance stated that page 5 contains Expense information. She reported that Overall Expenses are at 23%, which is on budget. Ms. Nance noted the following items: Category 3, Travel, Subsistence and Professional Development is behind budget due to timing of budgeted activities; Category 4, Printing, Marketing and Contractual is behind budget due to the timing of the transportation modeling Establishment Survey, FTA pass through projects, and other budgeted activities; Category 5, Other Expenditures is ahead of budget due to the timing of maintenance contracts, OKI’s audit, and OKI’s annual meeting; and Category 6, Contributed Services is behind budget due to the timing of FTA and U.S. Forestry projects and the seasonal nature of the RideShare outreach campaign.

Ms. Nance stated that page 6 contains the General Fund Balance information. She reported that the General Fund Balance has had a net increase of approximately $99,000 year to date. She explained that the two components of this increase are timing differences and year to date activities. The timing differences include a $119,000 increase due to timing of county funding payments and a $61,000 decrease due to application of negotiated fringe and indirect rates. The remaining $41,000 increase is associated with year-to-date operations and timing of active projects, resulting in a year to date fund balance of $1,191,000; of this amount, $336,000 is committed to active projects.

There being no discussion, Mr. Rogers moved that the Executive Committee accept and file the Finance Officer’s Report dated November 10, 2016. Mr. Fortune seconded the motion; motion carried.

F. Budget Committee Report

President Lynch reported that Budget Committee Chairman, Ken Reed, was unable to attend the meeting due to a work conflict. He explained that the Committee was very interested in keeping Mark Policinski as OKI’s CEO for several more years. Since May of this year, the Budget Committee has been working on a new contract for Mr. Policinski. He explained that Ed Diller has been an independent voice in guiding the Committee in this process and gathering vital information for the committee’s deliberations. President Lynch asked Mr. Diller to present the unanimous recommendation of the Budget Committee to the Executive Committee.

Mr. Diller noted that the Budget Committee is composed of the county funding members. He explained that conversation was initiated by President Lynch, Budget Committee Chair Reed and others regarding Mark Policinski’s wish to retire on June 30, 2020 and how to extend his contract through that time. He explained that Mr. Policinski’s original contract came into effect on November 10, 2003 and was amended in 2006 and 2011.
Mr. Diller reported that the Budget Committee held two meetings to discuss the various options for the contract extension, including evaluating the compensation of CEOs of other MPOs and other non-profit organizations, along with the performance of the agency under Mr. Policinski’s leadership. Mr. Diller explained that the Budget Committee’s recommendation is included in the resolution which was distributed around the table. The recommendation is to extend Mr. Policinski’s contract through June 30, 2020 with an annual salary increase of 5% on November 10 each year. The resolution also authorizes Mr. Policinski to participate in the organization’s 401(a) and 403(b) retirement plans in the same manner and on the same terms and conditions as other eligible employees.

Mr. Humphrey moved that the Executive Committee approve Resolution 2016-26 regarding the extension of Mark Policinski’s contract. Judge Pendery seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

ITEM #2: BRIGHT 74 STUDY

Ms. Robyn Bancroft, staff, explained that the need for a study was identified in the 2012 update to the OKI 2040 Regional Transportation Plan through the inclusion of a potential new connector roadway linking Bright to Interstate 74, however planning and design for a potential connector had not been initiated. With Dearborn County’s desire to have future employees of the TIF district live in Dearborn County with safe access between the interstate and the Bright area, President Lynch and Dearborn County Commission asked OKI to manage and perform this study.

Ms. Bancroft stated that the study was overseen by a 20-member Advisory Committee that met five times throughout the study. In addition, three public meetings were held, each followed by a 30-day public comment period. Hundreds of citizens were heard from through the process.

Ms. Bancroft reviewed traffic, crash and population/employment data and existing roadway conditions.

The study team, with the guidance of the Advisory Committee and public, created the study’s Purpose and Need Statement: “To provide improved travel between the Bright area and Interstate 74 that meets INDOT’s design criteria, reduces travel time, and enhances connectivity and traffic safety while preserving the rural quality.” The following goals were also developed:

- Preserve rural quality of the area
- Minimize environmental impacts
- Improve travel safety
- Enhance roadway connectivity and economic vitality

Four conceptual solutions were developed and presented to the public for review and feedback from the Advisory Committee and public:

- Concept 1: Improve Existing Roads
• Concept 2: Whites Hill Road Connector
• Concept 3: Carr Road Connector
• Concept 4: State Line Road Connector

Ms. Bancroft explained that prior to the study, no one knew whether a connector road was possible and at what cost. She pointed out that the cost of Concept 1 was less than half of what was proposed in the 2040 Plan. However, due to the costs, impacts, and lack of public support for a new roadway, the study focused on Concept 1: Improve Existing Roads.

The Study Team developed short- and long-term recommendations. Some of the county-wide recommendations are items that are outside the scope of this study, but were identified as needs. She presented the final recommendations:

Short-Term Recommendation (Study Area):
• Maintenance of existing North Dearborn and Whites Hill Roads
  o Address drainage or slippage
  o Repair, replace or add guardrail
  o Widen shoulders
  o Remove roadside obstructions
  o Add lighting at key intersections
  o Add mailbox turnouts
  o Improve signage

Long-Term Recommendation (Study Area):
• North Dearborn Road Improvements – Bring up to current INDOT Design Standards
• Whites Hill Road Improvements – Bring up to current INDOT Design Standards
• SR 46 bridge over Whitewater River
• US 52 south of SR 46 – poor sight distance
• SR 46 west of Whites Hill – poor sight distance
• I-74 on-ramps

Long-Term Recommendation (County Wide):
• Inventory and evaluate other interstate connections
  o North Dearborn Road (east of State Line Road)
  o Jamison Road
  o North Dearborn Road (between Whites Hill Road and SR 1)
  o Sand Run Road (between State Line Road and the Ohio State Line)
• Develop crash data mapping program to assist with project prioritization
• Monitor implementation of roundabouts and share information
• Conduct inventory of dedicated rights-of-way along county roads to identify potential needs

Judge Knochelmann moved that the Executive Committee approve Resolution 2016-27 adopting the Bright 74 Study. Mr. Bogard seconded the motion; motion carried.
ITEM #3: INTERMODAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Mark Paine, staff, reported that the ICC met on Tuesday, November 8. The Committee heard the results of the Bright 74 Study. The Committee also approved Administrative Modification #12 which included minor revisions to five highway projects in Kentucky and two highway projects in Indiana.

Mr. Paine reported that the ICC recommends approval of two resolutions—2016-28 which approves two additional STP projects to be funded and 2016-29 Amendment #12 of the OKI FY 2016-2019 TIP.

A. Prioritization of Applications for Ohio STP Federal Funds

Mr. Paine reported that last month, the Board approved funding for 12 projects in Ohio seeking STP funds. It had been estimated that OKI had approximately $41 million in funding for fiscal years 2019, 2020 and 2021. He explained that the approval occurred on October 13 and on October 18th, ODOT informed OKI that they had increased the STP allocations to OKI for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 by $4.7 million based on increases associated with the FAST Act. Additional TA funds will also be awarded with the next round of TA applications.

Mr. Paine explained that with the additional FAST Act STP funding, OKI is now able to fund the Blue Ash and Sycamore Township projects. Blue Ash is requesting funds to convert three signalized intersections on Plainfield Road to roundabouts between SR 126 to north of the Plainfield Road and Reed Hartman Highway intersection. Mr. Paine pointed out that the project received $4 million in OKI CMAQ funds through the 2015 application cycle. Sycamore Township submitted a project to widen Kenwood Road on its southbound approach to Montgomery Road to provide a southbound right turn lane and a divider to separate the southbound left turn lane from other southbound traffic. A multi-use path will be installed on the east side of the roadway to replace the existing sidewalk.

Mr. Hubbard moved that the Executive Committee approve Resolution 2016-28 regarding the prioritization of applications for Ohio STP Federal Funds. Mr. Fortune seconded the motion; motion carried.

B. Amendment #12 of the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Paine reported that the amendment reflected in the proposed resolution lists three highway projects in Ohio, five highway projects in Kentucky and two highway projects in Indiana plus several transit projects for Butler County RTA and Section 5310 administrative funds for OKI that are recommended for addition, revision or deletion in the current TIP. Mr. Paine pointed out that the mailing contained an incorrect PID number for one of the Ohio projects. The correction has been made in the final resolution.
Mr. Humphrey moved that the Executive Committee approve Resolution 2016-29 regarding Amendment #12 to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program. Judge Knochelmann seconded the motion; motion carried.

ITEM #4: CONSENT AGENDA

President Lynch stated that each month a written report of committee activities is mailed to the Board of Directors. He stated that this mailing includes the October Consent Agenda items.

Mr. Rogers moved that the Executive Committee approve the consent agenda as mailed. Judge Moore seconded the motion; motion carried.

ITEM #5: OTHER BUSINESS

President Lynch recommended that the December 8, 2016 meeting of the Executive Committee be cancelled. Mr. Bogard moved that the Executive Committee concur with the President’s recommendation. Mr. Humphrey seconded the motion; motion carried.

ITEM #6: ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Schultz moved to adjourn the Executive Committee. Mr. Rogers seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

KEVIN J. LYNCH, PRESIDENT

MARK R. POLICINSKI, SECRETARY

klw
Transcribed: 12/06/2016