

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments
November 10, 2022 – 10:30 a.m.
OKI Boardroom

OKI Board President David Painter called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Mr. T.C Rogers led the Pledge of Allegiance. The following members were in attendance:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Painter, President, Clermont County Board of Commissioners
Gary Moore, Boone County Fiscal Court
T.C. Rogers, Butler County Board of Commissioners
Steve Pendery, Campbell County Fiscal Court
Rick Probst, Dearborn County Board of Commissioners
Stephanie Summerow Dumas, Hamilton County Board of Commissioners
Ken Bowman, Ft. Thomas, KY
Susan Hoover, Norwood OH
Jeffrey P. Anderson, Springdale, OH
Dale Perry, Trenton, OH
Seth Thompson, Villa Hills KY
Cathy Flaig, Boone County Fiscal Court
Katherine Keough-Jurs, Cincinnati Planning Commission
Liz Hayden, Hamilton (City) Planning Commission
Denise Driehaus, Hamilton County Board of Commissioners
Christine Matacic, Resident
Henry Menninger, Jr., Resident
Mark Welch, West Chester Township
Eric J. Beck, Hamilton County Engineer
J. Todd Listerman, Dearborn County Engineer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS or their ALTERNATES (of the Board of Directors)

Mark Jeffreys, Cincinnati, OH
Susan Vaughn, Hamilton, OH
Guinevere Banschbach, Lawrenceburg, IN
Beth Fennell, Newport, KY
Dan Driehaus, Wyoming, OH
Dee Stone, Anderson Township
Shannon Hartkemeyer, Butler County Association of Township Trustees & Clerks
Tom Peck, Clermont County Township Association
Sharmili Reddy, PDS of Kenton County
Brian Painter, Campbell County Fiscal Court
David Okum, Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission
Chris Wahlman, INDOT
Mike Bezold, KYTC

Tammy Campbell, ODOT
Gina Douthat, TANK
Matthew Dutkevics, Butler Co. Regional Transit Authority
Roger L. Kerlin, Resident
Kenneth F. Reed, Resident & Treasurer
Karl Schultz, Resident
V. Anthony Simms-Howell, Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs, Resident
Thomas Voss, Resident

GUESTS

Tracie Braun, Clermont County BCC
Lauren O'Brien, City of Newport
Jay Hamilton, Mead & Hunt
Jeff Wallace, CT Consultants
Andrew Aiello, SORTA
Shawn Mason, American Structurepoint
Chris Harding, Hamilton Co.
Alex Manor, Hamilton Co.

LEGAL COUNSEL

Edward D. Diller, Senior Counsel, Taft

STAFF

Bob Koehler
David Shuey
Regina Fields
Andy Meyer
Katie Hannum
Gaby Waesch
Travis Miller
Michael Outrich
Florence Parker
Liren Zhou
Suzanne Parkey
Robyn Bancroft
Margaret Minzner
Jim Pickering
Brett Porter
Andy Reser
Lorrie Platt
Mark Policinski

Item #1A - Administrative

President Painter welcomed all in attendance and reminded everyone that only executive committee members or their alternates were permitted to make a motion, second or vote (since this was an executive committee meeting).

He announced that the OKI Annual Luncheon is returning on Jan. 9, 2023** featuring keynote speaker U.S. Congressman Brad Wenstrup. Registration details are forthcoming and a reminder that all board members are complimentary guests of OKI. ** *Please note that the luncheon date changed to Jan. 19, 2023 soon after this meeting.*

President Painter then asked for cancellation of the Dec. 8, 2022 executive committee meeting. A motion was provided by Mr. Ken Reed with a second from Mr. Karl Schultz; motion carried.

President Painter thanked all board members for their service and that the 2023 OKI Board of Directors nomination forms will be digital this year (replaces the paper form that was usually mailed to members). He noted that Mr. Karl Schultz is chair and the members are Roger Kerlin and Tom Voss (of the nominating committee). A constant contact email will come from OKI staff person, Lorrie Platt with the digital form which is due by December 6, as the nomination committee will meet on December 8 to review all nomination forms. A paper form is available should the digital form not be convenient to members.

Item #1B - Approval of the October 13, 2022 meeting minutes

President Painter requested approval of the October 13, 2022 board of directors meeting minutes. Mr. Karl Schultz moved that the minutes be approved as provided. Mr. Tom Peck seconded the motion; motion carried.

Item #1C - CEO's Report

Mr. Mark Policinski recognized deputy executive director, Mr. Bob Koehler for being featured in a training video on Transportation System Management and Operations (known as TSMO) produced by the Federal Highway Administration (who selected Mr. Koehler out of all the civil engineers in the United States). TSMO is a set of strategies focusing on getting the most performance out of existing transportation facilities while maintaining and improving safety. Mr. Koehler's expertise is well known statewide and now at a national level.

Mr. Policinski noted that the infrastructure bill presents a variety of EV Charging funding options for the region. One new funding option is the Carbon Reduction Act, which will provide OKI approximately \$20 million over the next five years for charging stations in Ohio and Kentucky (\$3M per year in Ohio and \$1M per year in Kentucky). Dearborn County will receive funding but at a much more conservative amount via the Dearborn County collaborative process.

He noted that there is a challenge in how these funds will be spent. The predicament is OKI's prioritization process (a best practice by Federal Highway) does not lend itself to the type of projects eligible for Carbon Reduction funding, meaning EV charging stations do not score well within our process. He further shared that EV networks development have been problematic in the United States, stating that there are approximately 50,000 EV charging stations but at any given time, there is an estimated one-third of those being not operable. There is additional concern that many are not used. To combat these concerns, OKI staff have come up with this course of action:

- Location of the stations: Duke Energy must be included in the early stages of deliberations They have data on what locations are high and low cost and know their own infrastructure and how a network could be assembled. Mr. Policinski added that Duke Energy was invited in these discussions 6 months ago and is a valued and enthusiastic partner.
- Not rushing decisions: the EV industry and its associated technologies are unsettled; therefore, OKI will not be rushing decisions. OKI will initially look for pilot projects which will allow us to determine the best private sector partners, assess the usage of stations, understand the impacts on a few jurisdictions and look at the return on investment. This will also allow OKI to develop a Carbon Reduction specific prioritization process that can be used for future call for projects. Without solicitation, two jurisdictions have provided potential interest.
- Sharing of data: Mr. Policinski stated that data regarding the cost, usage, and impact information of EVs and their charging stations must be shared equally among all the OKI jurisdictions. He anticipates continuing with EV workshops, which have been a successful tool to spread intelligent and timely information along with updates at OKI monthly board and executive committee meetings. Mr. Policinski noted that OKI staff, David Shuey, is the day-to-day point person for the EV initiative.

Item #1D - Finance Officer's Report

Director of Finance, Ms. Katie Hannum stated copies of the Finance Officer's Report were electronically distributed via Constant Contact to all in advance with a printed copy distributed at their seats. Ms. Hannum reported the Council's financing activities, as of November 10, 2022, OKI had:

\$675,731 in PNC Bank Commercial Checking
\$22,568 in PNC Bank - HSA/FSA Checking
\$315,862 in the STAR Ohio Money Market Mutual Fund

Ms. Hannum reported there has been no recent activity on OKI's line of credit, and that there is no outstanding balance at report date. She further reported on Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expense information.

The report concluded with the general fund balance information and the total funds committed to active projects.

President Painter requested a motion to approve the financial report. Mr. Tom Peck motioned to approve the Finance Officer's Report and Mr. Ken Reed seconded the motion; motion carried.

Item #2 Adoption of the OKI Complete Streets Policy

Deputy Executive Director Bob Koehler presented the Complete Streets Policy, which encourages improvements to the transportation network so that streets and roads in the OKI region can accommodate all users, thereby creating an increasingly safe and accessible transportation network for all modes and users. He then showed images of complete streets examples (and not) via a PowerPoint.

Mr. Koehler noted that there are four reasons why we need a policy, they are: to improve accessibility, mobility, safety/comfort of travels and to meet and address the requirements of Title 23 for Metropolitan Planning organizations.

President Painter requested a motion to approve Resolution OKI 2022-31. Judge Gary Moore provided the motion with a second by Commissioner Rick Probst; motion carried.

Item #3 Intermodal Coordinating Committee Report

Mr. Andy Reser, OKI staff stated the ICC met on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, 2022. Ben Fisher, of Butterfly Junction Technologies presented information on connected roadways and Louis Rodriguez, of Butler Co. Regional Transit provided an overview of their new transit plan. The committee approved a TIP modification and recommended three resolutions for executive committee approval. The first was the Complete Streets Policy (that Mr. Koehler presented), the second are two amendments in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), 16A and 16B.

ITEM #4 Amendment 16A of the OKI Fiscal Years 2021-2024 TIP

Mr. Reser noted that TIP Amendment 16A includes a funding change to the Donaldson Road widening project in Boone County between Houston and Mineola. The construction amount is increasing from \$9.4 million to \$19.7 million. He shared that due to this large increase in cost an amendment is necessary, and any major widening project requires air quality conformity to be done. He added that it was sent to the Interagency Consultation Group and that there is no change in the timing or project scope due to the amendment and we can rely on a previous regional emissions analysis.

The second item in this amendment is the removal of project 6-460 from the TIP. This is a project for improved access to a new NKU mixed-use development at the corner of US27 and Nunn Drive. This project was awarded SNK funds in 2018, but the development has stalled, and there is little hope to get it started in the short term. OKI made the decision to remove the project from the TIP. The County can reapply in the future if they choose. The amendment has been posted to our website since October 26th for public comment and no comments were received. President Painter requested a motion to approve Resolution OKI 2022-32, which was provided by Mr. Ken Reed and seconded by Mr. Mark Jeffreys; motion carried.

ITEM #5 Amendment #16B of the OKI Fiscal Years 2021-2024 TIP

Mr. Reser noted TIP Amendment 16B includes funding changes to Phase 8 of the I-75 Mill Creek Expressway project with ODOT is proposing to split Phase 8 into 3 parts. The net change in cost is about \$40 million more, which is a 26% increase.

- Phase 8 extends from the Norwood Lateral Interchange to SR126/Galbraith Rd area
- Phase 8A would be the southern portion

- Phase 8B is for the construction of a new pump station and combined sewer overflow, and Phase 8C is the northern portion up to Galbraith.

The project is subject to air quality conformity requirements. Due to the timing of approvals for state air quality plans, we currently have different conformity requirements in Ohio vs. Kentucky. Mr. Reser stated we needed to rerun our travel and emission models to produce a new regional emissions analysis for the Ohio projects. Those runs have been completed and documented in a technical report which was posted on the website and distributed for review by the Interagency Consultation Group of federal, state, and local partners. Amendment 16B also includes six new transit projects. Three for Butler County RTA includes new software/hardware, communications equipment and for the construction of a bus yard. Three new projects for SORTA; these are for the Walnut Hills Transit Center land acquisition, paratransit dispatch equipment and fleet technology upgrades. The amendment has been posted to our website since October 26th for public comment and no comments were received.

President Painter requested approval of Resolution OKI 2022-33. A motion was provided from Commissioner T.C. Rogers with a second from Mr. Tom Voss; motion carried.

Item #6 Authorization to Enter a Contract with a Consultant for the OKI Website Redesign-Phase 1

OKI staff member Jake Hesseling advised that OKI is seeking a consultant to assist in the complete redesign of OKI websites. He noted that inflation is also affecting project costs and may need to reapproach the board for additional funds. The amount will not exceed \$75,000. The key reasons for a redesign are to enhance user experience, accessibility, security, along with internal maintenance and operation.

President Painter requested approval of Resolution OKI 2022-34. A motion was provided by Commissioner Stephanie Summerow-Dumas with a second from Mr. Karl Schultz; motion carried.

Item #7 Other Business

President Painter noted that the next meeting will be on Thursday, January 12, 2023. He also asked all Veterans in the room to stand and be recognized for their service.

Item #8 Adjournment

Adjournment was motioned by Mr. Ken Reed and seconded by Mr. Tom Peck; motion carried.



David Painter, President



Mark R. Policinski, Secretary