

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments
April 13, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.
OKI Boardroom

OKI Board President Gary Moore called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. President Moore noted that this is a Board of Directors meeting, he reminded alternates (of the executive committee) that they may not make a motion or vote but glad they were present. Trustee Josh Gerth of Anderson Township led the Pledge of Allegiance.

See attendance chart for OKI board members, guests, and staff.

Item #1A - Administrative

President Moore referenced a slide on the screen about the OKI Conference on Freight which takes place Sept. 5th-7th at the Hyatt Regency hotel in downtown Cincinnati. He shared there is interest from attendees from 23 states and that Secretary Jim Gray (of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet) and ODOT Director Jack Marchbanks will be speakers for the Wednesday keynote luncheon. Registration details are forthcoming.

Item #1B - Approval of the March 9, 2023 meeting minutes

President Moore requested approval of the March 9 executive committee meeting minutes as distributed. Ms. Christine Maticic moved that the minutes be approved, and Trustee Shannon Hartkemeyer seconded the motion; motion passed.

Item #1C - CEO's Report

Mr. Mark Policinski shared that OKI received over 2,000 responses for the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) survey, which was only promoted through board members and social media, (no dollars used for media promotion). He noted that it was not a brief survey but one that had 25 questions which provided OKI true regional survey findings. He thanked board members for their help in getting the word out. Next, Mr. Policinski shared the Tree for Me tool and its recent successes in communities including City of Middletown, Covington, and Clermont County, who have planted hundreds of trees using this app. The tool outlines the benefits of specific tree varieties and is available to any community within OKI's region.

Item #1D - Finance Officer's Report

Director of Finance, Ms. Katie Hannum, stated copies of the Finance Officer's Report were distributed via a Constant Contact email to all in advance with a printed copy at their seats.

Ms. Hannum reported the Council's financing activities, as of April 7, 2023, OKI had:

\$568,778 in PNC Bank Commercial Checking

\$25,014 in PNC Bank - HSA/FSA Checking
\$728,940 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. OKI Treasurer Mr. Ken Reed provided a motion to approve the financial report; Commissioner David Painter seconded the motion; motion passed.

Item #2 – Brent Spence Bridge Corridor Update

Mr. Tom Arnold, ODOT 8 (also is the BSB Corridor Deputy Project Manager for Ohio) shared the \$3.6 billion project is moving along and highly encouraged board members to visit the project website at <https://brentspencebridgecorridor.com/> for information and opportunities to get involved. The project is a Design/Build, which is a method to deliver a project in which the design and construction services are contracted by a single entity, design/build proposals were due April 14.

He stated public engagement is critical and referenced the project website for specific details. He further stated there have been three DBE events in the last nine months with more outreach to come. There is also a diversity & outreach committee that was created, and they have met several times with more meetings to come.

Mr. Arnold then showed a simulated drone flyover of the project, which can be found at the project website.

He shared timeline that the design/build company will be announced in May or early June, groundbreaking this fall, construction to start at the end of 2024 and completion in 2029.

Item #3 – Update of the New OKI Freight Plan

Ms. Robyn Bancroft, OKI staff shared the web-based planning document is located at freight.oki.org. She said the last freight plan was created in 2011 and the update is actually a brand-new freight plan as a lot has changed since then. She went on to cover the different sections of the plan, including existing conditions for the five freight by modes: road, rail, river, runway, and pipeline. There are also five transportation goals: safety, infrastructure condition, mobility and reliability, environmental sustainability, and economic competitiveness. She also noted there is a commodity flow report. She encouraged board members to review the progress made thus far by visiting freight.oki.org.

Item #4 – ICC Report

Mr. Andy Reser, OKI staff stated the ICC met on Tuesday, April 11th. He shared the meeting summary which included:

- OKI’s Robyn Bancroft provided an update on the new OKI Freight Plan
- The committee approved a TIP Administrative Modification
- Three resolutions were recommended for board approval:
 - 1.) The adoption of the FY24-27 TIP
 - 2.) Two Resolutions presented by Mr. Bob Koehler. They were the FY24 Unified Planning Work Program and Certification of the Urban Transportation Planning Process.

Item #5 – Adoption of the OKI Fiscal Years 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Andy Reser reminded members that he presented the draft tip last month and the public comment period began on March 10 and lasted through April 12. OKI received three public comments as follows:

- one about transportation in West Price Hill
- one about congestion on US 27 in Alexandria, KY
- one advocating for rail transit

He stated the approved TIP will be sent to ODOT, KYTC and INDOT where they will be reviewed by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration before becoming part of the Statewide TIP, or STIP. The effective date of the new TIP is July 1, and the existing FY21-24 TIP remains until that time.

He shared the OKI Draft TIP is the short-range component of the OKI 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan which is updated every 2 or 3 years, with the last one adopted in April 2020. The TIP includes transportation funding commitments for the next 4 years and any project with federal funds must be included. Each project is identified with a location, project description, project sponsor, as well as funding details on phase, fiscal year, and source of funds (visit tip.oki.org for details).

He stated that the FY24-27 TIP includes \$5.3 Billion in federal, state, and local funds, a big chunk of that is for the Brent Spence project. Of the \$4.2 billion in federal funds, nearly \$181 million are OKI sub-allocated federal funds. These are funds that the OKI Board has direct authority over how they are spent, and we make those funding awards in October each year.

In all, the FY24-27 TIP includes 46 new OKI projects, which have been previously awarded by OKI but have phases in the new TIP timeframe. 193 new State DOT projects are included in the “Grouped Projects” list. Grouped Projects are typically maintenance projects like resurfacing, small bridge repair and safety upgrades that are not of appropriate scale to be identified individually. And finally, 72 new transit projects among our six transit providers. These are for items like bus maintenance, equipment purchases, and operating assistance.

He noted that beyond the project listing, there are five key elements:

- The TIP contributes to meeting performance targets. Performance targets include safety, pavement condition, travel time reliability and transit asset management. The number of TIP projects contributing to each performance target is summarized in Chapter 2 of the document.
- The TIP is financially constrained, meaning the funds programmed are less than the funds expected to be available. This financial constraint applies at the Statewide level, to OKI sub-allocated capital funds and to FTA funds that come to the Cincinnati Urban area. Details on financial constraint can be found in Chapter 3.
- TIP Projects are consistent with the OKI 2050 Plan, meaning, either the TIP projects are specifically listed in the 2050 Plan or are maintenance or smaller travel improvement projects that are consistent with the goals of the 2050 Plan.
- The TIP meets air quality conformity requirements. We have evaluated the TIP projects in our travel demand model and EPA emissions model and determined that expected vehicle emissions will not exceed levels needed to maintain air quality standards. Chapter 10 provides information on air quality conformity.
- The TIP meets the public involvement requirements of our Participation Plan. The draft TIP was made available for comment on our website for over 30 days; OKI made numerous social media posts about the draft TIP; a public meeting notice was published in the Enquirer, Cincinnati Herald, and the largest Hispanic media platform in region; and we held a public meeting on April 4, 2023.

Judge Moore requested a motion to adopt the Fiscal Years 2024-2027 TIP program, OKI Resolution 2023-08. A motion was made by Councilmember Susan Vaughn with a second from Commissioner T.C. Rogers; motion carried (with one nay).

Item #6 – FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Robert Koehler, OKI Deputy Executive Director, presented the Unified Planning Work Program which outlines the scope of work and associated budget for Fiscal Year 2024, (begins July 1, 2023). He referred to the Executive Summary included in the meeting packet and briefly described the activities for the agency for the upcoming fiscal year. Judge Moore asked for a recommendation for approval of Resolution 2023-09, which was provided by Commissioner David Painter with a second from Ms. Christine Maticic; motion passed.

Item #7 - Authorization To Enter into an Agreement with the State of Ohio, Department of Transportation for Urban Transportation Planning and Transportation Programs

Mr. Robert Koehler shared that this resolution is an authorization that allows us to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation to conduct the urban transportation

planning process. Judge Moore requested a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-10, which was provided by Mr. Karl Schultz with a second from Mr. Ken Reed; motion passed.

Item #8 - Certification of the Urban Transportation Planning Process

Mr. Robert Koehler, OKI Deputy Executive Director, stated that MPO's are required to be certified in the federal metropolitan planning process in order to receive federal funds for transportation projects. Each year OKI self certifies that all the requirements of this process are met, enabling funding to be allocated to local projects. Mr. Koehler confirmed that OKI is in fact meeting all said requirements and is in good standing. He asked for recommendation for approval of Resolution 2023-11. Mr. Hank Menninger moved to recommend approval of Resolution 2023-11 with a second from Mr. Karl Schultz; motion passed.

Item #9 – Authorizing the Participation as a Lead Organization for the US EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program for a Planning Grant

Mr. Travis Miller shared the US EPA is distributing \$1 million dollars to the 67 most populated metropolitan areas across the country, OKI region is the 29th most populated. If we choose to receive these dollars, OKI will prepare a climate action plan, which will include a regional inventory of greenhouse gas emissions and established goals for reducing carbon emissions. In addition to the \$1 million for planning, there is 4.6 billion for implementation. In order to access the implementation of this funding, regions must have plans in place. This resolution establishes OKI as the lead agency, however local jurisdictions will have access to the implementation funds.

Judge Moore requested Adoption of Resolution OKI 2023-12. Commissioner Alicia Reece provided the motion with a second from Councilmember Serena Owens; motion passed.

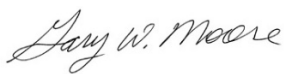
Item #10 - Other Business

There was no other business noted.

Item #11 - Adjournment

President Moore noted the next meeting is May 11, 2023, it will be an Executive Committee meeting starting at 10:30am.

The meeting adjournment was motioned by Mr. Ken Reed with a second from Commissioner David Painter; motion carried.



Gary W. Moore, President



Mark R. Policinski, Secretary