

**Minutes
Committee
Date
Time**

Members Present	Organization
Tom McQueen (via phone)	GDOT
Jason Davenport	Lowndes County (Slaughter proxy)
Mike Fletcher	Lowndes County (Pritchard proxy)
John Gayle	Valdosta
Larry Hanson	Valdosta
John Leonard	SGRC
Others Present	
Corey Hull	SGRC
Michael Frost	MAFB
Dick Saeger	Valdosta
Bill Branham	Valdosta
Angela Crance	WGTC
Charlie Clark	Lowndes County
John Sineath	
Allan Ricketts	VLCIA
Ken Sherrill	Lake Park
Bryan Almand	Valdosta
William Sims	Valdosta
Pat Collins	Valdosta
Todd Smoot	Lowndes County

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

Mr. Davenport called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Agenda Item #2 – Introductions/Roll Call

Mr. Davenport asked those present to introduce themselves and state their affiliation.

Mr. Hull gave a brief overview of the committee attendance records.

Agenda Item #3 – Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Davenport asked the members to review the minutes from the October 19, 2013 meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Hanson and seconded by Mr. Fletcher to accept the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #4– Old Business

None.

Agenda Item #5– New Business

A. Greater Lowndes County Common Community Vision – Resolution 2014-4

Mr. Hull reviewed the Common Community Vision, highlighting the several months of work and public outreach that went into developing this report. He stressed that this report is meant to be a guide for the VLMPO, local governments and other organizations, not the final goals and objectives we are striving to meet. He noted that the VLMPO will be working with local organizations to spread the word about the CCV and how it can help them plan for a better community. A motion was made by Mr. Leonard to approve the CCV as presented, a second was made by Mr. Gayle. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Discussion of FY2015 UPWP and VLMPO Budget

Mr. Hull presented the draft budget to the committee members explaining how the budget is developed and the anticipated expenditures for the coming year. Mr. Hull requested that if any members had any special studies they wanted to review to please let him know so they can be included in the VLMPO budget. He noted that the budget would likely be adopted at the regular meetings of the MPO in March.

C. FTA 5303 Transit Planning Grant Application – Resolution 2014-5

Mr. Hull explained the reason for this largely administrative resolution to apply for Federal Transit Administration Funds. He noted these are the funds the VLMPO receives annually in the amount of \$31,250 that are used for the overall operation of the MPO. He referred back to the previous discussion about the FY15 budget, noting that he anticipates using all of the 5303 funds in FY15 on developing the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan for the region. Mr. Hull noted that the applications have typically been due in February, but a date had not yet been announced by GDOT. A motion was made by Mr. Gayle to approve the application resolution for these funds, it was seconded by Mr. Hanson. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #5– Staff Update

Mr. Hull said that the staff would be conducting an informal survey of local organizations to get some information about how much transit is being requested in the community, to help local officials better understand the need for public transit in the community. Mr. Hanson asked if a survey could also include the question of ‘How should we pay for public transit?’ He said that is the more pressing question to let local officials know how the community wants to pay for this service. Mr. Hull said he would work on how to include this information.

Mr. Hull presented two handouts about how the MPO/SGRC work for local governments in transportation planning and projects of significance in Southern Georgia. He noted that the federal funds for transportation are likely to be gone this summer without any action from Congress.

Mr. Hull noted the next items for the 2040 Transportation Plan development are to review the CCV and performance measures as required by federal law for transportation projects in the region. He also noted that he is working to develop a financial plan to better understand the future revenues expected to be available.

Agenda Item #6 – Privilege of the Floor/Public Comment

Mr. Hanson asked if the Mr. Hull or Mr. McQueen had any insight on the PlanBEST initiative (transportation funding in Georgia) that has been announced the day before. He noted that to coalition was not typical, consisting of groups who tend to have different political ideologies. Mr. Hull said that he was aware of it and would be following it closely as it developed. Mr. McQueen said that he thought many of the proposals in the have been topics of discussion for some time, but they lack traction in the legislature.

Mr. Branham asked if the CCV included information about electric vehicle charging stations. Mr. Hull noted that the CCV did not get that specific, but it did include some references to alternative fuels and modes of transportation.

Mr Branham also asked about funding for revitalization near the Beck Overpass in downtown Valdosta. Ms. Peacock said she would follow-up with him, because the Downtown Development Authority may have some funding sources he may be interested in.


Mr. Gayle noted how some communities in the regions that passed the TSPLOST are seeing significant revenues to address local infrastructure issues.

Agenda Item #7 - Next Meeting Date and Time

Mr. Davenport noted the meeting dates and times of the next few meetings for the various VLMPO committees.

Agenda Item #8 – Adjournment

A motion for adjournment was made by Mr. Gayle and seconded by Mr. Davenport. The motion carried unanimously.



Jason Davenport, Chair, Valdosta-Lowndes Metropolitan Planning Organization