

**Minutes  
Policy Committee  
June 5, 2013  
10:30 AM**

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Mike Fletcher (Joe Pritchard Proxy)	Lowndes County
John Gayle	Valdosta
Tom McQueen	GDOT
John Leonard	SGRC
Jason Davenport (Bill Slaughter Proxy)	Lowndes County
Larry Hanson	Valdosta
<b>Others Present</b>	
Brent Thomas	GDOT
Shane Pridgen	GDOT
Corey Hull	SGRC
Lesa Walker	GDOT (via phone)
Andrew Heath	GDOT (via phone)

### **Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order**

Mr. Leonard called the meeting to order at 10:31 am.

### **Agenda Item #2 – Introductions/Roll Call**

Mr. Leonard asked all present to introduce themselves and state their affiliation with the Policy Committee.

### **Agenda Item #3 – Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Leonard asked for any revisions or corrections to the minutes from the March 6, 2013 meeting minutes, being none, a motion was made by Mr. Gayle and seconded by Mr. Davenport to accept the minutes as presented, the motion carried.

### **Agenda Item #4– Old Business**

#### **A. MPO Policy Committee Bylaws Amendment Proposal (Membership)**

Mr. Hull presented the options discussed at the last meeting of adding a voting member to the Policy Committee that would be held on an annually rotation by the elected Chairman of the smaller counties in the Metropolitan Planning Area (Berrien, Brooks and Lanier). Mr. Hull noted that a 2/3 majority is required to pass this amendment, and he also provided a recommendation that the Brooks County Chairman be the first to serve since there are going to be federal-aid projects in this county that the MPO Policy Committee will have to take action on in the future, after than he recommended that the order be alphabetical, rotating annually.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Gayle made a motion to amend the bylaws as presented to add a small counties annually rotating member, and the Brooks County Chairman should be first. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fletcher, the motion passed unanimously.

### **Agenda Item #5 – New Business**

#### **A. Report of Nominating Committee for FY2014**

Mr. Davenport reported on the discussions of the nominating committee. He noted that through analysis there have been several recent, unforeseen, changes in the leadership of the Policy Committee. He noted that over all the SGRC and City of Valdosta have held each more than 50 months of service as chairman, with Lowndes County serving just over 30 months. Mr. Davenport presented two recommendations for consideration for officers for FY14. The first recommendation was to follow the current traditional succession of officers, meaning that SGRC, then Valdosta, then Lowndes County would serve. The second recommendation was to provide more equality for Lowndes County to service next as Chairman, then the City of Valdosta, then SGRC.

After a discussion of the options presented by the nominating committee, Mr. Hanson made a motion that the Lowndes County Chairman serve as the next Policy Committee Chairman, and that the City of Valdosta Mayor serve as the Vice-Chairman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **B. Development of the 2040 Transportation and Comprehensive Plan Vision/Goals**

Mr. Hull discussed recent developments in the search for a consultant to complete a socioeconomic data study for the MPO transportation plan, and noted that a contract should be signed by the end of the week. He continued on, describing the timeline staff has laid out for the development of the upcoming MPO transportation plan over the next 12-18 months, noting that the first six months will include the identification of common goals and objectives that will be included in the transportation plan, and upcoming county comprehensive plan.

Mr. Hull also noted that staff is no longer pursuing a change in the TCC and CAC membership, noting there was significant objection to this during the last regular meetings from all participants. Rather he is proposing to have the TCC and CAC meet jointly over the next year on a monthly basis to provide feedback to staff and provide a forum for discussion on issues surrounding the transportation plan. He noted that he would like to keep the quarterly meetings of the two committees separate.

A discussion ensued among the members about the direction of the transportation plan.

**Agenda Item #6: Staff Update**

Mr. Hull began by reminding everyone about the upcoming regional bicycle workshop on Monday, June 10 and a bicycle and pedestrian planning webinar at 4p on June 5 at the SGRC. Mr. Hull also noted the attendance records of the Citizen's Advisory Committee, noting that several members had not attended in some time. The Policy Committee members asked who was most recently present at the meeting.

Mr. Hull also described an administrative amendment to the FY13-16 Transportation Improvement Program to combine two phases of right-of-way purchasing in FY14 and FY14 in to one phase in FY14 for the I-75 interchange construction projects at Exits 22 and 29. He also noted that the estimated cost of these phases had decreased from \$18 million to \$16 million.

**Agenda Item #7: Privilege of the Floor/Public Comment**

Mr. Hanson asked about the status of the Exit 18 reconstruction project, Mr. Hull said that he would have to get back with him on that.

**Agenda Item #8: – Adjournment**

Mr. Leonard noted the next meeting date on September 4, and adjourned the meeting at 11:08 am.

  
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Jason Davenport, Chair, VLMPO Policy Committee