

**Minutes  
Policy Committee  
March 13, 2012  
1:30 p.m.**

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Jason Davenport	Lowndes County (Ashley Paulk)
Joe Pritchard	Lowndes County
John Leonard	SGRC
John Whitehead	Valdosta (Larry Hanson)
John Gayle	Valdosta
<b>Others Present</b>	
Anne-Marie Day	FHWA (phone)
Corey Hull	SGRC
Joe Sheffield	GDOT
Andrew Heath	GDOT
Brent Thomas	GDOT
Lesa Walker	GDOT

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

Mr. Davenport called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

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

Mr. Davenport asked all of those in attendance to introduce themselves. Mr. Hull reviewed the attendance record of the Policy Committee. Mr. Davenport confirmed that a new small city mayor will be rotating on after July 1.

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

Mr. Davenport asked for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made by Joe Pritchard and seconded by John Gayle. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Agenda Item #4– Quarterly Financial Report**

Mr. Hull described the new monthly financial report through February 2012.

### **Agenda Item #5– Old Business**

#### A. Discussion of Meeting Day and Time

Mr. Hull said that the TCC agreed to a meeting date and time and they recommended that the Technical meeting start at 9am on the first Wednesday of the last month of the quarter, followed by the Policy meeting at 10:30 am. The June meetings would be held on June 6 at 9am and 10:30am for the TCC and PC, respectively. After a brief discussion Andrew Heath made a motion to change the meeting date and time, the motion was seconded by John Whitehead, the motion carried unanimously.

### **Agenda Item #6 – New Business**

#### A. Appointment of Nominating Committee for Officers for FY2013

Mr. Davenport described that in tradition the Vice-Chair has always rolled into the Chair's position. Since Mayor Fretti resigned, this process happened more quickly than on the annually basis. Mr. Davenport commented that by tradition the current Chair and Vice Chair would serve another year. Mr. Davenport and John Leonard agreed to serve in their current roles for another year. A motion was made by Joe Pritchard to accept the current slate of officers for another year, the motion was seconded and it was agreed upon unanimously to continue the current slate of officers for another year.

#### B. FY2013 UPWP and Budget

Mr. Hull described the final draft of the UPWP to the committee members. He described two changes to the TIP and LRTP elements. The change is reflective of feedback from FHWA and GDOT, in regards to the TIA. This state program while it may have impacts on the federal program if it is passed is not a federal program and the MPO participation in this program cannot be funded through federal funds. If the MPO TIP and LRTP require changes based on the TIA, this can still be covered based on the maintenance language already in the TIP and LRTP work elements. Mr. Hull then briefly discussed the budget estimates. Mr. Hull said that after further review he believes that there may be enough funding to begin a study of improving truck traffic issues in downtown Valdosta. Mr. Hull asked if there were any questions. Mr. Gayle commented

that he would like to work with local companies like Langdale and others to have them not use streets in downtown Valdosta and get them to use a different route. Mr. Gayle said that he would talk with Langdale to look at other truck routes. A motion was made to adopt the UPWP by John Whitehead and seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

**C. FY2013 FTA Section 5307 Letter to Decline Funds**

Mr. Hull described this letter that is to be written by MPO staff to GDOT to formally decline funds allocated to the Valdosta Urbanized Area for public transit use. He described that this letter is the same as in previous years and allows the Valdosta area to continue to have the first right of refusal of these funds, which will be distributed to other transit agencies in Georgia, until an urban public transit system can be fully built in Valdosta. A motion was made by John Gayle and seconded by Andrew Heath, the motion carried unanimously.

**Agenda Item #7 – Staff Update**

Mr. Hull said that there is a tentative meeting scheduled for May 1 in Nashville with GDOT to discuss the TIA implementation with local governments. Mr. Davenport confirmed an April date for a presentation on the TIA to the Plan Commission. He also confirmed that the MPO funding will not be affected by the TSPLOST vote. Mr. Hull also described the current federal legislative issues including a comparison of current proposed bills going through Congress. Mr. Hull also described the new urbanized numbers for the Valdosta Urban Area and he said that he will provide this information as soon as it is released. Mr. Hull reported on the CAC attendance and appointing new individuals to the CAC who will be good individuals to participate on the CAC. Mr. Hull presented project updates from the TIP indicating that all items in blue were updates. Mr. Hull described the new Travel Demand Model that the SGRC is developing for this area and will be presenting information in the future on this new model to show how land and transportation policies and projects can impact an area.

**Agenda Item #8 - Privilege of the Floor/Public Comment**


Mr. Davenport asked for any public comment, there was none.

**Agenda Item #9 - Next Meeting Date and Time**

The next meeting date will be June 6, 2012 at 10:30 a.m.

**Agenda Item #10 – Adjournment**

Mr. Davenport adjourned the meeting at 2:08 pm.

  
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Jason Davenport, Planner, Lowndes County  
Chair, Valdosta-Lowndes Metropolitan Planning Organization