

BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
Policy Committee
Minutes of November 18, 2020 Meeting
Zoom Meeting Format

VOTING MEMBERS PARTICIPATING: Mallory Avis, Annjanette Kremer, Derek King, Don Mayle, John Midgley, Dave Morgan, Greg Rickmar, and Bill Scutt

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PARTICIPATING: None

VOTING MEMBERS NOT PARTICIPATING: Harry Burdett, Emmett Township, and Laveta Hardish

NON-VOTING MEMBERS NOT PARTICIPATING: Andy Pickard and Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

OTHERS PARTICIPATING: Kevin Leiter (Supervisor-Elect Pennfield Township), Pat Karr and Andrew Tilma

Vice-Chair Midgley called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. via a Zoom conference meeting. The meeting was held virtually due to the continuing COVID-19 virus situation.

ROLL CALL

Karr conducted a roll call of members and any guests. Members indicated their presence for the purpose of establishing a quorum. It was noted that all members are participating virtually and, per the new Open Meetings Act Amendment, each member participating virtually needed to indicate their physical location, which is to be included in the minutes.

Members participating remotely and location: Avis (City of Battle Creek, MI), Kremer (Potterville, MI), King (City of Battle Creek, MI), Mayle (Fowlerville, MI), Midgley (Jackson, MI), Morgan (Pennfield Charter Township, MI), Rickmar (City of Battle Creek, MI), and Scutt (Bedford Charter Township, MI)

Morgan indicated that Kevin Leiter, the Supervisor-Elect for Pennfield Charter Township, was observing the meeting from the Pennfield Supervisor's office with Morgan.

It was determined that a quorum of the voting members were participating.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Rickmar, supported by Scutt, to approve the agenda. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY to approve the agenda.

Res.
20-42

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Morgan, supported by Kremer, to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2020 meeting, as presented, subject to any additions, corrections or changes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
20-43**

COMMUNICATIONS

Karr reported the following items of communication:

- The FY 2021 UWP has been posted on the BCATS website.
- BCATS staff and the audit firm staff have set a date of this Friday for the virtual audit.
- BCATS staff is working to address the MDOT highway safety targets for 2021 at the December meetings of the BCATS Committees.
- The public notice for this month's TIP amendment was published in the Battle Creek Enquirer and posted on the BCATS website in late October.
- MDOT announced earlier this month the selected local safety projects for FY 2022. The Calhoun County Road Department was successful in this competitive process with many of its applications, with a total of eight projects receiving funding in the county. Some of the projects are in the BCATS area and some are not. BCATS' area projects will be added to the TIP in a future amendment. Thanks to the Policy Committee for authorizing letters of support for these safety projects back at the May meeting.
- Based on the November 3rd election, BCATS will be welcoming several new township supervisors and potentially a new City of Battle Creek commissioner to the BCATS Policy Committee for the December meeting. The City mayors remain the same. Karr offered congratulations to both of those individuals.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #9

Tilma indicated that the only item for this month's amendment is the addition of capital funding for Battle Creek Transit for vehicle replacement. The funding was received as part of a competitive grant process at the federal level and will fund ten line-haul vehicles and four smaller buses/vans. Tilma also noted a cost adjustment to an MDOT project that is below the level that requires a full TIP amendment. This will be included in this processing cycle. He also noted a project abandonment that will be a technical correction to eliminate a duplicate project since the transit specialized services funding for 2021 was programmed by BCATS and then programmed by the MDOT Office of Passenger Transportation.

Tilma stated that there will be several items included in the January TIP amendment, including the funded local safety projects recently announced.

It was moved by Rickmar, supported by Morgan, to approve Amendment #9 to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
20-44**

B. Holiday Season Impaired Driving Prevention Campaign 2020

Karr indicated that it is the season for acknowledging this national campaign and bringing awareness to the issue of drunk and drugged driving. She stated that she has sent a request to the local governmental units to pass a similar resolution to the one on the Policy Committee agenda today. She thanked the local units that have passed and/or have scheduled the resolution for action as well.

The resolution was read into the record by Karr.

It was moved by Scutt, supported by Kremer, to adopt the Holiday Season Impaired Driving Prevention resolution, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
20-45**

C. Appointment of Nominating Committee for 2021 Policy Committee Officers

Midgley asked for volunteers for the Nominating Committee. Since there were no volunteers for this Committee, it was the consensus of the members to defer this action and have Chair Burdett make the appointments outside of the meeting. Karr noted that a report from those appointed to the Nominating Committee should be provided to the BCATS staff in advance of the December Policy Committee meeting.

COMMENTS

A. Next Meeting

Vice-Chair Midgley announced that the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 16, 2020, 1:30 p.m. This is per the adopted schedule that has this meeting one week early due to the December holidays.

B. Committee Member Comments

Several members took the opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Morgan said goodbye to the members, as his term as supervisor is ending. He indicated that new supervisor Leiter is ready to be active on the Policy Committee representing Pennfield.

Karr noted, and Kremer confirmed, that the I-69 work in Calhoun County and Eaton County will be suspended for the winter and two lanes will be open in both directions until spring when the project resumes.

C. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chair Midgley adjourned the meeting at 1:52 p.m.