



**CENTRAL YAVAPAI
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

EXECUTIVE BOARD EMERGENCY MEETING

Thursday, March 05, 2009

9:00 AM

**Prescott Council Chambers
City Hall**

**201 S. Cortez St.
Prescott, AZ 86303**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Town of Prescott Valley
City of Prescott
Town of Chino Valley
Yavapai County
State Transportation Board

Mike Flannery, Chairman
Robert "Bob" Luzius, Vice-Chairman
Ron Romley, Secretary/Treasurer
Carol Springer
William "Bill" Feldmeier

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

City of Prescott
Yavapai County

Town of Prescott Valley
RTAC
ADOT

Craig McConnell, Mayor Wilson, Connie Tucker
Supervisor Tom Thurman, Phil Bourdon, Mike Willett,
Chris Bridges,
Norm Davis
Kevin Adam (Via telephone)
Dallas Hammit, Don Mauller

CYMPO STAFF PRESENT

Administrator
Program Manager
Administrative Assistant

Jodi Rooney
Vicky McLane
Jean Knight

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

Civiltec Engineering
J & K Engineering
Prescott Transit
Prescott Courier
Dava & Associates
C.W.A.G
Prescott Bicycle Advisory Committee
Courier
P.A.T.
Prescott Transit

Richard Straub
Ed Williams
Steve Silvernale
Cindy Barks
Gordon Bowers
Ken Janeczek
Derek Brownlee
Cindy Barks
Lisa Barnes
Steve Silvernale

MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Mike Flannery called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

The Board and CYMPO staff introduced themselves. CYMPO Administrator Jodi Rooney introduced Kevin Adam from RTAC, via telephone. Chairman Mike Flannery also introduced Mayor Wilson, from the City of Prescott and Supervisor Tom Thurman, from Yavapai County.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS and CYMPO UPDATES

The Transportation Enhancement (TERC) cycle has begun: March 14, 2009, ending August 14, 2009. The MTIP cycle will begin as of today.

3. CALL TO THE PUBLIC: This item is to provide an opportunity for presentation of comments by the public on subjects not on the agenda. Individuals wishing to address the Board need not request permission in advance and are limited to three (3) minutes.

Connie Tucker, City of Prescott requested from the CYMPO a letter of support to a Rural Caucus that is being formed at the legislature. Representative Tobin requested the support for the efforts of the caucus, with the purpose to protect rural money for transportation projects. The Board requested additional information be provided before a letter could be prepared. Ms. Tucker related that more information will be forwarded at a later date.

4. AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) AKA (STIMULUS PACKAGE)

Jodi Rooney, CYMPO Administrator

CYMPO Administrator Jodi Rooney related that on February 25, 2009, the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) held their weekly meeting and from their Agenda Item # 6, “Reinvestment and Recovery Act Update”, they are proposing to request legislative leadership to intervene and override the State Transportation Board (STB) decision utilizing the Revenue Advisory Allocation Committee (RAAC) formula concerning ARRA funds and to instead take the STAN projects for the MAG region off the top before other allocation is made. This could potentially be damaging to our area and Greater Arizona as we stand to lose millions in transportation funding—again. Furthermore, this action evades the authority of the State Transportation Board.

From the February 20, 2009, State Transportation Board meeting: discussion included the appropriate distribution of the ARRA funds. Three approaches were presented and, after much discussion, the motion was made to adopt approach #1, which is the RAAC allocation, for the discretionary State funds portion of the ARRA.

The ESTIMATED amount of Stimulus monies for AZ is as follows:

\$522M for Highways
-\$16M Transportation Enhancements Projects (off the top)
\$506M
- 156M Sub-allocations to the locals
\$350M State discretionary share

Other:
\$115M Transit

\$1M Airports

At this point no number is definite on what will come out to the regions. FHWA is involved in the decision for the sub-allocations for MAG, PAG, and Greater AZ. It was noted we should hear in three weeks.

ADOT presented a list of projects to the STB, (overall \$175 million) with their proposed ranking, and requested that the COGs and MPOs review and to make comment in relation to the projects on the list and to respond with comments by Monday, March 9, 2009. It appears that this is just State projects, with local projects to be funded from the sub-allocations. This has not been confirmed.

For more information contact CYMPO at (928) 759-5520 or email: jknight@pvaz.net

Dallas Hammit, ADOT Prescott District, indicated that there were other Yavapai County projects on the list, the last being an I-17 Project, which will go with other designated funds. A lot of the projects are preservation projects as these meet the Federal requirements. Discussion ensued regarding the preservation projects rather than actual construction projects. Preservation projects are not long term; however, are less expensive than construction projects. They do not put people to work for the long term.

Chris Bridges, Yavapai County, summarized the Stimulus funds allocation in a presentation with the history of the Stimulus program since its inception to current date. On February 17, 2009, when the ARRA was signed, the total appropriation for highways was determined to be \$27.5 billion. The sub-allocation funding (\$156.6 million) is what the rural, otherwise known as Greater Arizona, will receive funds from for projects. At this time it is unknown what projects will be on the list.

Kevin Adam, RTAC, related the sub-allocated funds would be more complex as far as the implementation and distribution. The federal formula that is being used to allocate in the ARRA legislation, is more complex. He indicated that they are trying to get further direction from the Federal Highway Department for what level of discretion they have vs. what are the requirements. Mr. Adam also explained that based on some of the information that ADOT staff has presented to the State Transportation Board in earlier meetings, (levels of funding that ADOT was proposing for the rural areas) it appears that there are significant amounts going to be taken out of the population groups under 200,000 and 5,000 pot. Additionally, in earlier presentations, Greater Arizona, or the 13 other counties, would only be receiving \$15 million out of the proposed amount, or 10%. There is serious concern about this level of distribution. Mr. Adam is trying to get as much clarification as possible as to the ability of ADOT to have the discretion to increase that amount.

CYMPO Administrator Jodi Rooney advised the Board that we have been given this opportunity to review the list, see if all are comfortable with the list and comment back to Sam Maroufkhani, ADOT, on Monday, March 9, 2009. Comments were made regarding the different formulas, STAN vs. the RAAC. The STB determined that the RAAC formula has been used predominately in the past and made the decision to utilize it for the ARRA funding. Mrs. Rooney indicated that at the STB presentation by ADOT on March 3, 2009, it was indicated that the new Federal criteria of economic distressed areas should be taken into consideration over counties that were not.

Bret Anderson from ADOT related that there were several questions posed to the financial staff at ADOT regarding the \$156 million; they are reviewing the best way to distribute the funds. The information will be brought forward as soon as it has been determined.

Member Bill Feldmeier indicated that as the STB did not have an opportunity to preview the list that ADOT submitted for approval, which is why the Board was to review it again at the March 13, 2009, meeting and allow the MPOs and COGs an opportunity to comment.

The conversation continued as to approving the list presented, and discussion determined that approving the list with at least one Yavapai County Project was better than not having a project on the list at all. It appears that Yavapai County is 6th from the bottom of the list for State allocation of funds.

Mayor Wilson, from the City of Prescott commented that the State Board of Transportation look at all of the projects in Yavapai County, not just the I-17 project and for the Executive Board exercise due diligence.

MOTION

Member Carol Springer presented a **Motion** that CYMPO approve this list and make that recommendation to the State Transportation Board. The **Motion** was seconded by Vice-Chairman Bob Luzius.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

The vote was unanimous, with Member Bill Feldmeier abstaining.

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The CYMPO Administrator related that Part II of the issue today was that the STB determined at the meeting of February 20, 2009, to apply the RAAC Formula to the ARRA funding; that basically favors the locals. What has now occurred is that the MAG Regional Council made a motion to send a letter to legislators to intervene and overturn the decision, which undermines the authority of the STB. What Mrs. Rooney asked was if the Executive Board agreed with the STB; and, how to support the STB. Draft letters of support have been provided by NACOG, in support of their decision to be sent to the legislature. Mrs. Rooney presented what MAGs standing was and that they were in support of STAN projects coming off the top of the distribution of ARRA funds, they would be contacting the legislature.

Member Carol Springer indicated that the Executive Board should write a letter of support of the STB; directing it to the Governor as well all of the local legislature, indicating that CYMPO supports the decision of the STB in the allocation of funding of the state transportation projects. Ms. Springer stated the letter should also encourage the legislature not make any attempts to overturn the decision of the proper authorities, in this case the STB. She then made an official motion.

MOTION

Member Carol Springer presented a **Motion** for the Executive Board to take action by sending a letter signed by our Chairman, to the Governor and Legislature, indicating that CYMPO supports the decision of the State Transportation Board in the allocation of funding for the transportation projects and hopes that the Legislature not make any attempt to overturn the State Transportation Board decision. The **Motion** was seconded by Secretary/Treasurer Ron Romley.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

The vote was unanimous.

Kevin Adam, RTAC, commented that it was an excellent idea that the Governor be contacted as well. Communicating with the Governor and the legislature is very important.

Member Carol Springer related that her opinion was to show support of the STB, more than the formula. Chairman Mike Flannery explained the reason that the STAN formula was used in the past was used as an emergency use of the formula. Additionally, Mr. Flannery indicated that MAG wanting to use the STAN formula was wrong.

Vice-Chairman Bob Luzius, suggested that in addition to the Governor and legislature, the letter be copied to the Director of ADOT. Member Bill Feldmeier related that the STB was looking at the issue as the MAG saying that the other state highway system outside of the urban area was not as important. Whether it is in the rural area or urban, it is a state highway system and belongs to the State of Arizona and we need to keep the state system pure. To keep the funding flowing to the other parts of the state is the issue.

Chairman Mike Flannery also suggested that a thank you letter be sent to the STB.

MOTION

Vice-Chairman Bob Luzius presented a **Motion** to Amend the **Motion** presented by Member Carol Springer, to forward a copy of the Letter of Support of the State Transportation Board, to the new ADOT Director. The **Motion** was seconded by Secretary/Treasurer Ron Romley.

City of Prescott, Mayor Wilson, commented that he supports the proposed action of the Executive Board and related that he could also send a letter of support to the Governor. CYMPO Administrator Jodi Rooney indicated that Flagstaff MPO relayed that it would be a good idea to send a letter to MAG as well as sending the letter to all state legislators.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

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The vote was unanimous.

MOTION

Vice Chairman Bob Luzius presented a **Motion** to send a letter to the State Transportation Board in support of their actions. The **Motion** was seconded by Secretary/Treasurer Ron Romley.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

The vote was unanimous.

5. UPCOMING SCHEDULED MEETINGS

- * T-TAC Meeting: **Thursday, March 12, 2009, 8 AM**, Prescott Valley Town Hall, Conf. Room #406
(*CYMPO Transit Technical Advisory Committee monthly meeting.*)
- * State Transportation Board Meeting: **Friday, March 13, 2009**, Phoenix
- * Executive Board Meeting: **Wednesday, March 18, 6:00 PM**, Yavapai County Board of Supervisors' Room
(*CYMPO Executive Board monthly meeting.*)
- * M-TAC Meeting: **Thursday, April 2, 2009, 8 AM**, Prescott City Hall, Council Chambers (*CYMPO Multi-Modal Technical Advisory Committee*)

The physical location of the State Transportation Board meeting to be held on Friday, March 13, 2009, was provided.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 AM.