

Flint Hills Metropolitan Planning Organization

323 Poyntz Avenue, Suite 101 | Manhattan, KS | 66502

Phone: 785.845.9050 FHMPO@FlintHillsMPO.org

Policy Board Meeting

Wednesday February 17, 2021 3:30 pm

Policy Board Members and quests should join via Zoom Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9191546755

Meeting ID: 919 154 6755

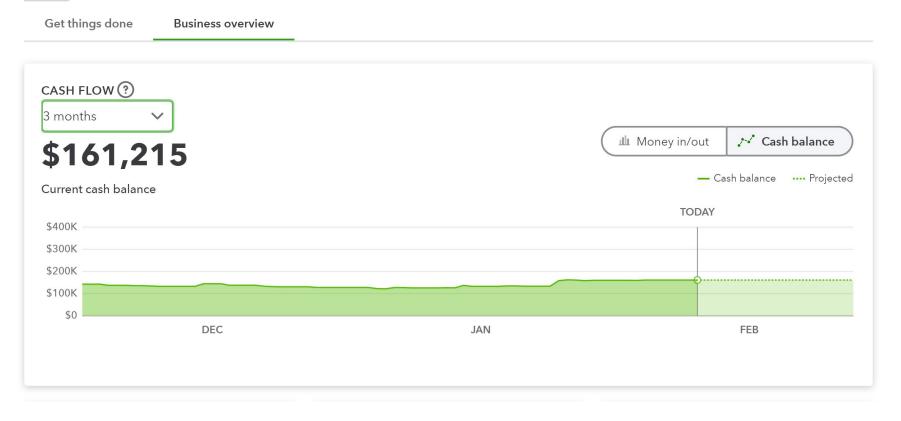
- 1. Welcome & Introductions
- 2. Public Comment Opportunity
- KDOT Update: Available on KDOT's website, <u>here</u>.
- 4. Financial Update
- 5. **ACTION ITEM**: January 20, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- 6. **ACTION ITEM**: Approval of Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #5
- 7. Added Discussion Item: Regional Connections Plan and Interactive Map
- 8. Update: 2021 Audit
- 9. Updates from Staff
- 10. Motion for Adjournment

Special Accommodations: Please notify the MPO at (785) 845-9050 or FHMPO@FlintHillsMPO.org at least 72 hours in advance if you require special accommodations to attend this meeting. We will make every effort to meet reasonable requests. The MPO does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, or national origin, according to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, visit the MPO office at 323 Poyntz Avenue, Suite 101 or www.FlintHillsMPO.org.



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Policy Board Meeting Minutes January 20, 2021 3:30pm

Via Zoom Meeting

| VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Х | Keith Ascher | Geary County Commission | | |
| Х | Kristi Wilson (Alt) | KS Dept of Transportation | | |
| Х | Aaron Estabrook | Manhattan City Commission | | |
| Х | Dee McKee | Pottawatomie Co. Commission | | |
| Х | Ronna Larson | Junction City Commission | | |
| Х | John Ford | Riley County Commission | | |
| | Clifford Baughman | Wamego City Commission | | |
| NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT | | | | |
| Х | Matt McDonald | Federal Highway Admin. | | |
| Х | Kelley Paskow (Alt) | Fort Riley Representative | | |
| | Eva Steinman | Federal Transit Admin. | | |
| Х | Anne Smith | Flint Hills ATA | | |

| Staff Present | | |
|---------------|--------------------|-----|
| Х | Stephanie Peterson | MPO |
| Х | Jared Tremblay | MPO |

| Guests Present | | |
|----------------|---------------|--|
| | | |
| Jeff Underhill | Junction City | |
| | Commissioner | |
| | | |

1. Welcome & Introductions:

- The Policy Board meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jeff Underhill at 3:32pm.
- Jeff introduced Ronna Larson, Junction City Commissioner, who will now serve on the Board.

2. ACTION ITEM: Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

- Stephanie Peterson stated that the Vice-Chair position shouldn't have been on the agenda. Per the Bylaws, KDOT serves as the Vice-Chair.
- Keith Ascher nominated John Ford for Chairperson
- There were no other nominations.
- Keith Ascher motioned for John Ford to serve as Chairperson.
- Aaron Estabrook seconded.

3. Public Comment Opportunity

No public were in attendance and no comments were made.

4. KDOT Update

 Kristi Wilson encouraged the Board Members to review the web link sent out with the agenda with the KDOT updates. She stated that there were not very many changes from the last update.

5. Financial Update

• Stephanie Peterson provided an overview of the Flint Hills MPO cash flow. The current cash balance as of the meeting was \$135,000. Stephanie stated that they had received 2021 local match contributions from Riley County and Wamego so far.

6. ACTION ITEM: December 2, 2020 Meeting Minutes

- Keith Ascher motioned to approve the minutes. Aaron Estabrook seconded. Motion carried 6-0.
- John Ford asked staff if they had reached out to Wamego recently regarding their Board
 position. Stephanie replied that she had not reached out to them specifically regarding their
 attendance on the Board, but that their representative and City Manager both receive the
 agendas. The Board requested that staff reach out to Wamego to inquire about their absence
 over the last several years.

7. ACTION ITEM: Authorize staff to send a letter to KDOT requesting revisions to the Consolidated Planning Grant (CPG) formula

- Stephanie Peterson provided an overview of the letter she drafted on behalf of the Board.
 She asked if they had any changes, additions, or items they wanted removed. There were no revisions requested.
- Keith Ascher clarified that the purpose of the request was to lower the local match contributions. Staff stated that yes, by having more federal funding to cover 80% of expenses, the locals would only have to contribute 20%, as opposed to the 35% estimated for 2021.
- Aaron Estabrook motioned to approve. Keith Ascher second. Motion carried 6-0.

8. Discussion Item: Meeting format

• Stephanie Peterson stated that the Board had requested last fall to reevaluate the Zoom meeting format at the January meeting. Staff recommended that the Board continue to use Zoom as the meeting platform for the next several months. The Board suggested revisiting the topic at the March or April meeting.

9. Updates from Staff

- Stephanie informed the Board that an unemployment claim had been fraudulently filed under her name both under the MPO and City of Manhattan. She stated that she took all precautions the Department of Labor suggested.
- She asked for the Board members to provide her with the name of their designated Alternate.
- She also stated that with Jeff Underhill no longer on the Board and John Ford as the Chair, the signature card for the bank needed to be updated. She suggested adding John Ford to the signature card.

• Lastly, Stephanie stated that Rachel Foss Peterson was no longer an employee of the MPO. Since Rachel moved to Colorado, the MPO would have to file taxes in both states and it isn't worth the additional time it would take to set this up. However, the MPO has hired Rachel as a 1099 contractor to complete her remaining tasks.

10. Motion for Adjournment

- The next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2021.
- John Ford motioned to adjourn the meeting. Keith Ascher seconded. Meeting adjourned at 3:03pm.