

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
(SIMPO)

MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
ON July 10, 2017  
IN MARION, ILLINOIS

Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Gary Williams	City of Carbondale
Steve Frattini	City of Herrin
Robert Butler	City of Marion
Julie Peterson	Jackson County
Ron Ellis	Williamson County
Bill Jung	Rides Mass Transit
Carrie Nelson	IDOT

Others Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Curtis Jones	IDOT
Greg Smothers	Williamson County
Ted Gutierrez	Jackson County Mass Transit
Kyle Harfst	SIU
Sarah Patrick	Jackson County Health Dept.
Cary Minnis	Greater Egypt
Joe Zdankiewicz	Greater Egypt
Tyler Carpenter	Greater Egypt
Margie Mitchell	Greater Egypt

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Jung, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and welcomed everyone.

Approval of June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

It was noted there was a typing error on page 2, proposal was misspelled (will be corrected on the official minutes). Mr. Ellis moved to approve the June 12, 2017, Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting as corrected. Seconded by Ms. Peterson. The motion carried.

IL 13 Pedestrian Study in Marion Consultant Selection

Joe noted two consultants, CMT and TWM, gave very good presentations to the TAC regarding the IL 13 Pedestrian Study in Marion. The TAC discussed the firms and recommended that CWM be awarded the contract. Comment was made there is a lot of danger in crossing Route 13. Joe noted that he has been advised that if the TAC recommends to the Policy Committee, than a motion is needed to approve the recommendation, but does not need a second.

After discussion, Ms. Peterson moved that the Policy Committee approve the Technical Advisory Committee's recommendation that Thouvenot, Wade & Moerchen, Inc. (TWM) be awarded the contract for the IL 13 Pedestrian Study in Marion. The motion carried.

2017 STU Selection Process

Joe discussed the Application for SIMPO STU Funding form noting minor changes had been made since last year. Numbers 1 and 2 will not be scored. Numbers 3 thru 7 will be scored. Number 8 gives a chance to make a case for the project by allowing for unspecified additional information. The application is limited to two pages (they are

fillable) and a project location map. All this information will be available to the Policy Committee when they decide on a project. The TAC and Policy Committee will now get the same information.

Question was asked about the unit of government submitting a resolution with the application as previously discussed. Staff noted that after a project is selected that a resolution will be requested. It was noted that a request for a resolution is not on the form. A letter that goes out with the application will mention a resolution favoring the project is needed if a project is selected and send a template of the resolution which includes obligation of funds. Comments were made that different people might be on a board in a few years when the project is scheduled that may not favor the project and the unit of government may not have the local funds.

Also discussed was project readiness, should it be added to the application form. Mr. Ellis noted project readiness is very important. Cary noted we have the option to add project readiness. Need to work out items to include in project readiness. It was noted that if design and ROW are started on a project, those components are not eligible for STU funds. There is time to make changes in the application form. Will revise and send to the TAC for review. The Policy Committee can approve at the next meeting. The decision on project(s) will need to be made at the October meeting. IDOT needs the project list in December.

### Transit Study

Joe noted the Transit Study is complete and hard copies are available if anyone wants one. The report is also available on the web site and a PDF copy can be downloaded. The big outcome of the study is that the transit districts meet 2 and maybe 4 of the criteria to be eligible to capture STIC (\$400,000 to \$800,000) annually in additional funding. Information was used from Saluki Express, Jackson County Mass Transit, and Rides Mass Transit records. Increased use of the transit systems was recommended.

Mr. Jung said performance based reporting is used. We are moving in the right direction. Need a development plan in place; they are still working with Saluki Express to improve coordination and service.

Ms. Peterson moved that the SIMPO Transit Study be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Butler. The motion carried.

### Other MPO Business

Joe noted that the Marion to Carbondale Bike Route Committee had one meeting and will begin meeting with individual stakeholders. Mr. Ellis noted that he is against the county having to obligate funds for future maintenance. What would be the upkeep costs in the unincorporated areas?

Tyler noted the drone program will be used primarily for the watershed program, but also for the SIMPO studies. He and Joe had used the drone on Route 13 in the Ray Fosse Park area and took 132 pictures. The flight and photograph locations were automated and preprogrammed. The pictures were shown and will be given to the consultant for the study.

Cary noted that we do have a UAS License and insurance. There has been a learning curve. This is a good tool and we would like to do work for others if there is a need.

### Adjourn

Mr. Butler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Peterson. The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.