



## Minutes of the Hattiesburg-Petal-Forrest-Lamar Metropolitan Planning Organization

### POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING JULY 25, 2018

The POLICY Committee of the Hattiesburg-Petal-Forrest-Lamar Metropolitan Planning Organization met in session **July 25, 2018** at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Room of the Hattiesburg Intermodal Facility in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

**POLICY Committee Members Present:**

Mayor Toby Barker	City of Hattiesburg	Voting
Mayor Hal Marx	City of Petal	Voting
Chris Bowen	Forrest County	Voting
Perry Brown, P.E., MDOT	MDOT	Voting
John Weeks, Engineer, Shows, Dearman & Waits	City of Petal	
Andrew Ellard, Executive Director of HPFL-MPO	City of Hattiesburg	
Necole Baker	MDOT	

**MPO/HCT Staff**

Calvin Russell, MPO Division Manager	City of Hattiesburg
Addie West, MPO Administrative Assistant	City of Hattiesburg
Hema Gopalan, MPO GIS Specialist	City of Hattiesburg
Grant Hobgood, MPO GIS Technician	City of Hattiesburg
Maryann Adams	SCSEP/ SMPDD

**Visitors**

Vernnell Jackson	COH Citizen
Beverly Shaw	COH Citizen
Glenda Funches	COH Citizen
Jeruthia Stephney	COH Citizen

**Called to Order/Introductions:**

Hattiesburg-Petal-Forrest-Lamar MPO POLICY Committee Meeting was called to order by Mayor Hal Marx, of the City of Petal. Voting Delegates were identified.

**AGENDA SESSION:**

**There came the matter of Item III, Approval of the HPFL-MPO POLICY Committee Meeting Agenda of July 25, 2018.** A motion was made by Mayor Toby Barker and seconded by Hal Marx to accept the agenda. The motion was unanimously approved. The motion carried.

**There came the matter of Item IV, Review and Comment on the HPFL-MPO Policy Minutes for April 25, 2018.** A motion was made by Mayor Toby Barker and seconded by Perry Brown to approve the minutes. The motion was unanimously approved. The motion carried.

**There came the matter of Item V, Prospectus/By-Laws**

A motion was made by Mayor Toby Barker and seconded by Perry Brown to Vote to Adopt the HPFL-MPO Prospectus/ Bylaws. The motion was unanimously approved.

**There came the matter of Item VI, Public Participation Plan**

A motion was made by Mayor Toby Barker and seconded by Perry Brown to Vote to Adopt the HPFL-MPO Public Participation Plan. The motion was unanimously approved. The motion carried.

*Chris Bowen, Forrest County, joined the meeting.*

**There came the matter of Item VII, Transportation Improvement Plan 2019-2022.**

The Transportation Improvement Plan 2019-2022 will require an electronic vote after the Public Hearing on August 8, 2018, contingent on no adverse comments received through the comment period such that may substantially alter the Plan as drafted. The motion was unanimously approved. The motion carried.

**There came the matter of Item VIII, Public Comment Opportunity**

Ms. Beverly Shaw explained her opposition to the Carey Parkway Opening to Bowling Street. She cited traffic concerns (train blocking other routes, a ditch always wet, how much land that will be needed). She questioned the need and level of study done on this issue.

Attorney Gloria Funchess explained her opposition to MLK & eminent domain on church and the closure of Penton Ave. She believes it can be a Gateway for revitalizing the area.

**There came the matter of Item IX, Other Business/Local Business**

Andrew Ellard, Executive Director of HPFL-MPO stated that Hub City Transit has implemented New Bus Routes. We have two buses wrapped and new signage going up as the rebranding continues. In October, we will recommend opening the application process for new STP projects. We will receive applications, review them against the TIP Handbook and prioritize the projects to be recommended. We are also working toward a call for PL Funds projects.

Mr. Bowen stated that because he arrived after the item had been taken up by the committee, he wished to revisit the Prospectus/By-Laws item approved earlier in the meeting with regard to the proxy and chairmanship issue in Article VI, paragraph 2.

Mr. Bowen made a motion to amend the document, Mayor Marx seconded.

Mayor Barker clarified that the appropriate action would be a motion to reconsider the earlier action rather than to take additional action after it had been decided.

Mr. Bowen withdrew his motion to amend.

Mr. Bowen made a motion to reconsider item 5 from the agenda, Mayor Marx seconded. Mr. Bowen provided sample language for a change to Article VI, paragraph 2. The committee had discussion. The motion to reconsider was approved 2-1 (Mayor Barker voting no, Mr. Brown abstaining).

Mr. Bowen made a motion to amend the amendment (agenda item 5) specific to the language in Article VI, paragraph 2, seconded by Mayor Barker to read:

*“Each Entity may designate in writing, a proxy representative to vote at meetings during the designated Policy Committee member’s absence. Such assigns will hold voting authority of the member they represent; including with respect to the rotating Chairmanship and Vice Chairmanship, so long as the member is an elected official. In the absence of both Chairman and Vice Chairman, the Executive Director shall preside over the meeting.”*

Mayor Marx made a motion to adopt the final version of the Prospectus/By-Laws, and Mayor Barker seconded. The motion was approved 4-0. The motion carried.

Mr. Bowen also asked to address the STP funds listed in the draft TIP and STIP for the HPFL MPO, recognizing that they remain flat in future years as compared to other MPOs in the STIP that show a standard increasing percentage. Perry Brown explained that this has to do with the fact that the HPFL-MPO as a small MPO is subject to MDOT’s formula and distribution for funding unlike the other MPOs, and it is MDOT requiring in this instance that the figures shown remain flat for planning purposes.

**There came the matter of Item X**, Meeting Adjournment. Next scheduled meeting is the Policy Committee meeting on October 24, 2018. Being there was no further business, a motion was made by Mayor Hal Marx to adjourn the meeting and Mayor Toby Barker seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew Ellard, Executive Director of HPFL-MPO

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Addie West, Recording Secretary

Date: \_\_\_\_\_