



AGENCY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

7:30 P.M. Thursday, February 2, 2012 ; CCRPA 225 N. Main St. Ste 304, Bristol, CT

- I. Call to order & roll call (report of excused absences & declaration of quorum - 4 towns) - meeting was called to order at approximately 7:36 PM with the following members in attendance, except as otherwise noted:

	Chief Elected Official Rep.	Planning Commission Rep.	Council Rep. (Towns >50,000)
Berlin	Bart Bovee	Dennis Kern, Vice Chair	~
Bristol	John Pompei, Chair	Donald Padlo	Tim Furey
Burlington	Peter McBrien	Paul Rachielles	~
New Britain	Donald Naples, Secretary	Steven P. Schiller	Marie Lausch
Plainville	James Cassidy	Jennifer Bartiss-Earley	~
Plymouth	Stephen Mindera	Carl Johnson, absent	~
Southington	John Barry	Rudy Cabata, Treas.	James "Rusty" Haigh

- II. Introduction of New Board Members - John Barry, Southington, and Marie Lausch, New Britain
- III. Comments from the public regarding items not on the agenda - none.
- IV. Presentations
- A. Waterbury Rail Study Update - Colleen Kissane, ConnDOT Staff
 Tom Maziarz, Bureau Chief for Policy and Planning at ConnDOT, distributed an outline and map relating to the "Central Connecticut Rail Study." He advised that he would email links to similar studies which had been done for ConnDOT related to rail projects, and assured the Board that the consultants were very well qualified to do the Study. He advised that the Scope of work is done, the contract was executed this week and, fee proposals are prepared and need to be negotiated. He expected those negotiations to conclude this month so that work could begin in March. The Alternatives Analysis is expected to take 18 months to complete, and to be adequately funded by the \$1M provided by the Governor for the Study. He discussed the three different markets the Study would address - commuters, intercity trips, and freight - and the infrastructure assessment that would be done. He reiterated his invitation for the Agency to suggest members to serve on the Advisory Committee, which he expects to be formed in the next few months. He offered to have staff represented "regularly" at the Agency Board meetings to keep the Board apprised of progress on the Study.
- B. Transportation Planning Program Overview - Ethan Abeles, Transportation Planner
 Ethan gave the Board a broad and thorough review of the transportation planning process and reported on the various projects in the funding pipeline and the process they went thru to get there.
- V. Action Items
- A. Approve the December 1, 2011, meeting minutes
 MOTION: Stephen Mindera moved to approve the December 1, 2011 meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Peter McBrien; passed unanimously.
- B. Receive the November and December 2011 Financial Reports and file for Audit
 MOTION: Tim Furey moved to accept the November and December 2011 Financial Reports and file for audit; seconded by Steven Schiller; passed unanimously.
- C. Committee Reports
1. Program, Finance & Personnel (PFPC)
 MOTION: Tim Furey moved to approve the proposed additions to the funding options made available to the employees for their ING Money Purchase Retirement Plan on the condition that a statement can be obtained from the Agency's broker for the plan providing his assurance that the fund options provided to employees are broad and balanced; seconded by Stephen Mindera; passed unanimously.
 2. Comprehensive Plan (CPC) (No action required on referrals if all decisions were unanimous; see CPC agenda for item listings) - Chairman Don Padlo reported that the one action item was vote unanimously.
 3. Transportation Improvement (TIC)
 - a. STIP/TIP amendments to approve District 1 projects 171-361 and 171-362, and District 4 projects 174-365 and 174-366 (Installation of durable epoxy pavement markings)
 MOTION: As unanimously recommended by the TIC, Tim Furey moved to approve STIP/TIP amendments for District 1 projects 171-362 and District 4 projects 174-365 and 174-366 (Installation of durable epoxy pavement markings); seconded by Stephen Mindera; passed unanimously.
 - b. STIP/TIP amendment to approve revised cost estimate to project 7-182 (Berlin Railroad Station Enhancement)

MOTION: As unanimously recommended by the TIC, Tim Furey moved to approve the STIP/TIP amendment providing a revised cost estimate for project 7-182 (Berlin Railroad Enhancement); seconded by Dennis Kern; passed unanimously.

- c. STIP/TIP amendment to approve revised cost estimate to project 17-174 (Major intersection improvements at South, Union and Church Streets in Bristol)

MOTION: As unanimously recommended by the TIC, Tim Furey moved to approve the STIP/TIP amendment providing a revised cost estimate for project 17-174 (Major intersection improvements at South, Union and Church Streets in Bristol); seconded by Dennis Kern; passed unanimously.

- d. Resolution #20120202A Ozone Air Quality Conformity Determination

MOTION: As unanimously recommended by the TIC, Tim Furey moved to approve Resolution #20120202A affirming the ConnDOT Ozone Air Quality Conformity Determination; seconded by Peter McBrien; passed unanimously.

- e. Resolution #20120202B Adoption of the Transportation Improvement Program for the Central Connecticut Region 2012-2015

MOTION: As unanimously recommended by the TIC, Don Padlo moved to approve Resolution #20120202B adopting the Transportation Improvement Program for the Central Connecticut Region 2012-2015; seconded by Stephen Mindera; passing with Tim Furey opposing it because of aspects of it related to Busway funding.

- f. Resolution #20120202C Approval of the Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency Urban Planning Certificate

MOTION: As unanimously recommended by the TIC, Tim Furey moved to approve Resolution #20120202C, the Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency Urban Planning Certificate; seconded by Peter McBrien; passed unanimously.

- g. Concurrence with Enhancement Program funding priorities

MOTION: James Cassidy moved to approve the Enhancement Program Funding Priorities as presented; seconded by Stephen Mindera; passed with Dennis Kern abstaining.

- h. Endorsement of CMAQ Project Proposals

MOTION: Tim Furey moved to endorse the CMAQ project proposals as presented and to approve the staff generated CMAQ project priority list that was provided to the members prior to the meeting; seconded by Peter McBrien; passed unanimously.

- i. Concurrence with Minor Amendments to the Long Range Transportation Plan

MOTION: As unanimously recommended by the TIC, Tim Furey moved to concur with Minor Amendments to the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) recommended by the TIC; seconded by Peter McBrien; passed unanimously.

- j. CMAQ Project Proposal Priority List - this item was handled in the motion dealing with "h" above.

- VI. Discussion item - Article on shared services from Board Member Dennis Kern
Dennis Kern invited comments from Board members regarding the need for additional environmental expertise when they review applications for projects involving unique environmental areas, such as traprock ridges. It was noted that the Connecticut Environmental Review Team (ERT) can provide some assistance to municipalities in such cases, as can the Soil and Water Conservation Districts - each of which the citizens of the municipalities already pay for thru the collection of permit fees. There was some discussion of the varying capacities of each of the municipalities' staff, and the need to ascertain what the various planners felt as their greatest expertise need.
MOTION: Tim Furey moved to have Agency staff survey the municipal planners of the Region regarding the needs they felt for environmental expertise beyond their own capabilities, and to remind those staffs of the availability of assistance thru the ERT and other existing agencies; seconded by James Cassidy; passed unanimously.
Don Padlo discussed concerns expressed by Tony Tranquillo at TIC meetings regarding the increasingly congested condition of Route 6 in the Town of Plymouth. It was suggested that the Agency should advocate for additional fixed route and/or commuter bus service to the Town, and the relationship between fixed route service and paratransit service was noted.
MOTION: Dennis Kern moved to have Agency staff investigate what could be done to encourage commuter and/or fixed route bus service to the Town of Plymouth; seconded by Stephen Mindera; passed unanimously.
- VII. Executive Director's Report - none submitted
- VIII. Adjournment was declared at approximately 9:00PM

Respectfully submitted: Cheri Bouchard - Duquette, Bookkeeper and Office Manager