



POLICY BOARD

Meeting Minutes - October 17, 2018

Council Chambers, City Hall, 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, AK

1. Call to Order

Mayor Ward called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

2. Introduction of Members and Attendees

Attendee	Representative Organization
*Bryce Ward, Chair	Mayor, City of North Pole
*Karl Kassel, Vice Chair	Mayor, Fairbanks North Star Borough
*Jim Matherly (absent)	Mayor, City of Fairbanks
*Ryan Anderson	Director, DOT&PF, Northern Region
*Van Lawrence	FNSB Assembly
*Jerry Cleworth	City Council, City of Fairbanks
*Denise Koch	DEC, Division of Air Quality
**Jackson Fox	FMATS Executive Director
**Alicia Stevens (absent)	FMATS Transportation Planner
**Deborah Todd	FMATS Administrative Assistant
**Randi Bailey	DOT&PF Planning
**Don Galligan	FNSB Planning
+Steven Hoke	DEC Division of Air Quality
Jeff Jacobson	City of Fairbanks Public Works
Wende Wilbur (via telephone)	Kittelson & Associates
Phil Worth	Kittelson & Associates
Michael Welch	Mayor Elect-City of North Pole

**FMATS Policy Board Members, **FMATS Staff Members, +FMATS Technical Committee Members*

3. Approval of the October 17, 2018 Agenda

Motion: To approve the October 17, 2018 Agenda. (Lawrence/Kassel).

Discussion: No further discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

4. Approval of the September 19, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve the September 19, 2018 meeting minutes. (Lawrence/Kassel).

Discussion: Mr. Lawrence commented that the FMATS meeting minutes were some of the best, most detailed, and most accurate minutes that he had ever dealt with.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

Mayor Ward presented Certificates of Appreciation to outgoing Policy Board Members Mayor Karl Kassel and Borough Assemblyman Van Lawrence and thanked them for their service to FMATS and the community.

5. Committee/Working Group Reports (including the Chair's Report)

a. Staff Report and Technical Committee Action Items

Mr. Fox provided highlights for all meetings, briefings, conferences, teleconferences, seminars, open houses, workshops, training, presentations, forums, and field trips he or FMATS staff had attended or participated in since the last meeting.

6. Public Comment Period (Non-Action Items)

No public comment.

7. Old Business

a. FMATS Transition Update

Mr. Fox explained that a legal discussion of the FMATS Transition to a non-profit corporation was held on October 8th that included: Mayor Kassel, Mayor Ward, Mike Meeks representing the City of Fairbanks, the Fairbanks City Attorney, two Borough Attorneys, and an Attorney from the State Department of Law. Mr. Fox stated that the first action item from the meeting was rewriting the Intergovernmental Agreement as a new agreement and not as an amendment which was previously approved by the Policy Board and the Borough Attorney's Office had taken the lead on rewriting that as a new agreement. Mr. Fox stated that the second action item was drafting a new MOU for the Coordinator's Office to replace the existing MOU and adding language to cover the membership fees and annual dues rather than having a separate membership agreement for each entity. Mr. Fox stated that the meeting packet contained Resolutions from the City of Fairbanks and the City of North Pole that authorized the Policy Board members to reorganize FMATS as a non-profit corporation and a similar Resolution was being drafted by the Fairbanks North Star Borough and calendared for approval by the Borough Assembly.

Mayor Ward asked Mr. Fox about the transition process and seeking guidance from the State for expending funds for setting up the non-profit before they had authorization to do that without a signed Operating Agreement.

Mr. Fox stated that as they went through the process they would be expending funds on setting up the non-profit corporation. Mr. Fox stated that DOT would be receiving two sets up invoices, one from the City of Fairbanks and one from the non-profit corporation and he had sent them a detailed budget list to review line by line to ensure that the expenditures were eligible for Federal reimbursement.

Mr. Lawrence asked about the last paragraph on the City of Fairbanks Resolution regarding FMATS' transition to FAST Planning and why that paragraph was in there and what impact it would have on them.

Mr. Cleworth stated that he did not write the Resolution but that he thought it was because the City Administration was frustrated by the transition that had held up the IBEW contract negotiations that should have been concluded a year ago. Mr. Cleworth stated that they needed to remember that it was a Resolution and not an Ordinance.

8. New Business

a. Metropolitan Transportation Plan Public Review Draft (Action Item)

Mr. Fox stated that the meeting packet included the Draft 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan which was ready for release for public comment and review. Mr. Fox stated that they did not include the Appendix of the report because it consisted of documents that had been reviewed previously and could be downloaded from the FMATS website. Mr. Fox stated that the current schedule was to adopt the plan in December in case Air Quality sanction clocks started in January which might put them into an Air Quality Conformity Freeze which would prohibit them from obtaining an Air Quality Conformity determination on the document. Mr. Fox stated that the public comment period for the document was October 18-November 21, 2018.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Motion: To approve release of the Draft 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan for public review. (Kassel/Lawrence).

Discussion: Mayor Ward stated that he liked the way that the long and short-range projects were presented and the visual aspect of the document

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

b. FFY19 Improvement Program Project (Action Item)

Mr. Fox explained that all the entities that nominated roads to be resurfaced met to prioritize them and decide what they could get constructed next summer. Mr. Fox stated that over \$5.5 million dollars in road resurfacing work was nominated for FY19 and it was only funded for \$2 million. Mr. Fox stated that they prioritized the list and split the roads for construction between FY19 and FY20. Mr. Fox stated that for Davis Road they had split it into two segments and half would be funded by DOT and the other half would be funded by FMATS. Mr. Fox stated that they also decided to move the two non-motorized facility projects into the FMATS Sidewalk Improvement Program and schedule that construction for FY2020. Mr. Fox stated that the Technical Committee had recommended approval.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Motion: To approve the FFY19 and FFY20 FMATS Improvement Program Priorities. (Kassel/Lawrence).

Discussion: Mr. Cleworth expressed concern about the FY20 Davis Road project due to the City of Fairbanks continuing to connect homes to City utilities in that area.

Mayor Ward stated that he was concerned about using the limited FMATS funds for DOT projects. Mayor Ward stated it had been a very valuable program and while he was willing to go with it this time, but he did not want to see it become a continuing practice because they had such a limited amount of money.

Mr. Anderson stated that he thought it was a policy level discussion and this was one of those cases where this was not an NHS route and they would prioritize roads like Davis Road differently if they were not using FMATS funding for a part of that and it probably would not happen as soon as it was. Mr. Anderson stated that he agreed that it was a big dollar amount and agreed with Mr. Cleworth about spending the money if they were going to be

continuing with the waterline connections in that area and that money could be used for other projects.

Mayor Ward asked Mr. Anderson if he would prefer that project be moved to FY2021.

Mr. Anderson stated that he thought that was wise because DOT would rather come in after and fix the road once they were done.

Amendment to the Motion: To delete the FFY20 FMATS Improvement Program Priorities. (Kassel/Lawrence).

Discussion: Mayor Kassel stated that he thought it was wise planning and they needed to take another look at 2020 and see if there were any conflicts so he thought it behooved them to take a second look at it. Mayor Kassel stated that with the evolving water quality issue, he thought they needed to step back from the 2020 plan.

Mr. Lawrence asked for clarification of whether the amendment to the motion was meant to delete the FY20 FMATS Sidewalk Improvement Program as well.

Mayor Kassel clarified that the FFY20 FMATS Sidewalk Improvement Program Priorities should remain and only the FFY20 FMATS Improvement Program should be deleted.

Vote on Amendment to the Motion: None opposed. Approved.

Vote on Amended Motion: None opposed. Approved.

Amended Motion: To approve the FFY19 FMATS Improvement Program Priorities and to delete the FFY20 FMATS Improvement Program Priorities.

9. Other Issues

No other issues.

10. Informational Items

a. Winter Maintenance Forum – October 23, 2018

Mr. Fox stated that the Winter Maintenance Forum was Tuesday, October 23, 2018 and FMATS had invited a series of guest speakers from the City of Fairbanks Public Works Department, DOT Maintenance, Borough Transportation, Borough Parks and Recreation, and Borough Rural Services, as well as UAF Operations to present their priorities for winter maintenance, who maintained what, and discuss the challenges they were faced with.

b. MTP Open House – October 24, 2018

Mr. Fox stated that the MTP Open House would be October 24, 2018 at the Noel Wien Library from 3:30-6:00 p.m. and they would present the projects and receive public comments.

c. Obligations and Offsets

Mr. Fox explained the obligations and offsets included in the meeting packet.

11. Policy Board Comments

- Mr. Lawrence commented that it had been an honor and a pleasure serving on the Policy Board. Mr. Lawrence stated Assembly members were required to serve on many boards and commissions and this was one of the most significant and powerful boards that he had served on. Mr. Lawrence stated

that he would certainly convey that to incoming Borough Assembly members. Mr. Lawrence stated that it had been a pleasure working with all of them.

- Mayor Kassel commented that it had been a pleasure working with all of them and his only regret was that he would not have the opportunity to be a “FAST Planner”. Mayor Kassel wished Mayor Ward luck in his new position.
- Ms. Koch stated that she wanted to thank Mr. Lawrence for his efforts on the Policy Board as well as his air quality efforts on the Assembly. Ms. Koch thanked Mayor Kassel for all the work he had done on the Policy Board and for Air Quality. Ms. Koch stated that Mayor Kassel had shown passion and leadership and it had been an absolute pleasure working with him. Ms. Koch stated that she also looked forward to working with Mayor Ward. Ms. Koch stated that with the local election and passage of Proposition #4, DEC worked on short and long-term contingency plans. Ms. Koch stated that she looked forward to continuing to work with Mayor Ward and the Borough Air Quality staff. Ms. Koch stated that upcoming State election was very important in determining the role of DEC in implementing the air quality program and the potential consequences associated with that.
- Mr. Anderson thanked Mr. Lawrence and Mayor Kassel for all their input and insight on the Policy Board. Mr. Anderson stated that University Avenue would be open the week of October 22.
- Mr. Cleworth thanked Mayor Kassel for all his work with FMATS and the Borough and wish him the best. Mr. Cleworth thanked Mr. Lawrence for all his work on FMATS and wish him the best in his future endeavors.
- Mayor Ward stated that he wanted to echo the previous sentiments and thanked Mayor Kassel and Mr. Lawrence for all their work on the Policy Board and with the Borough. Mayor Ward introduced Michael Welch, the incoming Mayor of North Pole.

12. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: (Lawrence/Kassel). The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m. The next Policy Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 21, 2018, 12-2 p.m. in the Fairbanks City Hall Council Chambers.

Approved: _____


Mayor Bryce Ward, Chair
FMATS Policy Board

Date: 11-21-18