

MEMPHIS AREA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Executive Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes

Baker Community Center, Room #1
Millington, Tennessee

February 20, 2020
10:00 A.M. CST

Board Members Present:

Hon. Hugh Davis Jr., *Chairman and Commissioner of Piperton*
Hon. Alonzo Beard, *Alderman of Lauderdale County*
Hon. Terry Jones, *Mayor of Millington*
Hon. Rhea “Skip” Taylor, *Mayor of Fayette County*
Mr. Robert Turner, *City Administrator, Representing Mayor Ronnie Neill of Somerville, TN*

Board Members Absent:

Hon. Minnie Bommer, *Vice-Chairman and Alderwoman of Covington*
Rep. Barbara Cooper, *Tennessee General Assembly, Distract 86*
Hon. Baris Douglas, *Mayor of Henning*
Hon. Frank Fogelman, *Mayor of Marion, AR*
Hon. Maurice Gaines, Jr., *Mayor of Lauderdale County*
Chief Roy Hill, *Representing Mayor Ida Shumpest of Jericho, AR*
Hon. Lee Harris, *Mayor Shelby County*
Hon. Jon Pavletic, *Mayor of Ripley*
Hon. Eugene Pugh, *Mayor of Halls*
Hon. Ken Sutton, *Vice-Mayor of Oakland*
Hon. Jim Strickland, *Mayor of Memphis*
Hon. Judy Watters, *Mayor of Rossville*

Also Present:

Ms. Linda Coffman, *Linda’s Accounting, CPA*
Ms. Mendi Donaely, *Community Dev. Director, Somerville, TN*
Mr. Christopher Hanewald, *Attorney, Wyatt, Tarrant, & Combs, LLP*
Ms. Sherry Holliman, *Councilwoman, Marion County, AR*
Mr. Odell Horton, *Attorney, Wyatt, Tarrant, & Combs, LLP*
Ms. Kamillah Kelly, *MAAG*
Ms. Kelsey Lamkin, *MAAG*
Mr. Ralph Moore, *Executive Director MAAG*
Mr. Paul Morris, *MAAG*
Ms. Seemi Qureshi, *MAAG*
Ms. Lisa Trexler, *MAAG*
Mr. Kelvin Willis, *MAAG*

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order and welcome attending Board Members and staff.

II. Invocation

Alderman Beard gave the invocation.

III. Declaration of Quorum

Chairman Davis has recognized a quorum of the Executive Committee present to vote.

IV. **Approval of Minutes for May 16, 2019 MOTION** by Mayor Taylor, to approve both sets of minutes as presented. **SECONDED** by Mayor Jones. Unanimously **APPROVED**.

V. **Financial Report**

- January, 2020 Financial Report– Ms. Coffman reported on the packet emailed to Board Members
- MAAG Audit Review – Fiscal 2019

VI. **Guest Presenter**

Mr. Christopher Hanewald, Attorney – Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs LLP

VII. **Program Updates – MAAG Staff**

a. West Tennessee Rural Transportation Organization (**WTRPO**) - *Ms. Kelly reported*

- Assisted the Town of Atoka, seeking additional funding for the Rosemark Roundabout meeting.
- Assisted Munford, TN, Mason, TN, and Tipton County with submitting Community Transportation Planning Grant (CTPG) applications. The award announcements to be made in March or April of this year.
- Assisted Fayette County with restriping request for Highway SR 76 and Highway SR 195, which was approved by TDOT.
- The Traffic Signal Modernization Program (TSMP) award announcements made at the beginning of February, unfortunately, no communities in West TN Region 4 awarded. Scores based on estimated costs, county economic status, and design requirements for the projects
- The WTRPO meeting on September 5th. At the WTRPO September 5th meeting the WTRPO elected Executive Board and Technical Committee voting members.

1. Ratification of the WTRPO Two Ad Hoc Members **Motion**

- a. Ms. April Foxx, TNECD
- b. Mr. Ordis Copeland, TNECD

Approval for WTRPO two ad Hoc Members MOTION by Mayor Taylor, to approve members listed. **SECONDED** by Alderman Beard. Unanimously **APPROVED**

2. Ratification of the WTRPO Citizens Representative (MAAG) **Motion**
Mr. Hugh Davis, Jr.

Approval for WTRPO Citizens Representative (MAAG) MOTION by Mayor Taylor, to approve member listed. **SECONDED** by Alderman Beard. Unanimously **APPROVED**

- December 10, 2019 WTRPO Executive Board meeting and the WTRPO Technical Committee meeting, the below projects were ranked for voting submission to TDOT.
- February 25th and 26th, Ms. Kelly will attend TDOT Local Programs Local Government Guidelines Manual and Right-of-Way (LGGM/ROW) Training and the 2020 Choosing Transportation Summit on March 4th and 5th.
- May 15, 2020 is the deadline for the National Scenic Byway designation.
- The next WTRPO Executive Board and Technical Committee is March 17th meeting.

b. Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (Historic Preservation)

Tennessee Historic Commission (**THC**) - *Ms. Lamkin reported*

- Attended the State Review Board meeting at the Tennessee Historical Commission in January 2020. The discussion was the National Register nomination focused on various businesses that operated in the home from when it was rebuilt in the 1950s until the 1970s. The nomination well-received and will be added to the National Register of Historic Places. Ms. Lamkin, interviewed by the Daily Memphian for an article on the nomination for this property.

Continues to work with a community member on a National Register Nomination under Criterion A and C for Jewish history and Architecture. The nomination will focus on the 1970 Anshei Sphard-Beth El Emeth Congregation's significance in Memphis history and the synagogue as exemplary of master architect Francis Mah's modern style.

- There have been 10 properties surveyed in Halls, Tennessee as part of a test of the Tennessee Historical Commission's beta survey app.
 - Ongoing assistants to the Lynching Sites Project in Memphis with guidance regarding funding and the development of the Ell Persons lynching site along the Wolf River as well as efforts to retrieve Shelby County's Duplicate Monument from the Equal Justice Initiative.
 - Applied for grants: the Historic Preservation Grant and submitted a letter of intent for the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund Grant to continue the Lynching Sites Project's efforts and assisted an associate of Reverend Porter from Mason Temple with a letter of intent for the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund Grant.
 - Ms. Lamkin has been asked to serve on the Lynching Sites Project's Finance Committee and on the Rural Heritage Trust's Historic Places Committee.
- c. Tennessee Department of Tourist Development (**TDTD**) - *Ms. Lamkin reported*
- The Tourism Advisory Board (TAB), made up of representatives from Shelby, Lauderdale, Tipton, and Fayette Counties has reconvened.
 - Ms. Lamkin assists TAB with articulating a vision for the Memphis Area and highlighting new sites for marketing.
- d. Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (**TDEC**) - *Mr. Willis*
- Attended the TDEC West Tennessee Regional APR Prep Workshop in Jackson. January 9th. Toured the Chester County/West Tennessee Recycling Center in Henderson and the Shelby County Solid Waste Board Meeting January 23rd.
 - Met with Justin Brown, Plant Manager of the Royal Group in Halls, discussed recycling and reporting issues for the upcoming 2019 Lauderdale County APR, met with Mayor Gaines, Lauderdale County and Mr. Tony Marbry, Solid Waste Director, Ripley to discuss coordination, implementation, and submission of the 2019 APR for Lauderdale County, and with TDEC officials in Nashville to discuss further implementation of 2019 APR's for Lauderdale and Fayette Counties
 - Attended the Keep American Beautiful National Conference on Recycling in Memphis and the National Plastics Recycling Conference in Nashville.
 - Coordinated efforts during the entire quarter to assist the Development District's Solid Waste Directors to begin preparation for the 2019 APR.
- e. Tennessee Housing Development Authority (**THDA**) -*Mr. Morris*
- Homebuyer Education Classes
- MAAG will sponsor a homebuyer education class this Saturday, February 22nd. MAAG is completing its third year of offering homebuyer education class at our office. Since February of 2017, over 630 clients have received homebuyer education services from MAAG either online or in person.
- Emergency Repair Program
- MAAG, Delta HRA and USDA Rural Development are continuing to provide home repairs for eligible clients. The three agencies will provide home repairs for at least 20 households this fiscal year.

Regions Bank – Community Development Grant

The Memphis Area Association of Governments (MAAG) received a \$5,000.00 community development grant from Regions Bank last week. MAAG will also use these funds for homebuyer education and financial literacy activities throughout the MAAG region.

f. Delta Regional Authority (**DRA**) - *Mr. Morris*

- Community Infrastructure Fund (CIF)

MAAG is working with EDGE and the Memphis Chamber in preparing a CIF grant application to DRA. This application will request \$500,000 for road improvements for Project Iris," the proposed warehouse complex at New Allen Road and Hawkins Mill.

- SEDAP Grant will begin accepting applications March 2nd and closing date on May 30th, 2020.

- SEDAP Funded Projects:

The City of Millington is working on the DRA SEDAP funded portion of the project first, and expects to complete the improvements by June 30th. The Pyramex Head Quarters in Piperton and Moscow's Water Tower Project.

g. Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (**TACIR**) - *Ms. Trexler*

The TACIR database for Tennessee's four counties is on time, completion, May 30th.

h. Economic Department Administration (EDA)

EDA grant funds are utilized to promote economic development for the MAAG region.

VIII. Executive Director's Report - *Mr. Moore*

- The MAAG team is on time with all deadlines for their grants this Fiscal Year.
- Mr. Moore stated the need for data from all the MAAG regions' counties. This information will assisted to produce an Economic Manual for each county in the MAAG region, to promote their counties. The manuals are in the final stages.

IX. Other Business

- Chairman Davis stated the next Board Meeting is May 21, 2020 in Lauderdale County.

X. Adjournment

MOTION - to adjourn meeting by Mayor Taylor. **SECONDED** - by Mayor Jones.
Unanimously **APPROVED**.