



West Virginia Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations
April 22, 2025 / 10:30 AM-12:00 PM
Virtual Meeting Minutes

The West Virginia Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (WVAMPO) held a virtual meeting on April 22, 2025 beginning at 10:45 a.m. To access meeting Reports and Handouts, please use the following link:

<https://kyova.sharepoint.com/:f:/s/KYOVA/EgHwMqjjKeNAostZig8tU6oB5ZSrPGZyzHaiFYe1g4j0A?e=TNRU9u>

Voting Members Present

Mr. Bill Austin, Chair	MMMPO	Mr. John Tuggle	FRMPO
Mr. Matt Mullenax	HEPMPO	Mr. Jeffrey Mace	RIC
Mr. Chris Chiles	KYOVA	Mr. Cody Creasp	BHJ-MPC
Mr. Sam Richardson, Vice-Chair	BELOMAR	Mr. Vincent Post	WWW

Other (non-voting) Attendees

Dr. Saleem Salameh	KYOVA	Ms. Jackie Peate	MMMPO
Ms. Bethany Wild	KYOVA	Mr. Jeff Blanton	WV-FHWA
Mr. Jody Sigmon	KYOVA	Mr. John Rogers	WV-FHWA
Ms. Amanda Smarr	FRMPO	Ms. Kara Greathouse	WV-FHWA
Ms. Michaela McDonough	HEPMPO	Mr. Jason Workman	WV-FHWA
Mr. Brian Carr	WVDOH-Planning		

1. Call to Order

Mr. Bill Austin, Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 10:45 a.m. following a delay due to technical issues where he welcomed and thanked everyone for their participation. *See above attendee list.*

2. Approval of December 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes – Attachment 1

The December 4, 2024 meeting minutes were emailed to members prior to the meeting. Mr. Austin opened floor for a motion to approve. Motion to approve as submitted by Mr. Chris Chiles. Mr. Vince Post provided the second. With no opposition, minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Election of Officers – Mr. Austin

Mr. Austin opened the floor for nominations for Chair. Mr. Chiles nominated and Mr. Post seconded for Mr. Austin to remain as Chair. With no further nominations all voted in favor and Mr. Austin will continue to serve as Chair. Next, Mr. Austin opened the floor for Vice-Chair. Mr. John Tuggle nominated that Mr. Sam Richardson continue as Vice-Chair. Mr. Austin seconded. With no further nominations for Vice-Chair nominations were closed. All voted in favor for Mr. Richardson to continue as Vice-Chair. Mr. Austin opened the floor for nominations for Secretary/Treasurer and provided the nomination for Ms. Terri Sicking to continue in the position. Mr. Tuggle seconded. With no further nominations they were closed. Members voted unanimously in favor for Ms. Sicking to continue in the role of Secretary/Treasurer.

4. Committee Reports

a. Administrative Committee –Mr. Sam Richardson

Mr. Richardson reported that he and Mr. Austin met virtually with Secretary Todd Rumbaugh and discussed two WVAMPO priority items (1) to advance TIP/STIP Procedures and (2) local contract administration for local facility projects. They were also provided an opportunity to meet Deputy Secretary Michael DeMers who participated in the meeting. Overall Mr. Richardson felt it was a positive reception to the MPOs and believes we have the tools to continue working on these topics. In addition they have been in discussion with Senator Capito about AMPO policy goals as it appears she may be “in the drivers seat” for the next surface transportation legislation. Mr. Austin has played an integral role in coordinating this effort and thanked him for making the arrangements and getting WV in tune with the National AMPO Association. As a follow up from previous meetings, he learned that the STBG and Safety Funds when flexed for safety projects are eligible to use funds on local roads.

Mr. Austin added that Mr. Richardson contacted everyone about the MPOs project delivery and concerns to be considered with next reauthorization bill and requested everyone provide Mr. Richardson with those stories. The primary concern to discuss with Senator Capito will be to discuss the associations concern with the next authorization. He was at a meeting of the NC Association of MPOs and they are interested in participating in the May fly in and coordinating our activities. Mr. Chiles asked for clarification who was meeting with Senator Capito – Mr. Austin replied it was the WVAMPO (he and Mr. Richardson). National AMPO is arranging a meeting for them sometime after the fly-in in DC.

b. Technical Committee – Dr. Saleem Salameh

Travel Demand Forecast Model will be updated based on the 2020 Census. KYOVA will be updating their current model and Congestion Management Process (CMP) later this year and WWW will update their forecast model during the next LRTP update in FY 2026. **Highway Functional Classification review and Modification process** is in progress. **Carbon Reduction Program:** Funds will expire in September 2026 and that bike/ped, charging infrastructure, transit oriented development and Land use planning are eligible projects. KYTC sent message that that the MPOs will not need to meet the declining GHG targets for CO2. **AQ:** MOVES 5 is available with significant changes regarding electric vehicles. **Freight:** September 2024 FHWA published two visualization tools – Freight Analysis Framework (FAF5.5.1) and historical Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey (VIUS) data. KYOVA is currently establishing a freight plan for the Huntington

Transportation Management Area. **CMAQ Program Guidance:** No new guidance but FHWA published new guidance (2024 CMAQ Program Interim Guidance-Policy and Guidance-CMAQ-Air Quality-Environment-FHWA with comment period ending January 6, 2025. 2019-2023 WV Crash Data is available. Contact Ms. Marsha Mays if you need access. **Performance Targets:** PM1 (Safety) updated yearly in February. New safety targets received in October 2024 / PM2 & PM3 are complete with no mid-cycle changes / Transit Targets remain to report Regional Transit Asset Targets and Regional Transit Safety Performance Targets. **Upcoming NOFOs and USDOT Programs** – see handout for dates. **See Attachment 2 for detailed report.**

c. Finance Committee – Mr. Bill Austin

Mr. Austin provided the financial report. No expenses or income occurred since the last report. Therefore, the Income and Expense Statement ending balance remained at \$29,405.49. The Balance Sheet also reflected \$29,405.49. Mr. Austin asked for a motion to accept the finance report. Mr. Mullenax motioned and Mr. Post seconded. With no comments or corrections requested, the report was unanimously adopted. **See Attachment 3 for detailed report.**

5. Planning Conference Planning Committee

The next WV Planning Conference will be held in 2026. Mr. Austin would like to establish a committee to work on the conference with location and date to follow. Volunteers were requested and Mr. Chiles, Ms. Kara Greathouse, Mr. Jody Sigmon, Mr. Salameh, Mr. John Tuggle and Mr. Austin. WVDOH representatives were requested with Mr. Carr's report – see below. Mr. Austin will contact LTAP. If an MPO would be willing to host, please contact Mr. Austin. Mr. Austin asked Mr. Chiles to chair the committee.

6. Update on WVDOH Items – Mr. Brian Carr

STIP: Mr. Carr reported STIP is good until September 2026 and with the new administration the update has been put on hold until next year. Kickoff is expected this fall. A consultant is onboard to develop a project prioritization/methodology that will be folded into the STIP and operating procedures. **Congressional Funding Applications:** The pressing issue at this time is that the Congressional delegation put out information regarding congressional directed spending applications – all are different with varying deadlines. Senator Capito requests are due today at 5pm and require no support letters. Senator Justice applications are due Friday with 3 letters of support. WVDOH is working with the Secretary and in cooperation with the Governor's office trying determine the state's request. One consideration is through Senator Justice to assist with off system bridges. Mr. Carr will be requesting letter of support from local entities and ask for assistance to get these letters of support. He will provide sample generic support letter to be sent back to the WVDOH by Friday morning. He will provide more information with his request. **WV Planning Conference committee:** Mr. Carr requested to include himself, Ms. Heather McCloud and Mr. Tim Sedosky who has been named Acting Division Director.

7. Update on Federal Initiatives – Ms. Kara Greathouse/Mr. Jeff Blanton/Mr. John Rogers

Ms. Greathouse reminded us that Ms. Chelsea Beytas has left FTA. Before her departure, they did a thorough review of all the UPWPs and upcoming TIPs. Moving forward MPOs can contact Laura Keeley at FTA but be prepared for a delay in a response. FHWA-WV will begin working on the AQ determination for KYOVA and the other Ohio MPOs will be reviewed by FHWA-OH Division (Mr. Sam Wallace). **Mr. Jeff Blanton** mentioned that the federal workforce is undergoing a lot of change and that his last day is next Friday. He is pleased how the MPOs have been given a voice and that the planning conference has continued. He wasn't sure what may transpire over the next several months with FHWA or FTA but things may look a little different as we move forward following his departure. He expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to work with the MPOs and appreciated what the MPOs brought to the table and wished everyone their best. Mr. Austin thanked Mr. Blanton for his invaluable service to both the MPOs and the public. **Mr. John Rogers** (Deputy Division Administrator) stated that their division, with the exception of Mr. Blanton, is retaining current staff but not sure what the future looks like and hopes to continue the partnership with the MPOs.

8. Transit Update – Mr. Bill Robinson

No report

9. Report on AMPO – Mr. Austin

Mr. Austin attended the NC AMPO meeting representing AMPO and will coordinating with them discussing AMPO business. Everyone should have received an update on AMPOs efforts with reauthorization as well as how they are tracking the status of various actions at the federal level. He emphasized to check your emails from AMPO and Mr. Richardson has done a great job summarizing what we are attempting to do and tracking the changes from USDOT.

10. Other Business

No other business was brought before the group.

11. Adjournment

With no further discussion, Mr. Mullenax motioned to adjourn and Mr. Chiles seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 11:35AM

Action Items

1. Mr. Austin will contact LTAP for WV Planning Conference Planning Conference representation.
2. Mr. Austin and Mr. Richardson will schedule meeting with Senator Capito through AMPO.
3. Mr. Austin will schedule the next WVAMPO meeting in the June/July timeframe.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Sicking
WVAMPO Secretary/Treasurer
Email: tsicking@kyovaipc.org
(Senior Transportation Planner, KYOVA)