



## Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Submitted for approval on March 16, 2022

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**Trustees and Alternates present:** Abby Arnold, Mike Aspacher, Genna Biddix, Gary Byers, Walt Celley, Dana Dunbar, Mike Hampton, Doris Herringshaw, Cindy Jewell Miller, Laura Koprowski, Tom Mackin, Royce Maniko, Patrick McColley, John Musteric, Tim Pedro, Angie Ruiz, Don Sahloff, Craig Stough, Roberta Streiffert, Patricia Talbott, David Thompson, Martha Woelke; **Guest(s) present:** Dwight Ferrell, General Manager, SMART; Jon Eckel, Chair, Water Quality Council; Joe Shaw, Chair, TMACOG Transportation Council; **TMACOG Staff present:** Jennifer Allen, Alex Aspacher, Bill Best, Tim Brown, Dave Gedeon, Kari Gerwin, Nate Reiter, Mike Tippett

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**Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance** – A regular meeting of the TMACOG Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at 10 a.m. in the Grand Lobby of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza in Toledo. Vice Chair Mike Aspacher called the meeting to order after noting a quorum had been reached.

**Approval of Minutes** – A *motion* was made by Royce Maniko and **seconded** by Angie Ruiz to approve the minutes from the October 20, 2021, meeting. The motion carried.

**Vice Chair's Remarks** – Vice Chair Aspacher thanked everyone for attending the last board meeting of the year. He noted the Chair Mark Stahl was absent from the meeting due as he was attending the County Commissioners and County Engineers Association of Ohio's annual winter conference. The 2022 board meeting schedule was included in the agenda packet. He noted that nominations are being accepted for anyone interest in serving on the board in 2022. Those who wish to continue serving on the board were asked to complete and return the self-nomination form that was included in the agenda packet and return to a TMACOG staff member before leaving the meeting. To serve on the board, a member must be elected or appointed by their respective caucus at the 2022 General Assembly.

Neil Munger, director of the Wood County Park District and a board member is retiring at the end of the month. Neil was thanked for his service and commitment to TMACOG and the region. He reminded board members of the upcoming TMACOG events, which were listed on the back page of the agenda.

**President's Report** – President Brown announced that TMACOG had been approached by the Ohio Office of the U.S. Economic Development Administration and BGSU Center for Regional Development about the possibility of TMACOG expanding its role and taking on the responsibilities of an economic development district. An EDD is a designation given to a multi-jurisdictional entity that represent multi-county areas, an entire geographic area of the region, and sometimes cross state borders. EDDs are formed for the purpose of economic development planning and collaboration, funding, and implementation. Of the 88 counties in Ohio, 39 are covered by EDDs, which represents just over one-third. Two-thirds of the state is not covered by EDDs, including northwest Ohio. TMACOG leadership is researching and evaluating this opportunity and keep the Board of Trustees up-to-date on how the agency plans to move forward. If TMACOG leadership decides to take on the role as an EDD, a vote would be required by the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees.

After approximately 10 years of partnering with the Ohio Attorney General's Office on the annual Sunshine Laws training, the OAG's offices is no longer able to accommodate our annual training that takes place in April at Owens. All Sunshine Laws Certification Training opportunities will be coordinated through the OAG's office. Feel free to visit the OAG's website for times and locations.

With regards to recent elections, several TMACOG member jurisdictions were impacted by the elections. Approximately, 75 new elected officials will take office January 1, 2022. Those officials will be invited to attend the 2022 General Assembly and annual member orientation. Board members with new elected officials in their jurisdictions were asked to consider bringing them to the General Assembly. Lastly, membership renewal invoices for 2022 dues were emailed to member representatives last month. President Brown thanked everyone for their membership in TMACOG. He also thanked board members for their service and commitment to TMACOG.

**Public Comment Period** – There were no representatives from the public present for comments.

**Transportation Council** – Council Chair Joseph Shaw and TMACOG V.P. of Transportation David Gedeon presented the report, which was included in the agenda packet.

**Water Quality Council** – Council Chair Jon Eckel and TMACOG Director of Water Quality Planning Kari Gerwin presented the report, which was included in the agenda packet. TMACOG Water Quality Planner Matt Kennedy gave a presentation on the 2021 208 Plan updates. A **motion** was made by David Thompson and seconded by Craig Stough to approve *Resolution No. 2021-21, Updating and Adopting the Areawide Water Quality Management Plan (AWQMP) also known as the "208 Plan*. The motion passed unanimously.

**Leadership Development Committee** – Vice Chair Mike Aspacher presented the report, which was included in the agenda packet. Past chair Craig Stough presented the 2022 nominees for chair and vice chair: Mike Aspacher, mayor of Bowling Green, and Tom Mackin, mayor of Perrysburg, A **motion** was made by Mr. Stough and **seconded** by Angie Ruiz to accept as nominees and to recommend they be elected by the General Assembly in January. Mike Aspacher abstained from voting. The motion passed.

**Accept All Council and Committee Reports** – A **motion** was made by Royce Maniko and **seconded** by Sarah Helbig to approve the council and committee reports; the motion passed unanimously.

**Any and All Other Business** – Royce Maniko, a member of the Southeastern Michigan Transit Authority (SMART) board of trustees, introduced Dwight Ferrell, SMART's newly appointment General Manager. Mr. Ferrell challenged everyone to have the engineer support lined up to execute the region's projects to keep those federal dollars coming in the region and discussed the importance of transit to businesses looking to move to or expand in the region.

**Next Meeting/Adjournment** – The next regularly scheduled board meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 16 at 10 a.m. in the Grand Lobby of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza in Toledo. A **motion** was made by John Musteric and **seconded** by Angie Ruiz to adjourn the meeting; the motion passed unanimously.

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Michael A. Aspacher, Vice Chair  
Toledo Metropolitan Area  
Council of Governments (TMACOG)

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Tim W. Brown, President  
Toledo Metropolitan Area  
Council of Governments (TMACOG)