

Water Transportation Advisory Board (WTAB)
October 30, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Approved (date): 6/4/15

The meeting of the Water Transportation Advisory Board (WTAB) was called to order at 1:00 pm on October 30, 2014, in the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Conference Center room C106 in Frankfort, KY.

The Advisory Board members in attendance were:

Greg Pritchett, Chairman
Steve Alley
Nickie Smith

Ken Canter, Vice Chairman
Greg Curlin

Also in attendance were:

Jay Hunt, Eddyville Riverport
Kenneth Beyer, Army Corps of Engineers
Lori Kelsey, KIPDA – Louisville MPO
Lynn Soporowski, KYTC
Carol Brent, KYTC
Frank Leo, KYTC

Brian Wright, Owensboro Riverport
Bryan Judy, Office of Attorney General
Judy Hunt, Eddyville Riverport
Casey Wells, KYTC
Joe Tucker, KYTC

(Prior to the beginning of the meeting, Disclosure of Conflict of Interest Statement forms were distributed for completion by the members.)

The Chair requested that attendees introduce themselves, then opened the floor for public comments. No public comments were offered.

The Chair asked for comments on the minutes of the September 4, 2014 meeting. There being none, Nickie Smith moved and Ken Canter seconded to accept the September 4, 2014 minutes. Approval was unanimous.

Joe Tucker and Leo Frank of the Pavement Branch of the KYTC Division of Highway Design discussed specifications, design, and requirements for pavement within riverport areas. They led a discussion about asphalt pavement versus Portland cement concrete pavement, depth of pavement needed, factors to be considered include the size, weight, and number of trucks expected in the area, lifecycle expectancy, the type of foundation under the road and the type of stabilization that could be used to improve the base. KYTC Pavement Team agreed to provide assistance to the riverports as they plan for paving port property and supplied the attached handout for future reference. The KYTC Pavement Presentation is available at

<http://transportation.ky.gov/Riverports/Documents/Pavement%20Design%20Presentation.pdf>

Casey Wells listed the projects funded in the September 2014 round of Riverport Improvement Projects. He noted that there \$195,996.50 available for projects, and the four applications received requested \$261,414.48 in funding. Mr. Wells described the applications as follows:

- Owensboro Riverport: Grain Access Improvement: **requested \$83,650**. The project will provide a 7.5" asphalt pavement on the port's interior grain access road. This will provide a better location for grain truck traffic and increases traffic flow and safety.

- Henderson County Riverport: Road Paving Project: **requested \$25,000**. This project will provide pavement on the port's secondary entrance road, which will improve access to the truck scales and a warehouse used to store food grade packaging materials.
- Eddyville Riverport: Conveyor Access Maintenance: **requested \$10,664.48**. This project occurred as a result of emergency repairs needed for the riverport conveyor. The repairs were the result of a head roller seizing up, causing the conveyor to be out of service.
- Hickman-Fulton County Riverport: Port Road Access Improvement: **requested \$142,100**. This project will pavement on the roadway accessing the Cargill grain facility. The current road is cracking and rutting due to years of truck traffic during harvest season.

Since the funds requested are greater than the funds available, Commissioner Canter asked if any of the projects could be split into phases and only the initial phase funded at this time. Greg Curlin of Hickman Riverport indicated that only the sharp curve of the grain facility road needed improvement immediately.

Commissioner Canter asked if there was an issue with a grant being made for reimbursement of work already completed. Board Attorney Bryan Judy noted that the law appears to say that KYTC needs prior approval of the process used to complete the project. Lynn Soporowski noted that the guidance on the Riverport Improvement Program requires that the project cannot be started until a Notice to Proceed is issued by the Cabinet. Steve Alley moved that, based on legal counsel interpretation of the Kentucky Riverport Improvement Program statute, the Board cannot reimburse any project already completed. On second by Ken Canter, the motion was unanimously approved. The Eddyville Riverport application for reimbursement of Conveyor Access Maintenance was thereby considered to be ineligible for funding.

Casey Wells distributed ballots for the Board to vote on eligibility of the remaining projects. The Board vote on eligibility of the projects was unanimous that the three remaining projects were eligible for prioritization. Members were provided prioritization ballots and requested to rank the projects from the highest priority of one to the lowest priority of three. After calculating the total score for each project and ranking the projects by their total score, the projects were prioritized as follows:

1. Owensboro Riverport: Grain Access Improvement: **requested \$83,650**.
2. Henderson Riverport: Road Paving Project: **requested \$25,000**.
3. Hickman-Fulton County Riverport: Port Road Access Project: **requested \$142,100**.

On motion by Nickie Smith, seconded by Steve Alley, the Board unanimously voted to recommend funding the Owensboro and Henderson projects as requested with Hickman-Fulton being partially funded with the remaining \$87,346.50.

Lynn Soporowski provided information from the Ohio Department of Transportation's Freight and Long Range Plans. The documents are pictograms to share the results of the Ohio Plans with citizens, decision makers, and vendors. She noted that similar documents can be created from the new KYTC Waterway plan or existing individual port plans using in-house resources if needed.

The current terms of the representative of the Kentucky Riverport Association (Greg Curlin) and the representative of KBT (Norb Whitlock) expired September 30, 2014. Lynn indicated that the Governor's Office has requested recommendations from the KYTC Secretary regarding applications received for the positions. Lynn has received some comments and is asking for letters of recommendation to forward to the Secretary for his consideration. KAR has already submitted its recommendation to the Governor's Office. KBT is aware of their recommendations needed for the Governor's Office.

The next meeting of the Board was scheduled for Thursday, June 4, 2015 at 1:00 pm. This was based on there being a call for projects to be funded from the Fiscal Year 2016 funds about May 1, 2015 with applications due

May 26, 2015. No changes are expected in the KRI application or guidance, so ports can begin working on applications now. Once the Board meets and makes recommendations to the Secretary, it should be possible to begin issuing funds at the beginning of FY 2016.

Business being concluded, on motion by Steve Alley seconded by Ken Canter, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted:

Casey Wells

Water Transportation Advisory Board staff, KYTC