

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission  
Minutes of the Meeting of  
December 10, 2012 – 4:30 p.m.  
Two Chatham Center • 4th Floor • 112 Washington Place • Pittsburgh, PA 15219

The ninety-ninth meeting of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission was called to order by Chairman Rod Ruddock.

Members present were: Charles Anderson, Tom Ceraso, Daniel Cessna, Jack Cohen, Tyler Courtney, Steve Craig, Albert D'Alessandro, Mary Ann Eisenreich, Rich Fink, Rich Fitzgerald, Kelly Gray, Joe Grata, Lynn Heckman, Dave Johnston, Clifford Levine, Robert Macey, Jeff Marshall, Robbie Matesic, Bruce Mazzoni, William McCarrier, Kevin McCullough, David Miller, Charles Morris, Rich Palilla, A. Dale Pinkerton, James Ritzman, Carmen Rozzi, Rod Ruddock, Daniel C. Shimshock, Michael Silvestri, Joe Spanik, Wendy Stern, Joe Szczur, Archie Trader, Diana Irey Vaughan, and Angela Zimmerlink.

Members absent were: Tony Amadio, Alfred Ambrosini, Shirl Barnhart, David Battaglia, Stephen Bland, Robert Bower, Robert Brooks, Brigid Hynes-Cherin, Terry Daughenbaugh, Joseph Dubovi, Patricia Evanko, David Frick, Jim Gagliano, Jr., Dana Henry, Fred Junko, Larry Maggi, Laura Mohollen, Mary Jo Morandini, Dennis Nichols, William Peduto, Luke Ravenstahl, Richard Shaw, Harlan Shober, Renee Sigel, Robert Del Signore, Mark Snyder, Byron Stauffer, Jr., Daniel Vogler, Christopher Wheat, Jake Wheatley, Jr., and Yarone Zober.

Others: Karen McCarthy and Janet Fike, Maher Duessel CPAs; Rowan Johnston; Mark Kapolski, Patty Kirkpatrick and Bob Zulick, Buchart Horn, Inc.

Staff: Jim Hassinger, Kirk Brethauer, Domenic D'Andrea, Chuck DiPietro, Chuck Imbrogno, Tom Klevan, Vince Massaro, Dee Pamplin, Shannon O'Connell, Lew Villotti and Sara Walfoort.

Chairman Ruddock welcomed all and called the meeting to order.

Commented that he appreciated everyone understanding why the last meeting was canceled because of Hurricane Sandy. Also, I hope our new setting meets your approval. A very nice part is that all the county flags are up permanently. And, the photographs taken of the county courthouses in the southwestern Pennsylvania region are gorgeous. These were taken by Tom Straw.

1. Welcome and Room Orientation

Jim Hassinger also welcomed everyone to the new space. This space will also be available for sub-lease if you want to recommend a group. The microphones that we added are between each seat. When either party needs to speak, they should press the button and a red light will come on indicating the microphone is hot. These are directional mikes that allow us through the mikes to eliminate feedback. We do have a system that we are testing that will allow us to record the meeting and assist with the development of the minutes.

After the meeting, we've invited past associates to join us in reception which begins at 5:00 p.m. You're welcome to look around, on this floor and also the 5th floor.

2. Action on Minutes of the September 17th Meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2012 meeting of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission by Commissioner Pinkerton which was seconded by Mr. Dan Cessna. The affirmative vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

3. Public Comment – None

4. Presentation of 2011-2012 Annual Audit Report – Maher, Duessel, CPAs

Karen McCarthy, from Maher Duessel, CPA's, was introduced to present the audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. Ms. McCarthy stated that they met with the SPC Audit Committee in November to review the draft audit report. Ms. McCarthy went on to review the audit report in summary, stating that there is a letter included which discusses required communication from the auditor to the SPC stating that Maher Duessel's responsibility is to express an opinion about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented in all material respects, and are in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. Ms. McCarthy went on to say that Maher Duessel, in planning and performing the audit, they considered the Commission's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Significant Accounting Policies outlined in the financial statement had no new accounting policies adopted or adopted during this fiscal year. The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear. There were no difficulties in performing the audit and the auditors received full cooperation from management and staff. All inquiries were met with full disclosure and all books and records were kept in good order. In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the primary government of the Commission as of June 30, 2012, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

5. Financial Report – Vince Massaro

Mr. Massaro reported on the financials for the Corporation and Commission stating that this report is for the fiscal period ending October 2012. The report reflects the operations of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2012. The detail financial report is included in your agenda packet. The SPC, at its June 25, 2012 meeting, approved and adopted a balanced operating budget that reported \$13,346,948 in anticipated grant revenues from various federal, state, and local sources along with local match contributions to support the transportation planning and economic development programs of the Commission. Budgeted operating expenditures were also approved and adopted at \$13,346,948 that supports the planning program activities of the Commission. Actual and encumbered revenues as of October are \$8,186,399 compared to the adopted annual budget of \$13,213,859. This reflects 61.95% of the budget recognized and encumbered to date. There are no unexpected items to report at this time and all revenue items are in line as budgeted. Actual and encumbered carry-over revenues are \$118,943 compared to the adopted budget of \$133,089. This reflects 89.37% of the budget recognized and encumbered to date. The Regional Traffic Signal Cycle I project makes up the carry-over revenues. Total Project Expenditures recorded and encumbered to date are \$8,249,214 vs the adopted annual budget of \$13,253,930. This reflects 62.24% of the budget expended and

encumbered to date. There are no unexpected items to report at this time and all expense items are in line as budgeted. Total carry-over project related expenditures recorded and encumbered to date are \$56,128 vs the annual budget of \$93,018. This reflects 60.34% of the budget expended and encumbered to date. These expenditures relate to the Regional Traffic Signal Cycle I projects.

6. Staff Profile – Jackie Pacheco

Lew Villotti introduced staff member, Jackie Pacheco, who works with Rena Liu-Belshe as an International Trade Specialist together they make up SPC's international trade team.

Jackie briefly gave an account of her background and education. She is originally, from Peru, completed undergraduate studies at Indiana University of PA with a BS in Computer Science and a minor in Business. Obtained an MBA in International Business from Point Park University. Jackie joined SPC in 2008, and prior to that, she was an account Manager in the Finance department of Thermo Fisher Scientific, and spent many years doing International market research, and working with companies developing business in Latin America. She also acted as a court interpreter, and a language instructor. As part of her current duties in SPC, she works with the promotion of international trade, by guiding companies in the development of export plans and market entry strategies. Works closely with local regional export partners in the development and support of programs in the region.

7. Action on Resolution 16-12 to honor services of Pam Snyder

Chairman Ruddock read Resolution No. 16-12 honoring the services of Representative Pam Snyder for approval by the Commission:

WHEREAS, Pam Snyder has had a long and active association with the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission having been a Greene County representative since 2004; and

WHEREAS, she served ably as Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission from January 2012 through November 2012; and

WHEREAS, she served as a member on the Commission's Executive Committee, and its Regional Policy Advisory Committee and worked tirelessly on behalf of the Commission in numerous other roles; and

WHEREAS, she also served on the Board of Directors of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation and its Audit Committee; and

WHEREAS, in her role of SPC Commissioner, she has championed the cause of regionalism as the cornerstone of the region's health and prosperity and has provided valuable guidance in the development of the region's plans; and

WHEREAS, she gave generously of her time to the residents of Greene County and to the southwestern Pennsylvania region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Officers, Members and Staff of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission offer their appreciation for her years of service and anticipate her continuing interest in the work of the agency in the years ahead.

Mr. Ceraso moved to approve Resolution 16-12 and Mr. Grata seconded and the affirmative vote was unanimous.

8. Action on Resolution 17-12 to amend the FFY2013-2016 TIP & LRP East Liberty Transit Center TOC- Tom Klevan

Tom Klevan described the resolution which has also endorsed approval by the SPC Transit Operators Committee. The resolution to amend the FFY2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the 2040 Transportation and Development Plan for Southwestern Pennsylvania to add funding for the project: *East Liberty Transit Center/TOD* in the amount of \$15,000,000 of Federal Transit Administration Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Program funds. Mr. Fitzgerald commented that this project would greatly benefit this region. He then motioned to approve:

WHEREAS, this funding will enable the City of Pittsburgh to reconstruct an existing station along the Martin Luther King, Jr. East Busway in the East Liberty neighborhood of the City; replace two obsolete pedestrian crossings over an active freight railroad; complete station and passenger waiting area improvements, adaptively re-use an existing ramp structure connecting the Busway station to a former bus transfer area; construct a commuter bike station; construct a shared parking intermodal facility and new on-street transit stops servicing the adjacent transit oriented development; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed action conforms with SPC's TIP amendment policies and public involvement process, does not change TIP fiscal balance, does not affect any STIP project, or affect the region's air quality conformity determination, has been evaluated in accordance with SPC Environmental Justice policies to determine any disproportionate benefits or burdens; and,

WHEREAS, the Transit Operators Committee (TOC) of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission at its regular meeting on December 5, 2012 took action to recommend that this amendment request be approved by the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, recognizing first its collective interests in the well-being of its residents and in the continued effective operations of the overall transportation system, approves the City of Pittsburgh's request to program \$15,000,000 of Federal Transit Administration TIGER program funds.

Mr. Rozzi second and the affirmative vote was unanimous.

9. SPC Regional Signal Program: Cycle One Recap & Cycle Two Preview – Domenic D'Andrea

Domenic gave some background information to the new members on the goals and objectives of the regional traffic signal program that was established by SPC and its planning partners to assist local governments with improving traffic signal operations by optimizing traffic signal timings and upgrading existing signal equipment.

**Project Locations Cycle I**

- 23 Projects, 251 signals
- 3 PennDOT Districts
- 7 Counties out of 10
  - D10-Armstrong, Butler
  - D11-Allegheny, Beaver
  - D12-Greene, Washington, Westmoreland
- 43 Municipalities

## **SPC's Regional Traffic Signal Program 1<sup>st</sup> Cycle Summary**

### **District 10 Locations**

#### **Butler/Allegheny:**

- Cranberry/Marshall: Route 19: 11 intersections

#### **Butler:**

- Cranberry/Adams/Seven Fields: Route 228: 19 intersections
- Zelienople: Route 19: 4 intersections

#### **Armstrong:**

- Plumcreek Twp: SR 422/SR210

### **District 11 Locations**

#### **Allegheny/Washington:**

- Mt. Lebanon/Bethel Park/Upper St.Clair/Peters: Route 19: 36 intersections

#### **Allegheny:**

- Forest Hills/E. Pgh./E. McKeesport/NorthVersailles  
19 intersections
- Scott Twp./Greentree: Greentree Rd.  
9 intersections
- Collier Twp./Bridgeville Borough : Route 50  
9 intersections
- Harrison Twp./Brackenridge: Freeport Road:  
13 intersections
- Findlay/Moon/N. Fayette: Cliff Mine Road:  
intersections
- City of Pgh/Dormont: West Liberty Ave from Brookside  
to McFarland-12 intersections
- North Fayette/Robinson Twp. :Summit Park  
Drive from Andrew (Walmart) to Robinson Ctr.  
Dr. (Macy's)-7 intersections

#### **Beaver**

- City of Aliquippa: Broadhead/Kennedy from  
Grande to Sheffield-4 intersections

#### **Westmoreland**

- North Huntingdon/Irwin: Route 30: 22 intersections
- Youngwood :Route 119: 9 intersections

## **SPC's Regional Traffic Signal Program-2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle**

### **Anticipated Projects: District 10: Indiana, Armstrong and Butler Counties**

- Indiana Borough/White Township  
(SR 286/Philadelphia Street)
- City of Butler (Route 8),
- Cranberry/Marshall/Adams/7 Fields  
(Routes 228 and 19)
- Buffalo Township (Route 356)
- Kittanning (Market Street/Water Street)
- Homer City (SR 119)

### **Anticipated Projects: District 12: Westmoreland and Fayette Counties**

- Hempfield (SR 136)
- Unity (SR 30)
- Rostraver (SR 51)
- Georges Twp. (SR 119/857)

Anticipated Projects: District 11: Allegheny and Lawrence Counties

- Monroeville (SRs 22 and 48)
- Kennedy Township (Pine Hollow Road)
- Mt. Lebanon (Bower Hill Road)
- Pleasant Hills/Baldwin (Curry Hollow Road)
- City of Pittsburgh (Baum and Centre Avenues)
- New Castle (East/West Washington Street)
- PennDOT (SR 51, SR 88, SR 837, SR 8)

**Future projects?-Adaptive Traffic Signals**

“CMU develops high-technology traffic signal timing system”

East Liberty pilot project hailed for cutting travel time, emissions

10. Preview 2015-2018 TIP Update Process – Chuck DiPietro

Chuck DiPietro gave a brief update on key focus areas of the 2015-2018 TIP update process under development, which will be presented to the Commission for adoption at the June 2014 meeting. The TIP update process will begin in about 3 months.

**Focus Area 1:** Increase planning activities & engagement with the TIP Work Groups

- Early focus on screening new candidate projects
  - **Early Identification of candidate projects in the Work Group Sessions**
- New candidate project evaluation

**Focus Area 2:** Improving Key Stakeholder Communication

- SPC Executive Committee & Commission regular status updates throughout update process
- Preliminary Draft TIP Status Report to SPC Commission (December 2013)
- Present Draft TIP to Commission prior to Public Comment period (April 2014)
- Share TIP work group dates with SPC members

**Focus Area 3:** Integrating Public Involvement

- Early orientation / use of SPC Public Input Form
- Better coordination with TIP Development Work Groups
- PPP Public meetings scheduled earlier, in process (prior to Central Office submittal),

Expected Outcomes of TIP Process Enhancements:

- More expanded opportunities for stakeholder input to the TIP development
- More transparency to key stakeholders throughout the TIP process on the schedule and status of development
- PPPs and Commissioners receive early stage TIP timeline and TIP development updates

**Key Milestones**

- **Spring 2013:** Initiate work sessions with partners
- **Fall 2013:** County PPP Public Meetings
- **December 2013:** Preliminary Draft status report to Commission
- **April 2014:** Draft TIP status report to Commission
- **June 2014:** Present Recommended TIP to Commission for Adoption

Dave Miller asked, as we prepare the TIP, how are we using Project Region in the development of the next TIP? And, as a Commission, are we doing anything to review the goals and objectives and strategies that were outlined in Project Region.

Jim Hassinger responded that we still have the same framework that was established in Project Region and the overall goals and policy statement. We will be doing an update on the long range plan which is the context of Project Region's guidance, in the coming year once beyond this TIP. As David Miller suggests, we'll also update and review the policy and guidance for the overall long range plan.

Dave Miller next requested that as part of the process at a future Commission meeting some time be spent talking through what we laid out in Project Region and how with the limited funds we have available to us, we're trying to address the region's priority needs, consistent with SPC's long range plan policy guidance. The key is to advance the connection between Project Region and how it is translating into our work plan. Jim Hassinger responded that we could do that at a future Commission meeting.

#### 11. Natural Gas Vehicle Overview in Pennsylvania – George Stark, Director, External Affairs Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation

Robbie Matesic introduced George Stark from Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation, he also represents the Marcellus Shale Coalition and he is the co-chair of the Natural Gas Youth Committee. George is here today to talk about the intersection of natural gas in the transportation sector. Greene County has had its 500<sup>th</sup> Marcellus Shale well drilled this past year. So we are very interested in the downstream side of this industry.

George Stark presented information on transportation to wet SPC'S appetite so we can call on others and himself for future talks about what is taking place in Pennsylvania. George illustrated on some slides about what is taking place in Pennsylvania. The notion that the MSC and ANGA are pushing Pennsylvania's clean transportation corridor. This is an opportunity to take advantage of something that is home grown in Pennsylvania.

- **Proximity to Marcellus provides the Commonwealth with a unique opportunity to expand it's clean energy transportation infrastructure**
- **Key findings:**
  - Over five years, implementation of the MSC NGV Roadmap would result in \$123 million of new investment in the commonwealth;
  - A reduction in annual fuel costs for Pennsylvania fleet operators of roughly \$9.2 million;
  - Direct impact on nearly 1,300 Pennsylvania jobs
  - Annual emissions reductions
    - Nitrogen oxides (Nox) by 720 tons
    - Particulate matter (PM) by 14.5 tons
    - Greenhouse gases by 21,000 metric tons
    - Investment in NGV leads to a stimulus of the local economy and job opportunities
    - The environmental and air quality benefits of NGVs are real, with every conversion making a difference
    - Energy security in affordable and abundant domestic natural gas supply
- **Overview-**
  - Pennsylvania, The Keystone State
  - Key state for commercial traffic
  - Natural gas industry active in Marcellus Shale
- **Fuel Use**
  - Energy Security
  - Fuel Use
  - Cost Savings

- **Memorandum of Understanding**
  - Commit to converting state fleets (county, municipal, and other government)
  - ME, UT, NM, WV, KY, TX, OH, MS have joined CO, OK, PA, LA and WY with other states in progress
- **Legislation**
  - House Bill 1083 – Rep. Stan Saylor (R-York)
  - House Bill 1084 – Rep. Dan Moul (R-Adams)
  - House Bill 1085 – Rep. Kathy Watson (R-Bucks)
  - House Bill 1086 – Rep. Jim Marshall (R-Beaver)
  - House Bill 1087 – Rep. Gordon Denlinger (R-Lancaster)
  - House Bill 1088 – Rep. Tina Pickett (R-Bradford)
  - House Bill 1089 – Rep. Scott Perry (R-York)
- **Moving Forward**
  - 3 Components to Drive Further CNG Utilization:
    - Infrastructure
    - More vehicles
    - Ongoing Education

Commissioner Ruddock commented on the new SPC Offices and of how proud he is of all the work that Jim Hassinger and his transition team did to get us here. Another partner that helped and I would like to introduce is the real estate agent Michael Daniels.

Michael Daniels welcomed all the Commissioners. In all my years in dealing with leases working with Oxford but, have not worked with a team as thorough as Jim and his team were in all aspects of SPC office space. Also, the landlord who is going to be providing your needs for the next ten years is Larry Georgiadis.

Larry Georgiadis commented that he is pleased to have SPC as a tenant and he is looking forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship.

12. Staff Report/Other Business Announcements – Jim Hassinger

Jim Hassinger said that he wanted to recognize some people who helped us get here. Rowan Johnson, was able to come in and very quickly helped with furniture and interior design she worked with us for several months. I also want to recognize Tom Straw who did the courthouse collection photographs that you see as you come into the meeting room. These photos are original photos and they are fabulous and I hope you appreciate all your courthouses.

Next Meeting Date – January 28, 2013

13. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rod Ruddock  
Chairman