

Mississippi Valley Conference Board Meeting

March 2, 2010

In conjunction with the 2010 AASHTO Washington Legislative Briefing,  
Washington, DC

A meeting of the MVC Board of Directors was called to order by President Richardson at approximately, 7:45 am March 2, 2010. The roll call was held and the following member states were in attendance or represented:

Iowa – Director Nancy Richardson

Kansas – Secretary Deb Miller (via phone)

Michigan – Director Kirk Steudle

Missouri – Director Pete Rahn

Kentucky - represented by Russ Romine

Minnesota - represented by Serge Phillips

Wisconsin - represented by Beth Nachreiner

Also in attendance were Kyle Schneweis and Alicia Johnson of Kansas DOT, Polly Kent of Michigan DOT, and Dan Franklin of Iowa DOT.

President Richardson called up the first item on the agenda – amendment to Constitution and Bylaws.

The following motion was moved by Director Steudle and seconded by Secretary Miller:

“As delegates of member departments of the Mississippi Valley Conference of State Highway and Transportation Officials, we propose to amend the constitution and bylaws of the Mississippi Valley Conference as follows:

Throughout the Constitution and Bylaws, references to the “Mississippi Valley Conference of State Highway and Transportation Officials” shall be changed to “Mid American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials” and references to “Conference” shall be changed to “Association.”

The effective date of the new name for this organization shall be July 9, 2010. “

President Richardson called for discussion and two issues were identified as possible amendments to the motion – the use of the word “American” and whether to take the word “Highway” out of the name of the organization.

Following a discussion over the use of “America” in place of “American” in the name of the organization it was moved by Director Rahn and seconded by Secretary Miller to amend the motion to change “American” to “America.” The amendment to the motion passed unanimously.

On the second discussion item, Beth Nachreiner suggested that the word “highway” is redundant, included in “transportation” and should be removed. It was moved by Secretary Miller and seconded by

Beth Nachreiner that the word “highway” be taken out of the name of the organization, so the name would be Mid America Association of State Transportation Officials.

President Richardson asked for discussion. Director Steudle suggested that we keep the word highway in our name to be consistent with our parent organization - AASHTO. If or when AASHTO decides to take the word “highway” out of the association’s name, we could revisit the name of our organization. The amendment to the motion passed by a vote of 4-3 with Kansas, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa voting yes and Missouri, Michigan and Kentucky voting no.

Related to the motion changing the name of our association to Mid America Association of State Transportation Officials, was the desire to adopt a logo that could be used to identify our association on our web site, in our publications and for other purposes not related to the annual meeting. It was the consensus of the Board that each state should be asked to submit two or three logos for consideration. The various logos would be available for viewing on the MVC web site prior to the meeting with a final selection by the Board. The logo would be unveiled at the 2010 Annual meeting.

President Richardson called on Director Steudle for the second agenda item – location for the 2012 Annual Meeting.

Director Steudle reported that the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet offered to host the 2012 Annual Meeting in Lexington, Kentucky. Motion was passed unanimously. The 2011 Annual Meeting will be in Cincinnati, Ohio.

President Richardson asked if there was any other business to be brought before the Board.

Dan Franklin reported on the status of the STAA - Reauthorization Working Papers being prepared by the Strategic Transportation issues Committee at the request of the Board. Five papers are in various stages of review with the STIC planning to get them to the Board as soon as possible.

Beth Nachreiner brought up an issue related to a “rail passenger” initiative where states would be asked for a \$10,000 contribution to be part of the initiative. Director Rahn indicated that while states could voluntarily participate in the development and guidance of the initiative, the results of the initiative and benefits would be available to all AASHTO member states. A similar initiative is underway in the area of “climate change.” AASHTO has worked on similar initiatives under the “pooled study” concept.

No other business was brought forward and meeting was adjourned.