# Minutes for the Mid America Association of State Transportation Officials (MAASTO) Board of Directors Meeting Milwaukee, Wisconsin July 18, 2013

Welcome and opening remarks made by Mark Gottlieb, Wisconsin Secretary of Transportation and President of MAASTO.

#### Board Introductions -

- Secretary Mark Gottlieb, Wisconsin DOT, President of MAASTO
- Director Paul Trombino, Iowa DOT, Vice President of MAASTO
- Secretary Mike Hancock, Kentucky Cabinet
- Jay Wasson, for Interim Commissioner Brandye Hendrickson, Indiana DOT
- Director Kirk Steudle, Michigan DOT
- Secretary Ann Schneider, Illinois DOT
- Jim Barnes for Director Jerry Wray, Ohio DOT
- Director Dave Nichols, Missouri DOT
- Secretary Mike King, Kansas DOT
- Susan Mulvihill, for Commissioner Charles Zelle, Minnesota DOT
- Monique Currie, Wisconsin DOT, Acting-Secretary of MAASTO
- Terry Barnhart, Ohio DOT, MAASTO Treasurer
- Director Mike Lewis, Rhode Island DOT, AASHTO President

#### Others in attendance

- Abigail Weingardt, InDOT
- Russ Romine, Kentucky Cabinet
- Stu Anderson, Iowa DOT
- Lindsey Douglas, KDOT
- Polly Kent, Michigan DOT
- Jay Wunderlich, Missouri DOT
- Kevin Schoeben, Illinois DOT
- Serge Phillips, Minnesota DOT
- Mikel Derby, Iowa DOT
- Bud Wright, AASHTO
- Deb Miller, Cambridge Systematics
- Mara Campbell, Missouri DOT
- Ernie Perry, C-FIRE
- Dan Grasser, Wisconsin DOT, MAASTO CE Council
- Bola Delano, Illinois DOT
- Mike Berg, WisDOT
- Teresa Adams, C-FIRE

#### Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes

A motion was made and passed to approve the minutes from May 7, 2013 MAASTO board meeting.

# Treasurer's Report

MAASTO Treasurer Terri Barnhart reported that MAASTO now has all of its IRS tax issues resolved and no penalties were assessed. As of June 30, 2013 MAASTO had a balance of \$503,163.40 in the treasury. Terri will schedule a conference call with Director Wray and incoming MAASTO President Trombino to discuss how to spend down the balance. CEOs were requested to email Terri with their suggestions as to how to spend the balance. In addition, Terri made a motion to allocate an additional \$2,000 for continuing with the services of an accounting firm. The motion was seconded and approved.

A motion was made and passed to approve the Treasurer's Report.

# Conference Update

Mari Smith, Wisconsin DOT and 2013 MAASTO conference coordinator, reported that approximately 480 persons attended this year's conference. Mari also reported that even though the DOT employees' conference registrations were waived this year as a way to reduce the monies in the MAASTO bank account there was only a \$40,000 reduction in the collection of MAASTO fees. This was largely due to the fees collected from exhibitors participating in this year's event.

# Update from the Chief Engineers (CE) Council

Dan Grasser, Wisconsin DOT, provided an update on the CE Council. Dan shared the results of a recently-completed survey compiled by the CE Council that focused on two issues – implements of husbandry and engineering outsourcing. Dan asked CEOs to identify topics for the CE Council to work on.

# MAASTO Focus on Freight

Director Trombino discussed the importance of freight in the Midwest region of the country and that railroads, highways and water ports are all important modes for transporting different commodities. Director Trombino gave an overview of the recent MAASTO freight survey.

Ernie Perry, C-FIRE, provided the board with an update on the regional freight study and what has been developed in parallel with MAP-21 requirements. Ernie's early observations of his report indicate that MAP-21 does not take into account many major freight corridors that are important to individual states, but, instead, highlights only the national interstates. This is troublesome to many MAASTO board members who believe this (MAP-21 interruption) will eliminate many states from participating in funding distribution opportunities to be included in the next reauthorization act. In addition, several CEOs noted that the critical corridor map created by C-FIRE did not necessarily align with those identified by MAASTO states in the MAASTO freight survey (above) and suggested that averaging across an entire corridor might reduce the average values and thus cause the corridors to rank lower.

Secretary Schneider provided the board with an overview of her role as chair of the National Freight Advisory Committee (NFAC). Secretary Schneider said the committee is broken down into five different sub-committees all focused on freight and freight movement. Members of the subcommittees must be members of NFAC. In addition, it is expected that working groups will also be formed and their members can come from outside of NFAC. The purpose of the committee is to make policy recommendations to the US DOT Secretary, Anthony Foxx within the next three years. The next meeting of the full committee is in November.

#### MAP-21 Update

Secretary Gottlieb started a dialogue with the other board members on the future of the federal role in transportation as a key component to policy discussion related to the reauthorization of MAP-21 and what this could mean to the MAASTO states. Secretary Gottlieb presented possible options as to how MAASTO might wish to engage on reauthorization of MAP-21. It was agreed that a small working

group of interested CEOs would work on exploring the development of a MAASTO policy statement on the federal role in transportation for consideration by AASHTO board members before the annual AASHTO meeting in Denver, October 17-21.

STIC committee has been directed to come up with a survey that could be used by the MAASTO board to help establish a regional policy.

## **MAASTO Elections**

The board unanimously elected Paul Trombino as the 2013-2014 MAASTO Board President; Ann Schneider as the Vice President and reconfirmed their confidence in Terry Barnhart as Treasurer.

The board also announced that Kansas and Missouri will jointly host the 2015 annual MAASTO Conference at a time and place to yet be determined.

#### AASHTO Five Year Plan

Bud Wright asked for four MAASTO CEO volunteers to serve on AASHTO's Five Year Strategic Planning committee. Each region of AASHTO has been asked to provide four volunteers. For MAASTO Dave Nichols, Mark Gottlieb, Kirk Steudle and Paul Trombino all volunteered to serve as representatives from MAASTO.

#### 2014 MAASTO Annual Meetings Update

Jay Wasson announced the 2014 annual MAASTO meeting will be in Indianapolis, Indiana. The dates are July 14 to July 16. #

# STIC Update

Jay Wunderlich announced that he offered and the STIC Committee accepted his offer to complete the last two years of Beth Nachreiner's position as STIC chair. Jay said he looks forward to working with the other members of STIC. He also provided art work to the Board of Directors for a plaque to be presented to Beth for her past service to MAASTO and STIC.

The meeting was adjourned.

# - On October 10, 2013 the dates for the 2014 Annual Meeting were changed to July 27 - 31, 2013.