



**MAASTO Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, July 27, 2017**  
**1:30 to 3:00 p.m.**  
**Cleveland Renaissance Hotel, Rockefeller Room**  
**Cleveland, OH**  
**Call-in: 1-888-494-4032, Access Code: 2758589258#**

Agenda Topics:

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

**Secretary Blankenhorn**

Welcome and opening remarks were made by MAASTO President Secretary Blankenhorn.

MAASTO Board Members in Attendance:

- Randy Blankenhorn, Secretary, Illinois DOT, MAASTO President
- Patrick McKenna, Director, Missouri DOT, MAASTO Vice-President
- Joe McGuinness, Commissioner, Indiana DOT
- Mark Lowe, Director, Iowa DOT
- Charlie Zelle, Commissioner, Minnesota DOT
- Jerry Wray, Director, Ohio DOT

Others in attendance:

- Paul Loete, Illinois DOT
- Beth McCluskey, Illinois DOT
- Omer Osman, Illinois DOT
- Justine Sydello, Illinois DOT, MAASTO Secretary
- Aaron Weatherholt, Illinois DOT
- Stu Anderson, Iowa DOT
- Catherine Patrick, Kansas DOT
- Joel Skelley, Kansas DOT
- Paul Looney, Kentucky DOT
- Chris Hundt, Michigan DOT
- Polly Kent, Michigan DOT
- Sue Mulvihill, Minnesota DOT
- Serge Phillips, Minnesota DOT
- Shaker Rabban, Minnesota DOT
- Ed Hassinger, Missouri DOT
- Scott Marion, Missouri DOT
- Mabelle Watkins, Missouri DOT
- Jay Wunderlich, Missouri DOT
- Jim Barna, Ohio DOT
- Terri Barnhart, Ohio DOT, MAASTO Treasurer
- David Bernhardt, AASHTO/ Maine DOT
- Jim Tymon, AASHTO
- Bud Wright, AASHTO
- Ernie Perry, Mid-America Freight Coalition

**2. [Minutes](#) of May 2017 BOD Meeting in Portland, ME**

**Randy Blankenhorn, Illinois DOT**

A motion was made and passed to approve the minutes of the May 2017 MAASTO Board meeting.

**3. [Treasurer's Report](#)**

**Terri Barnhart, Ohio DOT**

The Treasurer's Report covered May 1 – June 20, 2017.

- Beginning balance: \$165,673.28
- Ending balance: \$131,935.36
- Outstanding expenses include:

- o Cycles for Change: \$463.21
- o Scholarship money not yet distributed (IL, KS): \$20,000
- o 2017 MAASTO delegate registration: \$10,000 (*estimate*)

Potential ending balance: \$101,472.15

a. **Proposal: MAASTO Conference Registration**

A proposal was prepared at the request of the MAASTO Board of Directors for how the organization should handle subsidization of state DOT employees' registrations at future MAASTO conferences. For several years, MAASTO had very high balances and, in order to spend them down, offered complimentary registrations to all state DOT employees. The first option would equally distribute registrations between the ten MAASTO states. If a state did not use all of its complimentary registrations, they could be redistributed to other states. A second option would offer fewer complimentary registrations to those in states bordering the conference location to offset the increased travel costs faced by outer states. A third option explored offering complimentary registrations to all speakers. Paid travel and hotel were not considered to avoid tax filing documentation requirements.

**A motion was made to approve distributing an equal number of complimentary registrations to each MAASTO state. At every spring AASHTO meeting, the Treasurer will recommend to the Board how many complimentary registrations the organization can afford to provide based on available balances.**

4. New Officer Elections

Commissioner Zelle

Commissioner Zelle, Director Steudle, and Secretary Blankenhorn selected Director McKenna as 2017-18 MAASTO President, with Commissioner McGuinness as Vice-President. Jay Wunderlich will serve as Secretary, and Terri Barnhart will continue to serve as Treasurer. The Board hopes to discuss who could potentially be the Treasurer following Terri so that the individual may learn from her before she retires. The Treasurer recommended that future individuals filling this position be able to serve for more than one year for consistency.

**A motion was made and passed to approve the 2017-18 MAASTO officers.**

5. Committee Reports

a. STIC

Chris Hundt, Michigan DOT

i. **MAASTO Annual Report**

The draft annual report was presented. AASHTO President Bernhardt complimented MAASTO's collaborative efforts, including its diversity workforce paper and joint TIGER application.

ii. **State Freight Advisory Council Survey**

At the MAASTO **intermodal freight summit**, STIC was tasked with surveying each state's freight advisory councils to evaluate the most effective ways to engage the private sector in state DOT work and decision-making, including the identification of multimodal bottlenecks and the economic impacts of investing in those improvements. The draft survey was shared with the Board, and results of the survey will be shared at a future Board meeting.

In other STIC updates from the summit, the committee continues to work on its truck axle weight study, and a working group to tackle platooning issues has been established. More updated will be shared at the next Board meeting.

iii. MAASTO **Resolution** and **Rural Infrastructure Policy Paper** for Federal Transportation Reauthorization

Following direction from the Board at its May meeting, STIC prepared a resolution and rural discretionary program white paper showing how MAASTO as a region reacted to the infrastructure principles and policies introduced by the White House. The goal of these documents was to be get MAASTO as part of the conversation as proposals are fleshed out by the administration.

**Motions were made and passed to approve both the resolution and white paper.** AASHTO executive director Bud Wright suggested this resolution be presented at the next AASHTO Board meeting in Phoenix.

b. Chief Engineer's Committee

Sue Mulvihill, Minnesota DOT

The Chief Engineers suggested the consultant services proposal to be presented by the Planning Committee be for \$200,000, rather than \$75,000 in order to make sure the contract could be effective. The Chief Engineers Committee met during the annual conference to discuss a number of issues, including data exchange related to truck platooning, as well as implemented MASH standards. Several voiced concerns that FHWA was stepping away from implementation, testing, and certification. The committee felt that it was important for FHWA to take a more active role. There was discussion on whether or not AASHTO could take a more prominent role. Director McKenna observed that lack of action at the federal level has led to inaction on the part of the states. The Chief Engineers Committee plans to continue to look at this issue.

c. Planning Committee

Tim Henkel, Minnesota DOT

i. MAFC Project Selection and Budget Allocation: [Summary](#) and [Detailed Proposal](#)

Three MAFC research projects were approved in May. And, due to the identification of new funding in the MAFC budget, new funds will above and beyond current contributions will not need to be identified until January 1, 2019. The MAFC proposal included a selection of new projects that align with the themes of the intermodal freight summit, as well a proposal to increase state contributions from \$25,000 a year to \$37,000 a year.

**A motion was made and passed to approve the new research projects. A motion was made to approve the increase in dues from \$25,000 to \$37,000 annually; though Wisconsin voted no, the motion passed.**

ii. [Consultant Services Proposal](#)

1. [Board Resolution and Amendment Resolution](#)

The proposal would allow the MAASTO planning committee to oversee a consultant hired on retainer on a work-order basis. The Board indicated that its President should have the opportunity to review work orders in advance before approved (informed consent).

**A motion was made and approved to proceed with establishing a consultant services contract, to be overseen by the MAASTO Planning Committee, for a value of \$200,000, with contributions coming from each state.**

d. Motor Carrier Committee

Scott Marion, Missouri DOT

i. [AASHTO Subcommittee on Highway Transport Update](#)

An update was provided on recent and upcoming activities of the Motor Carrier Committee, including a conference to be held by the Subcommittee on Highway Transport with industry professionals September 25-27. The event will focus largely on harmonization and will also include a state engineers roundtable. Kentucky's use of "safe haven" signs for trucks to park overnight was also discussed.

e. Chief Counsel Committee

Patrick Piccininni, Ohio DOT

The Chief Counsels Committee completed its first year of existence and planned a technical session on autonomous vehicles at the annual meeting. The Committee has a call every six weeks to discuss pressing issues, with a focus on emerging technologies, including autonomous and connected vehicles and drones.

6. [Buckle Up Phone Down](#) Initiative

Director McKenna

Director McKenna shared information on Missouri's Buckle Up Phone Down initiative, which has been very successful. Packets of information were shared to assist other states with implementing similar initiatives. With increasing fatalities, this is an important issue for all state DOTs. Missouri has seen many public and private institutions participate.

7. Annual Meeting Update

Polly Kent, Michigan DOT

The next annual meeting will be in Traverse City, MI August 27-29, 2018, at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa. The state rate will be continued through that weekend. The theme of the conference will be "making connections and transforming lives." Commissioner McGuinness indicated his willingness to have Indiana host the annual meeting in 2019. In order to start thinking farther ahead, there was discussion of identifying the 2020 host state at the next MAASTO Board meeting.

## 8. Open Discussion

Secretary Blankenhorn thanked everyone for their support over the last year and highlighted how the freight summit showcased the many opportunities MAASTO states have to work together on important issues. He thanked the Board for allowing him to serve and shared his confidence in Director McKenna as a successor.

## 9. Adjourn