



**MAASTO Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Thursday, May 25, 2017**  
**7:00 to 8:00 a.m.**  
**Holiday Inn Portland, Kennebec/ Lincoln Rooms**  
**Portland, ME**  
**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
- Kirk Steudle, Director, Michigan DOT
- Charlie Zelle, Commissioner, Minnesota DOT

Others in attendance:

- Justine Sydello, Illinois DOT, MAASTO Secretary
- Trevor Mills, Indiana DOT
- Mitch Dillavov, Iowa DOT
- John Selmer, Iowa DOT
- Joel Skelley, Kansas DOT
- Kimberly Avery, Michigan DOT
- Selena Friend, Michigan DOT
- Laura Mester, Michigan DOT
- Mark Van PortFleet, Michigan DOT
- David Wresinski, Michigan DOT
- Tim Henkel, Minnesota DOT, Planning Committee Chair
- Sue Mulvihill, Minnesota DOT, Chief Engineers Committee Chair
- Kathy Harvey, Missouri DOT
- Ed Hassinger, Missouri DOT
- Jay Wunderlich, Missouri DOT
- Jim Barna, Ohio DOT
- Dave Coyle, Ohio DOT
- Patrick Piccininni, Ohio DOT
- Joe Nestler, Wisconsin DOT

**2. Minutes from November 2016 meeting in Boston, MA**

**Justine Reisinger, IL DOT**

A motion was made and passed to approve the minutes of the November 2016 MAASTO Board meeting.

**3. Treasurer's Report**

**Jim Barna, Ohio DOT**

The Treasurer's Report covered November 1, 2016 – May 9, 2017.

- Beginning balance: \$177,581.62
- Ending balance: \$165,673.28
- Outstanding expenses include:
  - Cycles for Change: \$463.21
  - Scholarship money not yet distributed (IL, KS): \$20,000
  - 2017 MAASTO delegate registration: \$10,000 (*estimate*)
- Potential ending balance: \$135,210.07

Illinois and Kansas both plan to utilize their scholarship funding. The report included expenses related to the summit held in April. Discussion was held over future plans to subsidize state DOT registration at MAASTO Annual Conferences. This practice began when MAASTO fund balances were high a number of

years ago. The current target is to keep existing balances to around \$150,000. Treasurer Terri Barnhart is recommending the Board consider a new policy that limits the number of complimentary registrations for state DOT members for future conferences (beginning in 2018), potentially to five to eight complimentary slots per state. Secretary Blankenhorn observed that getting out-of-state travel approved can be a challenge for many DOTs. **A motion was made and passed requesting the Treasurer develop a series of scenarios for the Board to consider in July on how to subsidize state DOT employee registration at future conferences.**

#### 4. MAASTO Intermodal Freight Summit [Summary](#)

Secretary Blankenhorn

A memo on the intermodal freight summit held in April was shared with the Board – it included a summary of summit activities, new initiative MAASTO committees will pursue as a result of the summit, a financial report, and feedback received from attendees. The summit came in under budget at just under \$17,000. The majority of attendees felt it was a good use of time, and many Board members expressed that future summits would be of interest. In general, opportunities for MAASTO members to get together proves beneficial.

#### 5. Committee's Reports

##### a. STIC

Justine Sydello, IDOT

##### i. [Truck Axle Weight Study Funding Options](#)

Based on feedback from the Board at the April summit, STIC developed a memo outlining two funding options for the truck axle weight study – NCHRP vs. a pooled fund approach. **The Board approved moving forward with pooled funds to support the truck axle weight study.** Next steps include identifying which state will oversee the study.

Other updates on activities from the April summit included:

- A survey for State Freight Advisory Council members is being developed. The draft survey will be shared at the July meeting, and responses will be analyzed and shared at the fall AASTHO annual meeting.
- Bill of lading issues were investigated, but no major issues were uncovered. A follow-up call will be had with Del Wilkins to discuss findings.
- STIC will be coordinating with the Planning Committee on developing a Midwest regulatory framework on platooning.

The MAASTO Annual Report will also be available for review at the July meeting.

##### b. Chief Engineer's Committee

Sue Mulvihill, MnDOT

Given the White House's interest in public-private partnerships (P3s) and privatization of rest areas, the Chief Engineers Committee discussed collaborating around a rest area project in the MAASTO region. Many states' rest areas are in serious need of investment, yet there are many funding challenges to support needed improvements. Opportunities to collaborate include inventorying all rest areas throughout the region and their condition to help align investment strategies and related opportunities.

The Committee has also been exchanging information on each state's various progress on e-construction. Many are utilizing AASHTOWare.

##### c. Planning Committee

Tim Henkel, MnDOT

##### i. [MAFC Research Agenda](#)

The Mid-America Freight Coalition (MAFC) developed a proposal to support three research projects for a total of \$210,000:

- Identification and Characterization of Major Freight Corridors
- Quantifying the Value of Modal Investments
- Oversize/ Overweight Support for the Motor Carrier Committee and Subcommittee on Highway Transport

These projects reflect input from the Motor Carrier Committee, as well as discussions at the April summit on intermodal freight. **The Board approved the three research projects for \$210,000.** Additional projects and a related budget request will be discussed at the July meeting.

ii. **MAFC Budget Proposal**

MAFC has operated for 10 years as a transportation pooled fund (TPF), with the ten MAASTO states providing \$25,000 a year. Financial support through the Center for Freight and Infrastructure Research and Education (CFIRE) is no longer available to pay the salary of the MAFC facilitator and administrator. Thus, the Planning Committee is recommending the Board discuss increasing state contributions to the TPF to \$37,000 per year per state to maintain the existing level of research and collaboration services, as well as authorizing MAFC beyond the current December 2018 expiration to December 2021 in order to support the TPIMS data warehouse and performance measures. A question was asked as to whether this increase in state contributions would be a \$1 for \$1 replacement of federal CFIRE funding with state funding.

This proposal will be prepared for a vote at the July board meeting (with related research proposal the increased funding would support).

iii. **Consultant Services Proposal**

The Planning Committee shared some preliminary thoughts on how MAASTO could structure a procurement for consultant services over a two-year master contract. A proposal will be brought to the Board for a vote in July. It was requested that the proposal highlight examples of projects that would be completed with these services.

d. **Motor Carrier Committee**

**Jay Wunderlich, MoDOT**

i. **Roadmap for OS/OW Harmonization**

The Motor Carrier Committee prepared a “roadmap” for the future of Oversize/ Overweight permit and regulation harmonization efforts both at the AASTHO and MAASTO levels. The Committee will continue to work closely with the Subcommittee on Highway Transport (SCOHT) on these topic areas. Based in part on the April intermodal freight summit, the Committee will continue to collaborate with MAFC on a relevant research agenda to support harmonization efforts; being working on “phase III” of harmonization efforts with AASHTO. SCOHT will next meet in September in Kansas, where the efforts with MAFC will be a major area of focus.

e. **Chief Counsel Committee**

**Patrick Piccininni, OhioDOT**

The Chief Counsel Committee has been developing a technical session for the annual conference. The group has been focused on the legal and regulatory implications of connected and autonomous vehicles. Seven states have been actively participating in the group.

**6. Annual Meeting Update**

**Jim Barna, Ohio DOT**

Registration levels have been strong and there are just a few sponsorship slots left. It was noted that a more detailed agenda would be made available in early June.

**7. Open Discussion**

The Board discussed recent discussions several of the CEOs had had with key leadership in the White House and U.S. DOT on the administrations priorities for an infrastructure bill. A white paper was released the day prior on the White House’s key principles and proposal for infrastructure. DJ Gribbin from the White House also discussed with a number of CEOs four program buckets (rural infrastructure; expanded TIFIA/ WIFIA; discretionary program oriented toward leveraging federal funding as much as possible; and “moonshot” project program). Given the administration’s interest in learning where state DOTs support their proposals, the CEOs discussed this as being an opportunity to “be part of the discussion” by highlighting where MAASTO aligns with the new administration. **The Board directed STIC to draft a resolution and related policy paper on where MAASTO aligns with White House**

**infrastructure priorities, as well as how a rural infrastructure program should be structured to most benefit MAASTO states. This will be voted on at the July meeting.**

The Board also discussed the administration's push for policy, statutory, and regulatory reform suggestions for expedited project delivery. Ohio has experienced time and money savings from their NEPA reassignment.

## **8. Adjourn**