

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

July 17, 2018

Machias Savings Bank

Members

Name	Representing
Rob Yerxa	Town of Orono
Dana Wardwell	City of Bangor
Frank Higgins	City of Brewer
Jeremy Caron	City of Brewer
Belle Ryder	Town of Orono
Kyle Drexler	Town of Orono
John Theriault	City of Bangor
Jim Chandler	Town of Hampden
Sean Currier	Town of Hampden
Jeremy Clay	City of Bangor
Linda Johns	City of Brewer
John Rouleau	City of Old Town

Maine DOT

Name	Representing
Steve Bodge	Maine DOT
Darryl Belz	Maine DOT
John Devin	Maine DOT

Staff

Name	Representing
Rob Kenerson (via telephone)	BACTS
Cindy Meservey	BACTS
Connie Reed	BACTS
Dianne Rice	BACTS

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Topic	Discussion	Action
Minutes	Rob Yerxa called the July 17 meeting of the Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee to order at 9:32 a.m. at Machias Savings Bank.	<i>Belle Ryder made the motion to accept the minutes of June 19, 2018 Policy Committee meeting with the noted correction. Linda</i>

	Rob Yerxa noted a correction to the June meeting minutes, under Construction Updates in Orono. Rangeley Road is now closed, not Route 2.	<i>Johns seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i>
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Election of Officers

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>The By Laws state that the first meeting after July 1 of every even year, the Committee must hold an election of officers.</p> <p>Rob Yerxa asked for any nominations, none were given. Belle Ryder asked if the current officers were willing to serve another term. All indicated they would.</p>	<p><i>Linda Johns made the motion to nominate Rob Yerxa to serve a second term of President. Belle Ryder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p> <p><i>Belle Ryder made the motion to nominate John Theriault to serve a second term of Vice-President. Linda Johns seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p> <p><i>Belle Ryder made the motion to nominate Linda Johns to serve another term of Secretary/Treasurer. Sean Carrier seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p>

Hampden 1A Project

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>This project has been discussed at the previous two meetings. Some questions were left unanswered at last month's meeting, so it was decided to bring the topic to the next meeting.</p> <p>Steve Bodge explained to the group that changing the scope of the project and cutting it at the bridge would be difficult to estimate. The construction would save \$750,000 if the project were to end at the bridge. However, this does not mean that the remaining portion would be able to be done for \$750,000. It will cost more.</p>	

	<p>Another issue with changing the scope of the project is that funding will need to be paid back to FHWA for the uncompleted portion of the project. This will have to be paid with non-federal funds.</p> <p>Jim Chander, Town Manager of Hampden, had spoken to the Council prior to the meeting. The Council acknowledged that the original three-party agreement for the project stated that if there were any overages, the town would be responsible for them. Therefore, they are willing to put a bond on the November ballot for \$500,000. The Town is asking BACTS to consider contributing additional funding to cover the \$991,000 project shortfall by extending the allocation payment arrangement currently in place for the project for one more year through 2023. This would allocate an additional \$552,000 of federal funding and \$69,000 of BACTS State funding toward the project and the Town would contribute the additional \$370,000 as local match. The Town of Hampden understands they will be responsible for covering any additional shortfall, which is why they are proposing a bond to Hampden voters in the amount of \$500,000 to account for the possibility of additional shortfall up to that amount. Jim also noted that if the project were to increase again by \$1 million, the town will need to walk away.</p> <p>The question was asked what would happen if the bond failed to pass. Jim Chandler told the Committee the town will need to take the funds from somewhere else.</p> <p>Rob Yerxa told the Committee that the project is important to the town and the region. It's important to keep the project whole. He also iterated that it's important to maintain funding the Holding WIN for future issues.</p>	<p><i>Frank Higgins made the motion to support the approach proposed by the Town of Hampden and authorize an additional year of the current funding allocation arrangement through 2023, for an additional \$552,000 in federal funding and \$69,000 of BACTS state funding toward the project, with the Town of Hampden responsible for funding any shortfall beyond that. Belle Ryder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p>
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Pavement Asset Management Update

Topic	Discussion	Action
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	<p>Rob Kenerson talked with Andy Bickmore regarding the pavement asset management. Andy explained that the ARAN van is one part of the process. Maine DOT uses a computer program to analyze the data. He thought it may be best for BACTS to purchase use of the software to run their own scenarios. Rob will schedule a meeting with the Andy and the BACTS Asset Management Committee to discuss possible opportunities to work together.</p>	
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Old Town Signal Update

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>In October, a wind storm knocked down two poles in the center of Old Town. Maine DOT put up temporary signals with wires from the poles to jersey barriers for stability. This temporary fix caused difficulties during plow season.</p> <p>In the course of seeking assistance from FEMA to fund the damaged poles, John Rouleau was told that FEMA could only fund replacements if the Town were the legal owners. Because the State has legal title of the damaged poles, John canceled the initial inspection appointment with FEMA. However, FEMA reached out to reschedule and is considering funding the poles, but is requesting plans, specifications and estimates for the project to be submitted with the request for funding. John is asking the Committee to consider funding the required PS&E project.</p> <p>Rob Kenerson explained that this would be a new PE project, and would require a TIP amendment to be added. The proposed amendment must go out for a 10-day public comment period, an independent cost estimate must be determined, and the project put out for solicitation.</p> <p>If FEMA does not fund the project, it has already been submitted for consideration as a project in the BACTS 2022-2023 TIP. The Committee discussed adding the project to produce the design and estimates for the signals on Main and Center Streets in Old Town to the 2018 TIP using holding</p>	<p><i>Frank Higgins made a motion to propose adding the PS&E project for the traffic signals at Main and Center Streets in Old Town to the 2018 TIP, to be funded in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 from Holding WIN #14272.40, and provided there are no negative comments received during the public comment period, approve the amended TIP. John Theriault seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p>

	<p>WIN funds. Following the required 10-day public comment period, if no negative comments are received, the Committee approves the amendment to the 2018 TIP with an 80 Federal/10 BACTS /10 local split.</p>	
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Transit Report

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Jeremy Clay reported that the Community Connector staff is just compiling the FY18 ridership figures. Preliminary numbers show ridership is down at approximately 785,000 ride. Based on previous metrics used for STIC funding, ridership under 800,000 affects the ability to successfully meet the metrics and could affect the total amount of federal funding the Community Connector receives through the STIC program. The STIC program funding is dependent on how small UZA transit agencies perform in comparison to large UZA transit agencies.</p> <p>Laurie Linscott is working on applying for a 5339 bus and bus facilities grant to purchase two buses and fund a bus depot. The grant application is due August 6.</p>	

Technical Issues

Topic	Discussion	Action
<p>Construction Updates</p>	<p>Orono</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orono now has a roundabout. It will be fully functional when school starts. • The design for the culvert is out for distribution. <p>Bangor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finson Road has been paved. The project just needs loam and seeding. • The water/sewer work is going on downtown. • The signals at Ohio/Union and 14th/Union have been awarded to AD Electric. • Cyclical paving is occurring on Route 222 from Bangor to Levant. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The I-95 ramp at Broadway has construction signs up. No work has started. <p>Brewer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mill and fill on Route 1A by Walmart in Brewer is set to start on August 12. <p>Old Town</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gilman Falls paving should be finished today. <p>Hampden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is night work on the intersection on Route 202. 	
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MDOT Report

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>The synergy meetings for the State’s workplan will begin September 17. Darryl is not sure when BACTS has been scheduled. These meetings will be held from 9:00 to noon at the Augusta DOT office. All municipalities are welcome to attend these meetings.</p> <p>John Theriault heard a rumor that there will be a temporary detour through Earle Avenue during the Broadway overpass project. Darryl will check.</p>	

Other Business

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>There will not be a meeting on the 21st of next month because Rob, Dianne and Connie will be attending the Tools of the Trade Conference in Kansas City. The meeting will need to be either the week before or after. Rob will send out the information.</p> <p>The Commissioner has agreed to attend the September meeting.</p> <p>The next Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for July 26th. The meeting will be held at Machias Savings Bank in Brewer.</p> <p>The Municipal Partners Transit Meeting is scheduled for August 1. This will be held at Machias Savings as well.</p>	

Topic	Discussion	Action
Adjournment		<i>The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.</i>