

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

December 17, 2019
Orono Council Chambers

Members

Name	Representing
Rob Yerxa	Town of Orono
John Theriault	City of Bangor
Linda Johns	City of Brewer
Jeremy Caron	City of Brewer
Frank Higgins	City of Brewer
Eric Willett	City of Bangor
Belle Ryder	Town of Orono
Sean Currier	Town of Hampden
Laurie Linscott	City of Bangor

Maine DOT/FHWA

Name	Representing
Darryl Belz	Maine DOT
Carlos Pena	FHWA

Staff

Name	Representing
Rob Kenerson	BACTS
Cindy Meservey	BACTS
Dianne Rice-Hansen	BACTS
Connie Reed	BACTS

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Topic	Discussion	Action
Minutes	Rob Yerxa called the December 17 meeting of the Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee to order at 9:35 a.m. at the Orono Council Chambers.	<i>Eric Willette made the motion to accept the minutes of the December 17, 2019 Policy Committee. Linda Johns seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i>

Executive Director Search

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Belle Ryder mentioned that Lori and Rich from the City of Bangor did a stellar job of pre-screening the applicants. As she told the group at the last meeting, the Search Committee interviewed three candidates through Skype. One candidate was not ready for this position, the remaining two were very experienced. The Search Committee made the decision to offer Sara Devlin the position. Sara is currently the Director of PACTS, the MPO in Portland. Rob Kenerson gave a glowing recommendation of Sara, BACTS staff is familiar with her, and she has established relationships with MaineDOT, FHWA, and FTA staff.</p> <p>Rob Yerxa told the Committee that the Search Committee and Sara have negotiated a compensation and benefits package with terms that are within what has been budgeted. Sara will be invited to attend the January Policy Committee meeting to be introduced to everyone. Her official start date is January 27.</p> <p>The Policy Committee needs to authorize the Executive Committee to execute the employment contract with the new Executive Director.</p> <p>Rob Y. also told the Committee that Rob Kenerson submitted his resignation, effective January 27, 2020. Rob has agreed to stay on as Deputy Director for a transition period of approximately eight weeks.</p> <p>The Policy Committee needs to authorize the acceptance of Rob's resignation letter. Rob Yerxa will write a letter of acceptance and outline the details of the transition period in the acceptance letter.</p> <p>Rob Kenerson's current contract formally ends December 31, 2019. Instead of executing a new contract, Rob Yerxa asked the Policy Committee to authorize extending the current contract to January 27, 2020, at which point Rob will become Deputy Director, a regular employee with no contract.</p>	<p><i>Eric Willette made the motion to approve the recommendation of the Search Committee and authorize the Executive Committee to execute an employment contract with Sara Devlin to serve as BACTS Executive Director effective January 27, 2020. Linda Johns seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p> <p><i>Belle Ryder made the motion to accept Rob Kenerson's resignation as Executive Director effective January 27, 2020. Eric Willette seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p> <p><i>Linda Johns made the motion to extend Rob Kenerson's current employment contract as Executive Director of BACTS from December 31, 2019 to January 27, 2020. Belle Ryder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p>

Transit Report

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Laurie Linscott reported that the Community Connector was awarded a discretionary grant of \$1.286 million for a new transit center to be</p>	

	<p>located in downtown Bangor. The grant also includes \$100,000 for bus shelters and bus stops. The transit center will have the latest technology and a platform structure designed (with help from John and Jeff in Engineering) to accommodate 40-foot buses with the intent of being able to accommodate multi-modal service.</p> <p>Laurie received four buses in November. While traveling from California to Maine, one bus broke down and another was involved in a collision and was damaged. The bus that broke down was repaired and continued to Maine. The bus involved in the accident was taken back to Gillig for repair. Gillig told Laurie it would take approximately 3 to 5 months to work everything out with the transfer company's insurance. However, soon after Laurie received word that the insurance company was good with moving forward, and Gillig started the work on the bus, which should be completed this week. Laurie is expecting the bus to arrive by the first of the year, depending on holidays.</p>	
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Technical Issues

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Hampden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The town is working to get a sewer project from Route 202 to Route 1A out to bid in spring. <p>Bangor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All right-of-way is completed for the Trail V project. This project will connect Stillwater Avenue to Sylvan Road. The project is due to go out to bid in January. <p>Brewer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The South Main Street repaving project is going back out to bid tomorrow. Bids are due the second week of January. 	

Other Business

Topic	Discussion	Action
BACTS Projects	Dianne let the Committee know that the shortfalls she discussed at the last meeting have been	

	<p>resolved. There were several closed projects that still had funds in them which were transferred back to the BACTS Holding WIN and that surplus will fund most of the short falls. MDOT has agreed to upfront the funding for the Orono Culvert project so no projects would need to be put off for another year. BACTS will pay back MDOT from the 2022 allocation.</p>	
<p>Railroad</p>	<p>The railroad in Maine has been purchased by Canadian Pacific, which is a class 1 railroad. Rob Kenerson believes this is the key to transporting products between Searsport and the rest of North America.</p>	
<p>TIP Amendment</p>	<p>BACTS received a TIP Amendment request from MaineDOT adding two projects to the S/TIP, WIN 24771.00 - Bangor Riverfront trail enhancements to include lighting, restroom, and a new trail spur totaling \$400,405; and WIN 24773.00 – Phase 3 of the Brewer Riverwalk, including public restrooms totaling \$493,760. These projects do not impact BACTS MPO allocated funding. The amendment is currently out for public comment. The comment period ends on December 19 at 4:00 p.m. No comments have been received to date.</p>	<p><i>Belle Ryder made the motion to approve the TIP Amendment as presented to include WIN 24771.00 and WIN 24773.00 barring receipt of any negative comments. Frank Higgins seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p>
<p>2019 Maine Transportation Conference Awards</p>	<p>Patrick Adams received the Paul L. Lariviere Award for his work on pedestrian and bicycle safety... Ed Hanscom received the David H. Stevens Award.</p>	

Topic	Discussion	Action
<p>Adjournment</p>		<p><i>The meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m.</i></p>