



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## Board Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2009

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)  
Cook County Conference Room  
Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois

**Board Members:** Rita Athas-representing the City of Chicago, Frank H. Beal-representing the City of Chicago, Alan Bennett-representing Cook County, Gerald Bennett-representing southwest Cook County (via tele-conference), Elliott Hartstein-representing Lake County, Al Larson-representing northwest Cook County, Raul Raymundo-representing the City of Chicago, Andre Rice-representing the City of Chicago, Dan Shea-representing McHenry County, and Nigel Telman-representing the City of Chicago.

**Absent:** Roger Claar-representing Will County, Zenovia Evans-representing south Cook County, Russell Hartigan-representing west Cook County, Marilyn Michelini-representing Kane and Kendall Counties, Rae Rupp Srch-representing DuPage County and non-voting members Stephen Schlickman-representing the MPO Policy Committee and Ian Doughty-representing the Governor's office.

**Staff Present:** Randy Blankenhorn, Jill Leary, Dolores Dowdle, Tom Garritano, Gordon Smith, Patricia Berry, Matt Maloney, Bob Dean, Lee Deuben and Sherry Kane.

**Others Present:** Tammy Wierciak-WCMC, , Chris Staron-NWMC, Kama Dobbs-DMMC, Chalen Daigle-McHenry County Council, Paul Heltn-Center for Humans and Nature, Len Cannata-WCMC, Mike Walczak-NWMC, Mike Sullivan-Kane Kendall Council of Mayors, Karyn Romano-Metro Strategies, Inc., David Kralik-Metra, Chris DiPalma-FHWA, Leanne Redden-RTA, and Jim LaBelle-CM2020.

### 1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Vice Chair Rita Athas called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. Other Board members introduced themselves.

## **2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

There were no agenda changes.

Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn introduced the Employee of the Quarter, Kristin Heery who received the award for the work she had done on the *GO TO 2040* plan, specifically her work on the indicator workshops, strategy papers and her effort in convening the expert panel workshops on the strategy papers.

## **3.0 Approval of Minutes – December 10, 2008**

A motion to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2008 board meeting, as presented, was made by Alan Bennett and seconded by Mayor Elliott Hartstein. All in favor, the motion carried.

## **4.0 Executive Director's Report**

4.1 Briefly Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn reported that the STB approved the acquisition of the EJ&E on December 24, 2008. In a letter dated January 7, 2009, the CN offered to come back to the CMAP Board to discuss the transaction and its implications. Blankenhorn also reported on the various mitigation matters that CN had agreed to.

4.2 Blankenhorn reported on the document that had been forwarded to the Board regarding CMAP's Potential Role in the Allocation of Funds for Northeastern Illinois from the Federal Economic Recovery Package. While the Board agreed that CMAP should take the lead Blankenhorn reported that Mayor Roger Claar did have and had previously made his concerns known. CMAP staff were directed however, while engaging the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, to move forward with the initiative.

4.3 The CMAP Board will meet on the second Wednesday of each month during 2009, with the exception of November, which because of the Veterans Day Holiday will meet on the third Wednesday (November 18, 2009), Blankenhorn reported.

4.4 Lastly, Mayor Hartstein reported that there is a proposal pending by the Lake County which would place an advisory referendum on the April ballot on whether Route 53 should be extended from Lake Cook Road North to Illinois Route 120. Hartstein suggested the project would have significant regional impact. CMAP Board members however were reluctant to discuss the project resulting in a consensus of not taking a position.

## **5.0 Contract Approvals**

The following procurement approval was recommended by CMAP staff. A motion by Alan Bennett was seconded by Mayor Al Larson and with all in favor carried, approving CMAP's participation in a National Measures and Indicators Visualization Consortium at a cost of \$150,000. The Chicago Community Trust had approved the use of \$75,000 of existing grant funds for this purpose and UWP funds have been budgeted for the remainder.

## **6.0 Committee Reports**

On behalf of the Planning Coordinating Committee, Vice-Chair Mayor Elliott Hartstein reported that the Committee had met. Among the matters discussed was a comprehensive presentation of the City of Chicago's Action Plan 2008-2020. Staff was directed to forward the document to the entire Board. Also under consideration by the Planning Coordinating Committee, Hartstein continued, was a status update on the scenarios time table and authorization was given to proceed with the Regional Snapshot Reports Jobs-Housing Balance and Latino Population Growth. A third snapshot being considered is Air Quality.

Vice Chair Rita Athas, on behalf of the Programming Coordinating Committee, reported that the Committee had met and had reviewed the staff prepared draft process document that had been revised based upon the Urban Land Institute's review of the DRI process and comments made by the public. Athas went on to say that the staff had done a good job, citing the merits of both proposals and were directed to forward a final draft that is meant to wrap up the DRI proposal process for the Committee. The revised proposal will go out for public comment following Committee review. Athas also thanked stakeholders for the work they had done.

## **7.0 Personnel Handbook**

CMAF's Personnel Handbook review had been completed and a draft presented for Board approval. A summary of the changes was provided along with the draft. Andre Rice requested a demographic breakdown of CMAF staff. A motion made by Dan Shea was seconded by Alan Bennett and with all in favor carried, approving the handbook as presented.

## **8.0 State Legislative Update**

Presented for discussion purposes, Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn reported the 5 priorities for this legislative session. The intention is to communicate our priorities to members of the General Assembly and our other partners, and to guide staff in monitoring and responding to bills that are introduced throughout the session. Those are:

1. Support a capital plan, encouraging transparency and accountability.
2. Restore funding for water supply planning
3. Fund the Local Planning Technical Assistance Act
4. Address the foreclosure crisis
5. Ability to leverage innovative financing through Public Private Partnerships and design/build

The Board discussed the priorities and directed the staff to move forward with them.

## **9.0 Federal Policy Agenda**

Senior Manager Program and Policy Development, Matt Maloney gave an overview of the document entitled "Metropolitan Chicago's Proposed Framework for Federal Reform" that had been distributed in the Board packet. The document, Maloney explained, is a

first draft of the cooperative effort of staff from CMAP as well as the Metropolitan Planning Council, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, Metropolis 2020 and the Center for Neighborhood Technology, crafted as an initial set of priorities for federal reform and investment, tackling issues directed related to transportation, the environment, housing and the regional economy. A motion by Alan Bennett was seconded by Mayor Elliott Hartstein to endorse Metropolitan Chicago's Proposed Framework for Federal Reform (including changes recommended by the City of Chicago) and with all in favor, carried.

#### **10.0 Other Business**

Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn announced that Vice-Chair Rita Athas, who worked tirelessly in creating CMAP and one of its founding officers, would leave the Board. Blankenhorn expressed his appreciation for Ms. Athas' time and effort and while profoundly regretful, wished her every success. Athas was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and a gift to memorialize her involvement. CMAP Board Chair Mayor Gerald Bennett also expressed his appreciation of Athas' work, advice and friendship. Ms. Athas added that it had been a privilege and honor to serve, that Randy and the staff had done a superb job and introduced Joe Deal, Mayor Daley's appointee to fill her position.

#### **11.0 Executive Session—Executive Director Performance Review**

A motion made by Mayor Elliott Hartstein was seconded by Mayor Al Larson and with all in favor carried, to adjourn to a closed session for the purpose of discussing the Executive Director's performance review. Concluding the session, a motion was again made by Mayor Hartstein, seconded by Alan Bennett and with all in favor carried to adjourn the Executive Session.

#### **12.0 Public Comment**

There were no comments from the Public.

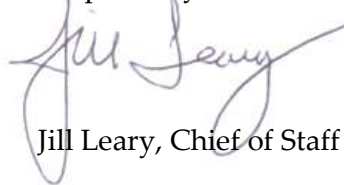
#### **13.0 Next Meeting**

The Board will meet again on February 11, 2009.

#### **14.0 Adjournment**

At 10:45 a.m., a motion to adjourn made by Alan Bennett was seconded by Mayor Al Larson. All in favor the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Jill Leary, Chief of Staff

01-27-09  
/stk

*Approved as presented by unanimous vote, March 11, 2009.*