

OMAHA-COUNCIL BLUFFS METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING AGENCY

**COUNCIL OF OFFICIALS
REGULAR MEETING
March 10, 2021**

The March 10, 2021 Council of Officials Quarterly Meeting was held virtually in compliance with Nebraska Executive Order No. 20-36 dated November 25, 2020, "Corona Virus - Public Meetings Requirement Limited Waiver".

MINUTES

- A. Call to Order and Introductions – Carol Vinton, Vice President, opened the meeting by welcoming all Council members and guests. The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m.

Members Present:

Troy Anderson	Deputy Chief of Staff, City of Omaha
Scott Belt	Supervisor, Pottawattamie County
David Black	Mayor, City of Papillion
Michael Evans	Mayor, City of Gretna
Karen Gibler	President, Sarpy County Chamber of Commerce
Cindy Grove	Mayor, City of Valley
Kevin Hensel	President, Greater Bellevue Area Chamber of Commerce
Rusty Hike	Mayor, City of Bellevue
Zac Johns	Mayor, City of Bennington
Douglas Kindig	Mayor, City of La Vista
Janet McCartney	Commissioner, Cass County
Erv Portis	City Administrator, City of Plattsmouth
Chris Rodgers	Commissioner, Douglas County
Carol Vinton - Vice President	Supervisor, Mills County
Kevin Zimmerman	Mayor, City of Minden

Other Guests:

Pam Buethe	City of La Vista
Emily Bausch	City of Plattsmouth
Paul Deming	GEO Partners
Mike Drahota	Sparklight
Winsley Durand	Greater Omaha Chamber
Glenn Fishbine	GEO Partners
Bruce Fountain	City of La Vista
Paula Hazlewood	Advanced Southwest Iowa Corp
Niki Herre	Village of Arlington
Mark Howard	City of Council Bluffs
Michael Holton	City of Treynor
Dan Hunt	HCI Holdings
Teresa Hunter	Family Housing Advisory Services
William King	Media King Communications
Marilyn Kirchhoff	Village of Avoca
Jeff Kooistra	City of Gretna
Kevin Pokorny	City of La Vista
Mike Rooks	Gateway Development
Jennifer Serkiz	Cass County Economic Development Corporation
Shane Therrien	Sparklight
Jason Wiese	Village of Arlington

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MAPA Staff:

Christina Brownell Sue Cutsforth Shawna Silvius Greg Youell

B. Business – (Action)

1. Approval of the Council of Officials Minutes of the October 7, 2020 Meeting – (Action)

MOTION by Hike, SECOND by Belt to approve the October 7, 2020 meeting minutes.
Motion Carried.

C. MAPA Reports & Project Updates – (Information)

1. Executive Director’s Report - Mr. Youell gave an update on departmental projects and activities, staff updates, recent meetings and funding.
2. Grant Information - Mr. Youell provided a list to the Council with current grant information.

D. Election – (Action)

1. Council of Officials President (to serve through June 30, 2021) - The Council held an election to fill the vacancy for Council President.

Rodgers nominated Festersen to serve as Council President through June 30, 2021. There were no further nominations. Nominations were closed.

MOTION by Rodgers, SECOND by McCartney to elect Festersen to serve as Council President through June 30, 2021.
Motion Carried.

E. New Business – (Information)

1. Work Program Survey Results - Mr. Youell presented to the Council the results of the Annual Work Program survey. Top themes were: Housing & Redevelopment; Road & Infrastructure; Trails & Bike-Ped; and Transit. Mr. Youell identified needs for next year including: redistricting; “Complete Streets”; planning; community development and funding.
2. FY22 Draft Work Program Priorities - Mr. Youell presented to the Council the FY 2022 Work Program priorities.

F. Presentations: Broadband – (Information)

1. Council Bluffs BLink WiFi - Mark Howard, Council Bluffs CIO provided an update to the Council on the Council Bluffs BLink WiFi project.
2. Keynote Presentation: Paul Deming & Glenn Fishbine, GEO Partners
Mr. Deming and Mr. Fishbine presented to the Council on Crowdsourcing Broadband Mapping. Shawna Silvius, Economic Development Planner, provided an update on the Nebraska Broadband Speed Test project.

G. Additional Business / Announcements - None

H. Adjournment - Vice President Vinton adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.