

**OMAHA–COUNCIL BLUFFS METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING AGENCY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

March 27, 2025

The Board of Directors met at the MAPA offices, 2222 Cuming Street, Omaha. Board Chair Kindig called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

**A. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS**

Roger Garcia	Douglas County Commissioner
Tyler Hiipakka	Assistant City Attorney, City of Omaha Law <i>[non-voting]</i>
Rusty Hike	Mayor, City of Bellevue
Douglas Kindig – Chair	NE Small Communities Representative - Mayor, City of La Vista
Jacquelyn Morrison (rep. Mayor Jean Stothert) @1:53	Deputy Chief of Staff, City of Omaha
Don Rowe	Omaha City Council
Matt Walsh – Vice Chair @1:56	Mayor, City of Council Bluffs
Angie Winkquist	IA Small Communities Representative - Mayor, City of Glenwood

**Members/Officers Absent**

Scott Belt	Pottawattamie County Board of Supervisor
Patrick Bloomingdale	Chief Administrative Officer, Douglas County <i>[non-voting]</i>
David Klug	Sarpy County Commissioner

**MAPA Staff**

Grant Anderson	Court Barber	Christina Brownell	Sue Cutsforth
Elise Emanuel	Matt Eash	Michael Helgerson	Laura Heilman
Carlos Morales	Elizabeth Zeller		

**B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA of the March 27, 2025 meeting agenda – (Action)**

MOTION by Winkquist, SECOND by Hike to approve the agenda of the March 27, 2025 meeting of the Board of Directors.

AYES: Garcia, Hike, Kindig, Rowe, Winkquist

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

**C. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES of the February 27, 2025 meeting – (Action)**

MOTION by Hike, SECOND by Rowe to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2025 meeting of the Board of Directors.

AYES: Garcia, Hike, Kindig, Rowe, Winkquist

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

**D. AGENCY REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS – (Information)**

**1. AGENCY REPORTS**

**a. Executive Director's Report – Mr. Michael Helgerson**

Mr. Helgerson provided an update to the Board on agency projects, activities and events including: MAPA projects in the news; recap of MAPA's March Council of Officials meeting; MAPA WE-STEP Project was awarded the Planning Excellence Award at the Nebraska Planning Conference hosted by NPZA & APA Nebraska; CDBG project update for the Cities of Alvo and Minden, Iowa; recent Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) public meetings and final comments for the Draft Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP); recap of the Elected and Appointed Officials Trainings that were recently hosted in conjunction with Iowa State University and University of Nebraska Extension office.

**E. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.**

F. CONSENT AGENDA – (Action)

The following items were approved as one with a single vote of the Board of Directors.

1. FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES of the March 19, 2025 meeting
2. FINAL CONTRACT PAYMENTS –
  - a. City of Council Bluffs - 5310 - PMT #2 – \$40,048.75
3. TRAVEL –
  - a. 2025 Iowa Council of Governments (ICOG) Staff Retreat - Up to 3 Staff - May 1-2, 2025 - Des Moines Iowa – \$2,442.90
  - b. 2025 NARC Annual Conference - Up to 2 Staff and 3 Board Members - June 8-11, 2025 - Seattle, WA – \$11,598.56

MOTION by Hike, SECOND by Rowe to approve all items on the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Garcia, Hike, Kindig, Rowe, Winquist

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

G. OLD BUSINESS –

1. RESOLUTION 2025 – 16: TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT #5 – (ACTION)

Mr. Barber presented to the Board for approval Resolution 2025 – 16: TIP Amendment #5, which included changes to the FTA Sections 5310 Program.

MOTION by Winquist, SECOND by Rowe to approve Resolution 2025 – 16: TIP Amendment #5.

AYES : Garcia, Hike, Kindig, Rowe, Winquist

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. NEW CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS – (ACTION)

The Board considered for approval the New Contract listed below.

- a. HDR Engineering (UK2414-001) On-Call Professional Services Task Order Agreement - Travel Demand Model Update – \$42,372.95 - Pending Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) Review

MOTION by Rowe, SECOND by Hike to approve Task Order Agreement UK2414-001 with HDR Engineering, pending NDOT final review.

AYES: Garcia, Hike, Kindig, Rowe, Winquist

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED.

2. FY 2026 DRAFT WORK PROGRAM – (ACTION)

Mr. Helgeson presented to the Board for approval the FY2026 Draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for public review and comment.

- a. FY 2026 Draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

The Draft UPWP serves as the budget for the transportation planning funding that MAPA receives from state agencies. Approximately 92% of funding is received from NDOT and 8% from Iowa DOT. The Draft UPWP is due to state and federal partners by April 1 of each year. In total, MAPA will receive approximately \$4.6 million in total federal funding, and \$1.5 million in matching funds. Mr. Helgeson reviewed MAPA work activities and anticipated contracts/sub-recipients for regional planning activities, consultant contracts, pass-through agreements and Heartland 2050 mini-grants. Final budget documents and UPWP approvals will be presented to the Board for approval in May.

MOTION by Hike SECOND by Winquist to approve FY 2026 Draft Work Program to be forwarded on to MAPA's State and Federal Partners for review and approval.

AYES: Garcia, Hike, Kindig, Rowe, Winquist

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION: EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS PERFORMANCE REVIEW – (ACTION)

The Board entered into Executive Session to discuss the Executive Director's Performance Review.

MOTION by Hike, SECOND by Rowe to enter into Executive Session at 1:53 p.m.

AYES: Garcia, Hike, Kindig, Morrison, Rowe, Winquist

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Walsh arrived at 1:55 after the Board voted to enter into Executive Session. Walsh was present for the discussion.

MOTION by Kindig, SECOND by Walsh to Return to Open Session at 2:28 p.m.

AYES: Garcia, Hike, Kindig, Morrison, Rowe, Walsh, Winquist

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMPENSATION – (ACTION)

The Board considered for approval the recommendation of the Executive Director Review Committee for the Executive Director's Compensation. The Review Committee included MAPA Board Chair, Douglas Kindig; Vice-Chair Matt Walsh and Secretary/Treasurer Patrick Bloomingdale.

MOTION by Hike, SECOND by Walsh to approve the Executive Directors Compensation at \$150,000 retroactive to January 20, 2025 and the Executive Director should also be included in the FY 2026 Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), approved by the Board in June.

The Board moved into discussion. Walsh asked if the compensation of \$150,000 was inclusive of the anticipated FY 2026 Cost of Living Adjustment. Board Chair Kindig clarified that it would not be as the Board takes separate action on this item in June. Member Morrison proposed reducing the recommendation to \$146,056 to allow for the Director to be included in any future COLA approved by the Board for FY 2026.

MOTION by Walsh, SECOND by Hike to amend the recommendation for the Executive Directors Compensation to \$146,056 retroactive to January 20, 2025 and the Executive Director should also be included in the FY 2026 Cost of Living Adjustment which is to be considered by the Board in June.

AYES: Belt, Garcia, Hike, Kindig, Rowe, Walsh, Winquist

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Hike, SECOND by Walsh to approve the recommendation for the Executive Directors Compensation to \$146,056 retroactive to January 20, 2025 and the Executive Director should also be included in the FY 2026 Cost of Living Adjustment which is to be considered by the Board in June.

AYES: Belt, Garcia, Hike, Kindig, Rowe, Walsh, Winquist

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED.

I. DISCUSSION – None.

J. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS – None.

K. ADJOURNMENT – Board Chair Kindig adjourned the meeting at 2:38 p.m.