Transportation & Infrastructure Policy Committee
InterContinental Hotel – St. Paul, Minnesota
March 10, 2016

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brad Anderson, Goodhue County
Bruce Anderson, Sherburne County
DeRon Brehmer, Lac qui Parle County
Bruce Cochran, Mille Lacs County
Roger Falk, Roseau County
Steven Gray, Dodge County
Steve Jacob, Winona County
Donald Jensen, Pennington County
Wayne Johnson, Otter Tail County
Jack Kolars, Nicollet County
Bruce Kooiman, Pipestone County
Bob Kopitzke, Stevens County
Dan Kuhns, Waseca County
Jeffrey Lopez, Chippewa County
Brian McBride, Koochiching County
Peter McLaughlin, Hennepin County
Jodi Teich, Stearns County
Bob Moline, Murray County
Ken Moorman, Lake of the Woods County

John Okeson, Becker County
Rafael Ortega, Ramsey County
Dennis Potter, Brown County
Douglas Reese, Kandiyohi County
Jerry Reinartz, Mower County
Mike Robinson, Chisago County
Dan Schmidtke, Martin County
Scott Schulte, Anoka County
Christopher Shoff, Freeborn County
Edward Smith, Hubbard County
John Stahl, Renville County
Vance Stuehrenberg, Blue Earth County
Keith Swanson, Grant County
Don Wachal, Jackson County
Gordy Wagner, Pope County
Mike Wilson, Morrison County
Paul Wilson, Olmsted County
Mike Wobbe, Wabasha County
Susan Zmyslony, Carlton County

GUESTS

Lon Aune, Marshall County
Craig Buness, Polk County
Chris Byrd, Benton County
Brian Giese, Pope County
Mark Krebsbach, Dakota County
Doug Krueger, McLeod County
Steve Kubista, Chippewa County
Blair Nelson, Waseca County

Kevin Peyman, Martin County
Nick Riley, Ramsey County
Robby Robinson, Goodhue County
Rich Sanders, Polk County
Ted Schoenecker, MnDOT
Bill Stearns, Wadena County
Ginny Storlie, Cook County
I. Call to Order
Becker County Commissioner John Okeston called the meeting to order at 9:02 am. The Pledge of Allegiance was taken. The group took turns giving introductions. Anoka County Commissioner Scott Schulte moved to approve the December Transportation & Infrastructure Policy Committee minutes, seconded by Kandiyohi County Commissioner Doug Reese. Motion carried.

II. Draft Proposal from the Broadband Subcommittee
Chair Okeston introduced Lake County Commissioner Rich Sve, Broadband Subcommittee Chair.

Blue Earth County Commissioner Vance Stuehrenberg made the motion to endorse the Minnesota Broadband Coalition Vision Statement. Otter Tail County Commissioner Wayne Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

III. Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin gave a brief report on federal legislation and NACo, including a short update on the recently passed FAST Act. Blue Earth County Commissioner Vance Stuehrenberg provided an update on the Airport Commission, focusing on drones and driverless cars.

IV. Communications and Grassroots Advocacy Plan
Leslie Rosedahl and Peter Glessing with Lockridge Grindal Nauen, updated the committee on the communications and grassroots advocacy plan that they have put together on behalf of AMC. The plan they have worked on with the Transportation Working Group includes regional meetings to engage county commissioners, administrators, and engineers as well as other local officials on the local and statewide transportation needs throughout MN. Leslie and Peter will also draft opinion editorials on behalf of county commissioners detailing our transportation needs and will submit them to the major newspapers across the state. The committee engaged in discussion as to the decision-making process regarding the locations that were picked for regional meetings.

V. Stearns County Township Association Resolution – Discussion
Stearns County Engineer Jodi Teich provided background and information as to why the Stearns County Association of Townships originally proposed three resolutions to the Stearns County Board regarding county road turnbacks. Discussion focused on whether the Minnesota Association of Townships might introduce legislation that would amend Minnesota Statute consistent with the resolutions.

Otter Tail County Commissioner Wayne Johnson made the motion to oppose any change to Minn. Stat. 163.11 and to oppose the Stearns County Association of Townships resolution. Blue Earth County Commissioner Vance Stuehrenberg seconded the motion. Motion carried.
VI. **Rail Safety Update**
Tim Spencer, MnDOT Freight Planning Manager, provided an overview on rail safety. Tim also touched on the FAST Act provisions relating to rail safety funding.

VII. **FAST Act Update**
Serge Phillips, MnDOT Federal Relations Manager, addressed the committee on the recently passed federal transportation funding legislation, the FAST Act and what it means for Minnesota.

VIII. **Adjourn.**
The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Jackson County Commissioner Don Wachal moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lac qui Parle County Commissioner DeRon Brehmer. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 11:58am.