MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brad Anderson, Goodhue County
Lon Aune, Marshall County
Jake Bauerly, Benton County
Barb Becker, Todd County
DeRon Brehmer, Lac qui Parle County
Craig Buness, Polk County
Kevin Campbell, Clay County
Mary Beth Davidson, Hennepin County
Roger Falk, Roseau County
Dale Fenrich, Meeker County
Jake Gillen, Rice County
Derrick Goutermont, Lake County
Steven Gray, Dodge County
Donald Jensen, Pennington County
Jerry Johnson, Douglas County
Wayne Johnson, Otter Tail County
Jack Kolars, Nicollet County
Bruce Kooiman, Pipestone County
Bob Kopitzke, Stevens County
John Lindquist, Otter Tail County
Jeff Marlowe, Renville County
Peter McLaughlin, Hennepin County
Jeff Mergen, Stearns County
Bob Moline, Murray County
Leon Olson, Kittson County

Ewald Petersen, Sherburne County
Dennis Potter, Brown County
Mike Potter, Wright County
Steve Raukar, St. Louis County
David Robley, Douglas County
Jim Salfar, Redwood County
Scott Schulte, Anoka County
Christopher Shoff, Freeborn County
Mike Slavik, Dakota County
Edward Smith, Hubbard County
John Stahl, Renville County
Bill Stearns, Wadena County
Ginny Storlie, Cook County
Vance Stuehrenberg, Blue Earth County
Keith Swanson, Grant County
Jon Ulrich, Scott County
Don Wachal, Jackson County
Gordy Wagner, Pope County
Rick West, Otter Tail County
Mike Wilson, Morrison County
Paul Wilson, Olmsted County
Mike Wobbe, Wabasha County
Greg Young, Faribault County
Susan Zymslony, Carlton County

GUESTS

Chris Byrd, Benton County
Brian Giese, Pope County
Dennis Genereau, Carlton County

Mark Krebsbach, Dakota County
Ted Schoenecker, MnDOT State Aid
Jodi Teich, Stearns County
I. **Call Joint Meeting to Order**
Chair Barry Nelson called the Joint Committee on Environment/Natural Resources and Transportation/Infrastructure meeting to order at 1:34 PM and welcomed members and guests. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. **State Assumption of Section 404 and Local Road Wetland Replacement Program Update**
Les Lemm, Wetlands Section Manager at the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), provided the Joint Committee with an update on the state assumption of the Section 404 permit study. He also gave an update on WCA rulemaking and discussed the deficit of credits and funding challenges with the Local Road Wetland Replacement Program.

III. **Overview of the DNR Initiative on Pollinator Habitat and Roadside Ditch Mowing**
Bob Meier, Assistant Commissioner at the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), discussed the Governor’s Executive Order on pollinator protection and gave an overview of the legislative initiative relating to roadside ditch mowing and protecting pollinator habitat. Committee members had an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback on the legislation.

IV. **Adjourn Joint Committee**
The Joint Committee adjourned at 2:30 PM.

V. **Call to Order**
Vice Chair Mike Potter called the Transportation and Infrastructure Policy Committee meeting to order at 2:35 PM.

VI. **Broadband Subcommittee Update**
Broadband Subcommittee Chair Rich Sve gave a brief update on the topics discussed during that morning’s subcommittee meeting. The subcommittee heard a presentation from Jane Leonard, with the Office of Broadband Development, and also discussed potential broadband platform and priority items. Chair Sve presented the broadband priority item to the committee for further discussion on Friday.

VII. **Progress in Motion Update**
Margaret Donahoe, Director of the Minnesota Transportation Alliance, provided an update on what Progress in Motion has been working on over the last year. She gave an update on PIM’s 2016 media campaign that utilized new and old media to engage legislators and the public on the transportation needs across the state. Margaret discussed the importance of the upcoming election and how it will impact transportation. The goal is to make sure transportation is a big part of the campaign discussion, and the Transportation Alliance is focused on informing candidates by hosting candidate forums across the state.

VIII. **NACo Transportation Update**
Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin gave a brief report from the NACo Transportation Committee, highlighting the presence of autonomous vehicles and what they will mean for counties and cities. Blue Earth County Commissioner Vance Stuehrenberg provided an update on the NACo Airports Subcommittee, focusing on drones and the FAA.
IX. Adjourn for the Day
There was a motion and a second to adjourn the meeting for the day. The Transportation and Infrastructure Policy Committee adjourned at 4:30 PM.

X. Call Meeting to Order
Vice Chair Mike Potter called the Transportation and Infrastructure Policy Committee to order at 8:30 AM. The committee recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Anoka County Commissioner Scott Schulte moved to approve the March Transportation & Infrastructure Policy Committee minutes, seconded by Nicollet County Commissioner Jack Kolars. Motion carried.

XI. State Aid Update
Ted Schoenecker with the MnDOT State Aid Office provided an update of the turnback program for FY 18-19, noting projects that are highlighted. Blue Earth Commissioner Vance Stuehrenberg moved to have the Transportation and Infrastructure Policy Committee approve the turnback apportionments for FY 18-19, seconded by Benton County Commissioner Jake Bauerly. Motion carried. Ted also updated the committee on the State Aid standards alignment with trunk highway standards, FHWA emphasis on ADA transition plans, and truck weight unified permitting system.

XII. Other Updates
Polk County Commissioner Craig Buness provided an update on the Truck Weight Enforcement Subcommittee meeting in July, and Scott County Commissioner Mike Beard presented on the Governor’s Freight Rail Council, which had its first meeting in August and will meet again in December. Commissioner Beard is the county representative to the Governor’s Freight Rail Council and Renville County Commissioner Bob Fox is the alternate.

XIII. Speed Limits Panel
Ted Schoenecker with the MnDOT State Aid Office provided an overview on how speed limits are currently determined in Minnesota. Emily Pugh presented on behalf of Cass and Hubbard County, both counties passed resolutions this summer in support of changing the definition of a rural residential district in state statute to include county roads. Wayne Sandberg, Washington County Engineer and MCEA Legislative Committee Chair gave an overview of the pros and cons of the proposed changes. Wayne proposed the committee could support the Cass/Hubbard proposal, support current statute, or stay neutral on the topic. The committee determined this would be an item for debate at the Annual Conference in December.

XIV. 2017 Platform and Priority Items Discussion
Emily Pugh discussed the platform review process and the committee discussed potential platform items to be discussed further and voted on at the Annual Meeting in December. Two of those potential platform items include the speed limit/definition of a rural residential district issue that was presented earlier in the morning, as well as discussion regarding a NACo policy to remove air ambulances from the definition of “Air Carrier” in ADA or other policy to protect consumers from price-gouging.

The committee discussed priorities for 2017 and identified the following two items:
1. AMC supports a comprehensive transportation funding package that includes new revenue for roads, bridges, and transit.

2. AMC supports the build-out of broadband infrastructure in Minnesota, including legislation that would provide funding for the Office of Broadband Development and continued funding for the Border to Border Broadband Development Grant Program.

XV. Adjourn
There was a motion and a second to adjourn the meeting for the day. The Transportation and Infrastructure Policy Committee adjourned at 11:00 AM.