



Board of Directors

**August 04, 2023- 9:30 am following the MPO
Seminar Room, 625 Texas Street, Shreveport, LA 71101**

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION & PLEDGE

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments are to be held to 3 minutes.

FINANCIAL

Fiscal Year 2023 Quarterly Report

[Approval of the Quarterly Financial Report – End of Year Pre-Audit](#)

Fiscal Year 2023 Audit Letter of Engagement

[Approval of Fiscal Year 2023 Financial Audit Letter of Engagement](#)

[Approval of Fiscal Year 2023 AUP Engagement Letter](#)

LEGAL REPORT

OTHER BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

[Approval of Minutes from June 23, 2023](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN



625 Texas Street, Suite 200 | Shreveport, LA 71101
318.841.5950 | F 318.841.5952 | www.nlcog.org

Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

Friday, August 04, 2023 (9:30 AM)

625 Texas Street, Suite 200
Shreveport, LA 71101

Members Present

Mr. Bruce Blanton – Webster Parish
Mayor Tommy Chandler, Chair – City of Bossier City
Mr. Butch Ford, Vice Chair – Bossier Parish
Mr. Michael Norton – DeSoto Parish
Mayor Tom Arceneaux – City of Shreveport

Members Absent

Mr. Charles Henington – Caddo Tax Assessor
Mrs. Erica Bryant – Caddo Parish

Others Present

Mr. Kent Rogers – NLCOG
Mr. Chris Petro – NLCOG
Ms. Savannah Williams - NLCOG
Dr. Shelly Barrett - NLCOG
Ms. Rita Arnold – NLCOG
Mr. Adam Driskill - NLCOG
Mr. Josh Chevallier – NLCOG Legal Council

Call to Order

Mayor Chandler called the meeting to order and asked everyone to stand while Mr. Johnson did the invocation. Mr. Rogers then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Chandler asked Mr. Rogers to begin a roll call. Mr. Rogers began the roll call. A quorum was present.

Public Comments

Mayor Chandler called for public comments and Mr. Chevallier stated we received no cards.

Financial – Fiscal Year 2023 Quarterly Report - Approval of the Quarterly Financial Report – End of Year Pre-Audit

Mr. Rogers stated the first item under the financials is the quarterly financial report and what they have is the end of year pre-audit of numbers. Based on adjustments and things that were made previously, three categories that were slightly over what was originally budgeted were insurance, FICA, and telephone. Mr. Rogers said that they have changed carriers so that should come down some over the next year. With the FICA and insurance those are just some best guess estimates starting out with since the insurance changes mid-year for them and FICA is higher because they brought on another full-time employee. In terms of the assets and cash, liabilities, and equity, that came in at roughly one point five million and that's about what they've been maintaining. He would like to get a little bit more in there, but at least they're headed in the right direction.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any questions or comments. Having none, Mayor Chandler called for a motion to Approve the Fiscal Year 2023 Quarterly Report – End of Year Pre-Audit. Mr. Norton motioned, and Mr. Blanton seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Fiscal Year 2023 Audit Letter of Engagement – Approval of Fiscal Year 2023 Financial Audit Letter of Engagement - Approval of Fiscal Year 2023 AUP Engagement Letter

Mr. Rogers stated that there were two letters of engagement to approve. The first is for the traditional financial audit. The second is for the state's agreed upon policies and procedures. Mr. Rogers said they had planned to present them at the last meeting; however, they didn't quite get them in on time. Again, this is just standard auditing procedures.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any questions or comments. Having none, Mayor Chandler called for a motion to Approve the Fiscal Year 2023 Financial Audit Letter of Engagement. Mayor Arceneaux motioned, and Mr. Norton seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Mayor Chandler called for a motion to Approve the Fiscal Year 2023 AUP Engagement Letter. Mayor Arceneaux motioned, and Mr. Norton seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Legal Report

Mr. Chevallier stated there was no pending or threatened litigation at this time and no significant legal matters that need to be reported at this meeting.

Other Business

1. Approval of Minutes

The next item on the agenda was for approval of the minutes from the June 23, 2023, meeting. Mayor Chandler called for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Ford motioned, and Mr. Blanton seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Adjourn

With no remaining agenda items, The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. Mayor Arceneaux was the first to motion, and Mr. Ford seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. Kent Rogers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The "J" is large and loops around the "K". The "R" has a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

J. Kent Rogers, Secretary



Board of Directors

October 27, 2023- 9:30 am following the MPO
Seminar Room, 625 Texas Street, Shreveport, LA 71101

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION & PLEDGE

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments are to be held to 3 minutes.

FINANCIAL

1. Fiscal Year 2024 Quarterly Report

Approval of the Quarterly Financial Report – July 01, 2023 – September 30, 2023

2. Fiscal Year 2023 Audit

[Approval of Fiscal Year 2023 Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire](#)

[Auditor's Communication with Those Charged with Governance](#)

LEGAL REPORT

OTHER BUSINESS

3. Eagleview/Pictometry Contract for Aerial Photography

[Approval of Contract Amendments for 2024 Flight](#)

4. Retirement Plan Review

[Mission Square \(ICMA\) / OneAmerica \(Ameriprise Financial\)](#)

5. Approval of Minutes

[Approval of Minutes from August 04, 2023](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

6. Next Regular Schedule MPO Meeting Friday December 8, 2023

ADJOURN



625 Texas Street, Suite 200 | Shreveport, LA 71101
318.841.5950 | F 318.841.5952 | www.nlcog.org

Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

Friday, October 27, 2023 (9:30 AM)

625 Texas Street, Suite 200
Shreveport, LA 71101

Members Present

Mr. Bruce Blanton – Webster Parish
Mayor Tommy Chandler, Chair – City of Bossier City
Mr. Butch Ford, Vice Chair – Bossier Parish
Mr. Michael Norton – DeSoto Parish
Mr. Charles Henington – Caddo Tax Assessor

Members Absent

Mayor Tom Arceneaux – City of Shreveport (Mr. Washington sitting in for Mayor Arceneaux, but not in a non-voting capacity)
Mrs. Erica Bryant – Caddo Parish

Others Present

Mr. Kent Rogers – NLCOG
Mr. Chris Petro – NLCOG
Ms. Savannah Williams - NLCOG
Dr. Shelly Barrett - NLCOG
Ms. Rita Arnold – NLCOG
Mr. Josh Chevallier – NLCOG Legal Council

Call to Order

Mayor Chandler called the meeting to order and asked everyone to stand while Mr. Johnson did the invocation. Mr. Ford then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Chandler asked Mr. Rogers to begin a roll call. Mr. Rogers began the roll call. A quorum was present. Mayor Chandler wanted to acknowledge the new Speaker of the House, Mike Johnson. He believes that our state and our country are blessed to have him. Mayor Chandler wanted to say that they are very proud of him, and they pray for his success as he leads this country forward.

Public Comments

Mayor Chandler called for public comments and Mr. Rogers stated we received no cards.

Financial – Fiscal Year 2024 Quarterly Report - Approval of the Quarterly Financial Report – July 01, 2023 – September 30, 2023

Mr. Rogers stated the first item on the agenda is the Fiscal Year 2024 Quarterly Financial Report. Mr. Rogers stated that the left side was the expenses to date and that is from July 01, 2023, through September 30, 2023, which is showing roughly twenty-five percent. He said they're pretty much on track and it's slightly higher in the Bonding and Insurance because some of the insurance is due up front in the Fiscal Year. Mr. Rogers wanted to remind the board that their Fiscal Year is July 1 through June 30, not the calendar year. He stated the right side was Assets and Liabilities and they again maintain roughly the one point three range. Mr. Rogers asked if anyone had any questions for him or Mrs. Barnette.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any questions or comments. Having none, Mayor Chandler called for a motion to Approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Quarterly Report. Mr. Ford motioned, and Mr. Norton seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Fiscal Year 2023 Audit – Approval of Fiscal Year 2023 Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire – Auditor's Communication with Those Charged with Governance

Mr. Rogers stated that the next item on the agenda was the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire that was previously emailed to them and that goes along with their Fiscal Year 2023 Audit. He stated that it basically states who they are and what they're liable for.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any questions or comments. Having none, Mayor Chandler called for a motion to Approve the Fiscal Year 2023 Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire. Mr. Blanton motioned, and Mr. Ford seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Mr. Rogers stated that also included in the packet that was forwarded to them earlier was a letter from Heard, McElroy & Vestal, LLC outlining what they are doing in terms of responsibilities and roles between the auditor and NLCOG staff. He stated that it's just an informational only letter that they're required to provide to them as the governing board. Mr. Rogers asked if anyone had any questions and there were none.

Legal Report

Mr. Chevallier stated there was no pending or threatened litigation at this time and no significant legal matters that need to be reported at this meeting. He did want to call attention to something that will be on the board's agenda in December, and he has already spoken to Mr. Rogers about it. Mr. Chevallier stated that his firm is going to be asking for a rate increase effective January 1, 2024, at the December meeting. He said that they've been working on the then effective AG's rate for outside council since inception when Jerry Jones began working with NLCOG more than a decade ago, and they'd like to come in line with the current AG approved rate. Mr. Chevallier just wanted them to know that he will be asking them for that for the firm in December along with more information before he does ask the board. He stated that the rate would go from one hundred seventy-five per hour to two hundred twenty-five, which is the going rate for AG approved rate for outside council.

Other Business

1. Eagleview/Pictometry Contract for Aerial Photography – Approval of Contract Amendments for 2024 Flight

Mr. Rogers stated that this is an amendment to the overall contract. The initial contract was for two flights over four years. The first flight was done in 2022. This will be the second flight and will be done in February timeframe. Mr. Rogers stated that the difference between the initial contract and what this amendment is for is that they were able to fly the entire area at the two-inch resolution versus primarily the core areas like Minden and a couple more areas up in the northern part of the parish that were going to be two inches and the others were slightly higher, but the abilities of the planes are to capture the whole thing at two inches. Mr. Rogers said the funding has already been allocated and set aside. The original funding for the overall project if they recalled, was STBG funds that required a twenty percent match, then they allocated that match. When funding came, they were able to allocate some Covid funds that were one hundred percent so that twenty percent match they had allocated, they're using to get that better imagery with. Mr. Rogers said there is no request back to the board for additional funding because this will be covered by those original funds allocated.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any questions or comments. Having none, Mayor Chandler called for a motion to Approve the Contract Amendments for the 2024 Flight. Mr. Henington motioned, and Mr. Norton seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

2. Retirement Plan Review – Mission Square (ICMA) / OneAmerica (Ameriprise Financial)

Mr. Rogers stated that, roughly a year ago, that ICMA changed their dba to Mission Square Retirement and since then time they've had several issues working with them. He said there were two to three months where they weren't allocating off their funding across the various retirement programs. Mr. Rogers said that their contributions were allocated to their accounts. They've finally gotten that worked out, but there seems to be several issues including lack of communication ever since that time change. He said that he and Mrs. Barnette have spoken with McElroy for the auditing work, and they've also spoken with Mr. Scott Alexander with Benefits Consulting that have helped them with insurance and things in the past just for some advice. From there they spoke with a gentleman from Ameriprise Financial here in town and had him give them some options to look at that were equivalent to and/or better than the ICMA plan. The better of them is called OneAmerica. Mr. Rogers said it does have a savings because of the way they do their cost analysis per fund. Theirs is just a flat fee across the board where ICMA does it by fund, by fund, by fund, so it varies. They gave them some differences in annual savings, and differences in terms of actual fund options for investments in. Mr. Rogers stated that the main difference is that with the ICMA stuff, all those funds are proprietary funds or run by ICMA/Mission Square whereas the Ameriprise or OneAmerica are the type of funds that you and I could go out and buy on the street. They're better in line with the Morningstar.

Mrs. Barnette said that the gentleman that gave them the proposal is William Street.

Mr. Rogers stated that they'd like to continue to explore this and move their retirement system from the ICMA.

Mr. Ford asked what the acronym ICMA stood for.

Mr. Rogers said that it stood for **International City Management Association**.

Mr. Ford asked where they were located.

Mr. Rogers said they were in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Ford asked how long they had been with them.

Mr. Rogers said for as long as he's been there.

Mrs. Barnette stated that their service has gone down in the last five years. They're making it so complicated to view things on their system, and there's no communication. She said that when she told them that they weren't posting their payments, they told her that they didn't understand, and they'd have to put in a ticket. Mrs. Barnette told them that they're putting the money in and they're just not posting it.

Mr. Rogers said that their web for them is out of Denver.

Mr. Ford asked where another MPO staff like ours is located.

Mr. Rogers said all over the state. He said that some of them are on the states plan. Mr. Rogers stated that they did call about the state's retirement plan, but they can't afford that. He said what they do is put in nine percent and the employee puts in nine percent. The different ones throughout the state are from thirty-five to fifty-two percent and the office can't afford that.

Mr. Henington asked if the state one was Empower that they talked to.

Mr. Rogers said yes. There were three different ones that they looked at. Municipal, Parochial, LASERS.

Mr. Henington said that those are all a retirement plan and asked if theirs was a 401 or 457.

Mr. Rogers said that the way it's set up now is that it's a 401A plan for government agencies. The office puts in nine percent and the employees put in nine percent. We do not pay into social security. The portion that the office puts in must go into certain types of funds. Those funds are not a guaranteed rate of return, but a base rate of return type of fund. It can go up and down, but it won't go down below that rate to avoid having to pay social security. Mr. Rogers said that the other benefit is that with Ameriprise/OneAmerica group, they have a local contact. Whereas the local guy from ICMA is from Denver and getting him here is maybe once a year.

Mrs. Barnette said that he actually hasn't been here in five years.

Mr. Rogers said that once they changed their name it's just gotten worse and worse to deal with.

Mr. Norton asked if it's a 401A with a matching 457.

Mr. Rogers said no. They both go into the 401A. They have an additional 457 that you can put funds in, but the office doesn't match the 457.

Mr. Norton said if they could get the parochial that would be great. It's at seven point five right now and they have two different plans.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any questions or comments. Having none, Mayor Chandler called for a motion to Approve NLCOG Moving Forward with Conversion to Ameriprise/OneAmerica. Mr. Norton motioned, and Mr. Blanton seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Approval of Minutes

The next item on the agenda was for approval of the minutes from the August 04, 2023, meeting. Mayor Chandler called for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Henington motioned, and Mr. Norton seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Announcements

Mr. Rogers stated that the only announcement he had was a reminder for the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting on Friday, December 08, 2023.

Adjourn

With no remaining agenda items, The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Norton was the first to motion, and Mr. Ford seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Kent Rogers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

J. Kent Rogers, Secretary



Board of Directors

**December 08, 2023- 9:30 am following the MPO
Seminar Room, 625 Texas Street, Shreveport, LA 71101**

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION & PLEDGE

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments are to be held to 3 minutes.

FINANCIAL

Approval of updated rates for legal representation

LEGAL REPORT

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Regional Active Transportation Plan

[Approval of Contract with Alliance Transportation Group LLC](#)

2. Approval of Minutes

[Approval of Minutes from October 27, 2023](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

3. Next Regular Schedule MPO Meeting Friday January 19, 2024

ADJOURN



625 Texas Street, Suite 200 | Shreveport, LA 71101
318.841.5950 | F 318.841.5952 | www.nlcog.org

Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

Friday, December 8, 2023 (9:30 AM)

625 Texas Street, Suite 200
Shreveport, LA 71101

Members Present

Mayor Tom Arceneaux – City of Shreveport (Sitting in for Mayor Chandler as Chair)
Mrs. Erica Bryant – Caddo Parish
Mr. Butch Ford, Vice Chair – Bossier Parish
Mr. Michael Norton – DeSoto Parish
Mr. Charles Henington – Caddo Tax Assessor

Members Absent

Mr. Bruce Blanton – Webster Parish
Mayor Tommy Chandler, Chair – City of Bossier City

Others Present

Mr. Kent Rogers – NLCOG
Mr. Chris Petro – NLCOG
Ms. Savannah Williams – NLCOG
Ms. Heidi Stewart – NLCOG
Mr. Adam Driskill - NLCOG
Dr. Shelly Barrett - NLCOG
Ms. Rita Arnold – NLCOG
Mr. Josh Chevallier – NLCOG Legal Council

Call to Order

Mayor Arceneaux called the meeting to order and asked everyone to stand while Mr. Ford did the invocation. Mrs. Bryant then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Arceneaux asked Mr. Rogers to begin a roll call. Mr. Rogers began the roll call. A quorum was present.

Public Comments

Mayor Arceneaux stated they had one public comment, Mr. Hackney, then reminded him of the three-minute time frame for his comment.

Mr. David Hackney began reading his letter to the board. Please see attached letter for Mr. Hackney's public comment.

Financial – Approval of Updated Rates for Legal Representation

Mr. Rogers stated that as mentioned during the last meeting, Bradley Murchison would like to ask for a request to update their rate for legal representation. He said that they haven't done this since inception which is more than a decade ago.

Mr. Chevallier stated that when the firm started, at that time the primary partner was Jerry Jones. When he first started working with NLCOG the rates were set at a flat rate and all of their attorneys working for NLCOG, the flat rate was set at one hundred seventy-five dollars an hour. That's been the rate since that time and still that rate at this time today. Mr. Chevallier said that at that time it was the standard AG approved rate for municipal work that didn't require the AG to approve a special rate for specialized work for things that could be done. He stated that if they were involved in litigation, they may need specialized rates for the specialized work required to deal with those things. In standard representation, the AG for the public work, at the time, approved one hundred seventy-five dollars per hour. For quite a long time now that rate has been raised to two hundred twenty-five dollars an hour, but they have not adjusted their rates. This time they would like to go to the current AG standard rate of two hundred twenty-five dollars an hour going forward, for all of their attorneys whose standard rates are at two hundred twenty-five or greater. That really means their partners, himself, and Mr. Jones (when he still does work for NLCOG from Baton Rouge, and he'll only work with him). He looked at 2022 and 2023. In 2022, that change would have resulted in about a three-thousand-dollar difference. From ten thousand six hundred eighty-seven dollars to thirteen thousand eight hundred eighty-two dollars for the year 2022. In 2023 year to date, it would be from thirteen thousand two hundred thirty dollars to seventeen thousand ten dollars. Mr. Chevallier said that over the last few years, because the rates have been stagnant, frankly, almost all the work has been done by him because there's no benefit to NLCOG really in leverage to their younger attorneys who are at lower rates when it was all flat. If he could do it faster, a younger attorney could do it and it was all one rate, so he just did it. If the rate schedule is approved, they'll utilize younger attorneys at lower rates to offset some of that difference so he's not really worried that there's going to be a tremendous difference. The two hundred twenty-five-dollar rate remains a significant discount for the standard rate for the same partners.

Mr. Ford asked Mr. Rogers if NLCOG had the money in the budget. Mr. Rogers said that yes, it falls within the budget.

Mr. Ford moved to motion the Approval of Updated Rates for Legal Representation. Mr. Norton seconded. Mayor Arceneaux asked if there were any questions or comments. Having none, all approved and the motion was passed.

Legal Report

Mr. Chevallier stated there was no pending or threatened litigation at this time.

Other Business

1. Regional Active Transportation Plan – Approval of Contract with Alliance Transportation Group LLC

Mr. Rogers stated that this is the approval of, and was sent to them in the packets, the Regional Active Transportation Plan. The contract is not to exceed two hundred eighty thousand dollars. They're notice to proceed shortly, but the schedule will be adjusted. Mr. Rogers said he knows the schedule that was presented was based on the September timeframe. The schedule will be adjusted on the notice to proceed.

Mayor Arceneaux asked if there were any questions or comments. Having none, Mayor Arceneaux called for a motion to Approve the Contract with Alliance Transportation Group LLC. Mr. Norton motioned, and Mr. Henington seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

2. Approval of Minutes

The next item on the agenda was for approval of the minutes from the October 27, 2023, meeting. Mayor Arceneaux called for a motion to Approve the Minutes as provided. Mrs. Bryant motioned, and Mr. Ford seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Announcements

Mayor Arceneaux stated that the next regular scheduled meeting for the Board of Directors will be next year on January 19, 2024.

Adjourn

With no remaining agenda items, The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Ford was the first to motion, and Mr. Norton seconded. The meeting was adjourned.



J. Kent Rogers, Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENT CARD

As a reminder, public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per speaker.

Comments relative to any issues that are in active litigation will not be heard in this meeting.

Speakers are to address the Chairman, not each other or the audience, and are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. The use of abusive or profane language shall not be allowed. No debate or argument between speakers and/or members of the audience shall be permitted.

All cards must be returned to the Chair prior to the start of the meeting. Comments will not be accepted during the meeting. You will be called upon at the appropriate time to speak.

Please print:

Date: Dec. 8, 2023

Name: David Hackney

Address: 9660 Railsback Ridge

E-mail: davehacknrx@gmail.com

Phone: (318) 210-1475

I am representing: ☒ myself ☐ business ☐ organization

Name of business / organization: _____

Comment on: ☐ Agenda item ☒ Non-agenda item

Briefly describe your comment(s):

Tim James, Inc CEA
see attached.

December 8, 2023

My name is Dave Hackney and I am a resident of Shreveport. I made a public comment at the February 17, 2023 NLCOG BOD meeting regarding the Tim James, Inc. (TJI) road and toll bridge project. I am here today to again speak on that same project. Specifically, I think the taxpayers of Caddo and Bossier would be better served if NLCOG was shepherding the TJI project.

I have communicated numerous times over the course of 2023 with my Caddo Parish Commissioner, John Adkins, as well as Caddo Assistant Attorney Henry Bernstein on the Caddo Parish CEA with Tim James, Inc. Quite frankly, not very much information is available or provided.

Let me be clear, I am not opposed to the Tim James, Inc toll bridge project. I just want to be sure we get the right results in the right way and that the project does no harm.

In my opinion, the CEA was flawed from the beginning. The two key terms and conditions, as stated by TJI, were privately funded at no cost to the taxpayers and the road would be built entirely on private property. The original road proposal, extending Hwy 3132 between Twelve Oaks and Esplanade Subdivisions crosses Caddo Levee District property. This is not private property.

In October, 2023, the TJI team approached the Caddo Bossier Port Commission, seeking assistance and a CEA to obtain a USDA subsidized loan. I believe this conflicts with the existing CEAs with Caddo and probably Bossier Parish.

On July 1, 2022, TJI purchased five residential lots in Esplanade subdivision for the purpose of the connector road. TJI has never met with the homeowners of Esplanade. A significant zoning change will be required to build an expressway on residential lots. Also, there is a matter of property tax. TJI purchased the five residential lots for \$510,000. The 2023 tax bill is \$43.71.

Lastly, if the TJI bridge is built one to two miles north of the Port, what impact will this have on obtaining funding for the future I-69 bridge, which runs right through the Port. The powers to be in Washington might look at Caddo Bossier, with its five or six bridges across the Red River and not view the I-69 bridge as a high priority. I-69 is the big prize, let's not lose sight of it.

David F. Hackney, P.E.



Board of Directors

February 02, 2024- 9:30 am following the MPO
Seminar Room, 625 Texas Street, Shreveport, LA 71101

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION & PLEDGE

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments are to be held to 3 minutes.

FINANCIAL

Fiscal Year 2023 Audit Reports

[Financial Audit](#)

[State Agreed Upon Policies and Procedures](#)

Fiscal Year 2024 Quarterly Financial Report

[Approval of Quarterly Financial Report with Adjustments](#)

GIS Server with Microsoft SQL Server

[Approval of expenditure for replacement servers](#)

LEGAL REPORT

OTHER BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

[Approval of Minutes from December 08, 2023](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Regular Schedule Meeting Friday March 01, 2024

ADJOURN



625 Texas Street, Suite 200 | Shreveport, LA 71101
318.841.5950 | F 318.841.5952 | www.nlcog.org

Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

Friday, February 2, 2024 (9:30 AM)

625 Texas Street, Suite 200
Shreveport, LA 71101

Members Present

Mayor Tom Arceneaux – City of Shreveport (Sitting in for Mayor Chandler as Chair)
Mr. Bruce Blanton – Webster Parish
Mayor Tommy Chandler, Chair – City of Bossier City
Mr. Butch Ford, Vice Chair – Bossier Parish
Mr. Charles Henington – Caddo Tax Assessor

Members Absent

Mrs. Erica Bryant – Caddo Parish
Mr. Michael Norton – DeSoto Parish – Mr. Michael Rister is sitting in for Mr. Norton, but in a non-voting capacity.

Others Present

Mr. Kent Rogers – NLCOG
Mr. Chris Petro – NLCOG
Ms. Savannah Williams – NLCOG
Ms. Heidi Stewart – NLCOG
Mr. Adam Driskill - NLCOG
Dr. Shelly Barrett - NLCOG
Ms. Rita Arnold – NLCOG
Mr. Kevin Reeves - NLCOG
Mr. Josh Chevallier – NLCOG Legal Council

Call to Order

Mayor Chandler called the meeting to order and asked everyone to stand while Mayor Arceneaux did the invocation. Mr. Johnson then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Chandler asked Mr. Rogers to begin a roll call. Mr. Rogers began the roll call. A quorum was present.

Public Comments

Mr. Rogers stated there were no public comments.

Financial – Fiscal Year 2023 Audit Reports

1. Financial Audit

Mr. Rogers stated that the first portion of the audit report is the financial statements. The financial audit was completed by Heard, McElroy and Vestel. Mr. Rogers directed the board to their packets and said that the first page would show them the individual grants and operating expenses including their incomes, revenues, and expenditures over the years. There are two areas he wanted to point out and the first being LA3132, the environmental. Mr. Rogers said that as they were closing that grant there would be a deficit of roughly six thousand dollars. Part of that came into play when an initial project went out. Stage 0 was handled under the State through a retainer contract and as they started and entered the Stage 1 process, the formal environmental process, they had never received a formal bottom line of exactly how much Stage 0 had cost, although it was coming out of the 200K Funds. When they went in to do the final audit work, it basically came out to roughly a six-thousand-dollar difference.

The second area Mr. Rogers wanted to point out was the Watershed project. Again, it's been reiterated, and they've had some issues with billings on that. The grant for that ultimately comes through HUD and there are differences in the way HUD calculates overhead rates versus how they typically calculate an overhead rate. Also, in terms of the agreements between NLCOG, CDC, and the State for that work, they just seem to be unfortunately losing money on that process. Overall, they are still in good standing, and still have funding.

Mr. Rogers stated that the second page of the financial report in their packets shows the calculation of indirect cost and indirect expenses. The final calculation was one-twenty-one point two which is roughly what they have been. Mr. Rogers asked Mrs. Arnold if that was correct. Mrs. Arnold stated one-thirty-five. Mr. Rogers said that they're down a little bit. What they have done over the years with DOTD when they have to submit their indirect cost allocation plan, they'll do a three-year average of the past three-year financial reports that way to keep from those big dips and valleys.

Mr. Rogers stated that in the last part there is one control finding, but it's the same control finding that's in the audit each year. That control finding is that they elect to have Heard, McElroy and Vestel go through and do some of the auditing work rather than doing it in house and handing it to them to have them review it. It gives them an extra set of eyes on the work and on the numbers. Also, to avoid that they'd have to hire another person in-house to separate some of those duties. They have just felt over the years and Mr. Rogers feels personally that he'd rather have that third party set of eyes doing the review prior to the audit work.

2. State Agreed-Upon Procedures

Mr. Rogers stated that the second portion of the audit is the statewide agreed-upon policies and procedures. The areas that they look at include the budgeting, purchasing, disbursements, receipts/collections, payroll/personnel, contracting, credit cards, travel and expense reimbursement, ethics, and debt service. All their policies and procedures were totally in order. Under information technology, a portion of it is a disaster recovery plan with their procedures and whatnot. They asked that they amend that to include a listing of the personnel processes and tools needed to do those critical recoveries and they have done that.

Under the sexual harassment part, they have asked them to develop a report on any sexual harassment allegations and to do that on an annual basis. Mr. Rogers said that they just never did that because they never had any. They put together a report, which he included, and they set up a calendar reminder. One thing they are doing is having all the standard training, ethics, sexual harassment, and those that are required on an annual basis, set to complete office-wide during the January-February timeframe. That way at the end of February they can have the report finished. Mr. Rogers stated that when this came up, the way that the policy is written, he questioned if this was something initiated by him and needed to be addressed through legal counsel. He contacted Mr. Chevallier and asked if anyone had ever had any reports on him and Mr. Chevallier said no. They reported that forward.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any questions or comments. Having none, Mayor Chandler called for a motion to Accept the Fiscal Year 2023 Audit Reports. Mayor Arceneaux motioned, and Mr. Henington seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Fiscal Year 2024 Quarterly Financial Report – Approval of Quarterly Financial Report

Mr. Rogers said that they had a request to make some adjustments within the current Fiscal year budget. The first of those is some shifting of salary funding between the direct and support personnel. There were a couple of things that they had been advised by DOTD that some of the IT work could be charged directly, and now they're saying that because it deals with the office as a whole and overall, some of that should have been an overhead expense. They are just shifting from direct to support for that timeframe they anticipate for the remainder of year that would fall under those.

The second change is in the insurance. It's to add an additional five thousand dollars. There were two things from that. They will be pulling those five thousand dollars from the professional services line so there's no change in the bottom line. Again, the salary one is from personnel changes and the insurance one is from adjustments in terms of the cost of insurance and a couple of employees insurance rates. It stays within the overall budget and nothing changes.

Mr. Rogers stated that the second page in the quarterly report is the balance sheet. They're still remaining at about one point five which is what they're trying to hold things to in that range. He pointed out that if they notice there's a little more detail on this sheet, which came out of the audit process to include the lease right of use assets. That's basically the lease of their office space in the building and right of access to those. Mrs. Arnold stated that once you sign that contract, you create that right of use then you amortize it as you go through your lease agreement. Bottom line is their remaining in that one point five range.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any questions or comments. Having none, Mayor Chandler called for a motion to Approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Quarterly Finance Report. Mr. Ford motioned, and Mayor Arceneaux seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

GIS Server with Microsoft SQL Server – Approval of Expenditure

Mr. Rogers stated that that the last thing under the financials was a request for an approval of an expenditure. They've been in the process of looking at the ESRI software that they use for distribution

and use, to upgrade to a newer version of their enterprise software. Mr. Rogers said that their servers are too old, and they can't upgrade the operating system on them and the SQL Database software on them anymore. They have gone as far as they can with them. The quote was just under twenty-five thousand dollars. It's for two new units. The Windows Server Software and the SQL Server Software will be pre-installed. Mr. Rogers said that just to give them an idea, when they first purchased the SQL Software it was over twenty thousand dollars by itself. It's a licensing update and review.

Mr. Ford asked if they had budgeted for it this year and Mr. Rogers said that no, they did not budget for it this year. The request is to use some of those reserved funds for this purchase. They did not anticipate that they were going to have to do this. Mr. Rogers said that it also houses a lot of the aerial imagery that a lot of them use.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any questions or comments. Having none, Mayor Chandler called for a motion to Approve the Expenditure of \$25,000.00 for GIS Server Replacement. Mr. Henington motioned, and Mayor Arceneaux seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Legal Report

Mr. Chevallier stated that with the exception of the assistance in developing the sexual harassment report that was referenced in the review of the audit, there have been no significant legal developments since their last meeting and no pending or threatening litigation.

Other Business

1. Approval of Minutes

The next item on the agenda was for approval of the minutes from the December 8, 2023, meeting. Mayor Chandler called for a motion to Approve the Minutes as provided. Mayor Arceneaux motioned, and Mr. Ford seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Announcements

Mayor Chandler stated that the next regular scheduled meeting for the Board of Directors will be on March 1, 2024.

Adjourn

With no remaining agenda items, The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. Mayor Arceneaux was the first to motion, and Mr. Ford seconded. The meeting was adjourned.



J. Kent Rogers, Secretary



Board of Directors

**March 15, 2024- 9:30 am following the MPO
Seminar Room, 625 Texas Street, Shreveport, LA 71101**

(This is rescheduled from March 01, 2024)

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION & PLEDGE

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments are to be held to 3 minutes.

FINANCIAL

RICOH IMC3510 Copier Lease Agreement

[Lease Agreement for new copier and removal of current model.](#)

LEGAL REPORT

Establish Sub-Committee on By-Laws and Organizational Structure

Establishment of a Sub-Committee of the Board of Directors to review the By-Laws and Organizational Structure

OTHER BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

[Approval of Minutes from February 02, 2023](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Regular Schedule Meeting Friday April 12, 2024

ADJOURN



625 Texas Street, Suite 200 | Shreveport, LA 71101
318.841.5950 | F 318.841.5952 | www.nlcog.org

Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

Friday, March 15, 2024 (9:30 AM)

625 Texas Street, Suite 200
Shreveport, LA 71101

Members Present

Mayor Tom Arceneaux – City of Shreveport (Sitting in for Mayor Chandler as Chair)
Mr. Bruce Blanton – Webster Parish
Mayor Tommy Chandler, Chair – City of Bossier City
Mr. Butch Ford, Vice Chair – Bossier Parish
Mrs. Erica Bryant – Caddo Parish

Members Absent

Mr. Michael Norton–DeSoto Parish–Mr. Michael Rister present for Mr. Norton, but in a non-voting capacity.
Mr. Charles Henington – Caddo Tax Assessor

Others Present

Mr. Kent Rogers – NLCOG
Mr. Chris Petro – NLCOG
Ms. Savannah Williams – NLCOG
Ms. Heidi Stewart – NLCOG
Mr. Adam Driskill - NLCOG
Ms. Rita Arnold – NLCOG
Mr. Josh Chevallier – NLCOG Legal Council

Call to Order

Mayor Chandler called the meeting to order and asked everyone to stand while Mayor Arceneaux did the invocation. Mayor Chandler then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Chandler asked Mr. Rogers to begin a roll call. Mr. Rogers began the roll call. A quorum was present.

Public Comments

Mr. Rogers stated there was one public comment.

Mr. Hackney wanted to finish reading his comment from the previous meeting. Mr. Hackney's comment is attached below.

Financial - Ricoh IMC3510 Copier Lease Agreement – Lease Agreement for New Copier and Removal of Current Model

Mr. Rogers stated that the lease agreement on the copier had been resolved, and it was actually cheaper for them to replace it with a newer model than to continue the lease on the existing one. He needed a ratification of his signature on the new lease agreement.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any further questions. Mayor Chandler entertained a motion for the Ratification of Mr. Rogers signature for the Ricoh IMC3510 Copier Lease Agreement. Mayor Arceneaux motioned, and Mr. Ford seconded. Mayor Chandler called for questions or comments. Having none, the chair called for a vote and the motion passed.

Legal Report – Establish Sub-Committee on By-Laws and Organizational Structure

Mr. Chevallier stated that per the announcement in the prior meeting, they have been looking at and advising Mr. Rogers and NLCOG on any issues that may be created in handling Dr. Barrett's appointment to make sure it doesn't have any implications or issues with NLCOG's grants or any of those areas that may overlap. In addition, Mr. Chevallier says that he has recommended the establishment of a sub-committee of the board to review the by-laws and organizational structure. Mr. Chevallier stated the by-laws were completely re-written a little more than a decade ago and there's been significant change in the make-up of this body, the Board of Directors and the MPO. Both have had changes in the administration and the change of population in areas served since that time, including the addition of two other parishes, DeSoto and Webster. They would like to re-access and give a fresh look at the by-laws with input from the board. Mr. Chevallier would like to ask for a motion to establish that sub-committee and he believes that certain members of the board have already indicated that they would be willing to join it and serve to be able to look at how best to have this board made up going forward to serve the four-parish area.

Mayor Chandler asked if they needed to get a third person to move forward. Mr. Rogers stated that he has spoken with Mr. Ford, Mrs. Bryant, and Mr. Norton and all three have expressed that they'd be willing to serve.

Mr. Chevallier stated there have been no significant legal developments since their last meeting and no pending or threatening litigation.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any further questions. Mayor Chandler entertained a motion to Establish a Sub-Committee on By-Laws and Organizational Structure. Mayor Arceneaux motioned, and Mrs. Bryant seconded. Mayor Chandler called for questions or comments. Having none, the chair called for a vote and the motion passed.

Other Business

1. Approval of Minutes

The next item on the agenda was for approval of the minutes from the February 2, 2024, meeting. Mayor Chandler called for a motion to Approve the Minutes as provided. Mayor Arceneaux motioned, and Mr. Ford seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Announcements

Mr. Rogers stated that he would like to congratulate Dr. Shelly Barrett on her appointment to the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission.

Mr. Rogers reminded everyone that the next regularly scheduled meeting for the Board of Directors will be on April 12, 2024.

Adjourn

With no remaining agenda items, The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. Mayor Arceneaux was the first to motion, and Mr. Blanton seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Kent Rogers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

J. Kent Rogers, Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENT CARD

As a reminder, public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per speaker.

Comments relative to any issues that are in active litigation will not be heard in this meeting.

Speakers are to address the Chairman, not each other or the audience, and are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. The use of abusive or profane language shall not be allowed. No debate or argument between speakers and/or members of the audience shall be permitted.

All cards must be returned to the Chair prior to the start of the meeting. Comments will not be accepted during the meeting. You will be called upon at the appropriate time to speak.

Please print:

Date: March 15, 2024

Name: Dave Hackney

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: () _____

I am representing: ☒ myself ☐ business ☐ organization

Name of business / organization: _____

Comment on: ☐ Agenda item ☐ Non-agenda item

Briefly describe your comment(s):

Cont'd Esplanade
TJI discussion

March 15, 2024

My name is Dave Hackney and I reside at 9660 Railsback Ridge, Shreveport, LA. I am a resident of Esplanade subdivision. I have appeared before the NLCOG BOD meeting a couple of times over the past two years, expressing my concerns on the Tim James, Inc, Red River Express Project. More specifically, the part of the project between LA 1 and the current terminus of Hwy 3132 at Flournoy Lucas Rd.

Esplanade homeowners, who are also Shreveport and Caddo residents, taxpayers and voters, would like to be included in the discussion and have an opportunity for meaningful input on this major infrastructure project that will cut through our neighborhood. We want to support this project, but we simply have not received much information from our elected or appointed officials.

For the average private citizen, like me, it has been exceedingly difficult and quite time consuming to get any information on this project. The lack of communication and transparency is disappointing. On an individual basis, I have spoken with a number of you on several issues and for that I am thankful. Many of you were extremely helpful. So as not to be viewed as someone that comes to these meetings to only complain, I earlier this week sent some alternative ideas on this project. I hope that can serve as a basis for further discussion.

Both Shreveport and Caddo have declining population and tax base. Any major infrastructure project will need to factor in and explain to the taxpayers the implications of such projects. Quite frankly, the City, Parish and State struggle to maintain current infrastructure.

The three main issues for the residents of Esplanade are:

- The CEA between Caddo Parish and TJI
- LADOTD Project H.010206 LA 3132 at LA 523 Extend Control of Access.
- The extension of LA 3132 from LA 523 (Flournoy Lucas) to LA 1 and the new bridge.

The CEA with Caddo Parish and TJI is flawed with unsupported concepts and rationalizations. Concepts like "Improve quality of life" and "no cost to the Parish." Running a major highway through my neighborhood will not improve the quality of life for Esplanade residents. TJI representatives have repeatedly proclaimed the roadway will be built on private land, with private funds. This is simply not true, given the fact the roadway will connect, go through or go over City, State and Levee District land. Regarding private funding, TJI and the Port entered into a CEA (Resolution No.19 of 2023), where the Port will apply for a USDA loan to fund parts of the roadway. The USDA loan program is to assist poor, rural communities.

At the February 7, 2024 LADOTD roadshow meeting in Bossier City, Mayor Arceneaux spoke in opposition to LADOTD Project H.010206. On February 9, 2024, I emailed Mayor Arceneaux, voicing my surprise and disappointment with his comments. Mayor Arceneaux phoned me on February 16, 2024 and we had a wide-ranging discussion for about 20 minutes. Mayor Arceneaux stated concerns for "The Glen" senior citizen facility and thought a better alternative to LADOTD Project H.010206 should be found. That might be possible, but no Esplanade homeowners have been privy to what possible alternatives look like. There are also some legal issues, regarding the MPC PUD requirements for Forbing Ridge Road to connect to Flournoy Lucas Road.

As I stated in my February 9 email to Mayor Arceneaux, I think he and his office does a wonderful job communicating to the citizens of Shreveport. Just recently, the mayor went to great lengths socializing the issues surrounding the water and sewer rate increase. This was an excellent example of leadership tackling a difficult issue.

Similarly, the mayor went to great lengths in October of 2023 to explain his veto of a Shreveport City Council approval of Ordinance 110 of 2023. This ordinance was a change to the noise ordinance. Mayor Arceneaux wrote a very detailed and respectful three-page letter, explaining his thought process for the veto. The mayor wrote, "The right to be in a particular place, like one's home, without bombardment of unwanted amplified sound or other noise, is a significant right." Later in the letter, "Pursuant to existing Section 58-30(15), a person violates the ordinance if noise from the person's establishment is "plainly audible" at a residential property line, without respect to a particular decibel level, between 10 pm and 8am." Currently, on Flournoy Lucas Road, there are signs posted that state it is unlawful for vehicles to use a muffler brake (Jake Brake). There is little to no enforcement of this, as I regularly hear trucks using their muffler brake.

I submit to you that the TJI establishment of the Red River Express roadway will violate the City of Shreveport's noise ordinance, unless extraordinary measures for noise abatement and mitigation, reduced speed limits and enforcement are put in place. My hope is that the Shreveport citizens, residing in Esplanade and Twelve Oaks subdivisions, will be accorded protection as detailed in Mayor Arceneaux's letter.

On February 2, 2024 phone conversation I had with Tim James. We talked for over an hour and it was a very pleasant and informative discussion on many facets of this project. When I asked Mr. James about a certain routing alternative on the Bossier side, he stated that the large land owner didn't want the road running near his house.

Lastly, my concern with the actual proposed roadway between the current terminus of LA 3132 at LA 523 (Flournoy Lucas Road), crossing LA 1 and connecting to the proposed toll bridge, somewhere north of the Port. When Hwy 3132 was extended from Bert Kouns to Flournoy Lucas, Ellerbe Road and Flournoy Lucas roads and intersections were expanded, all with taxpayer dollars. A 2012 traffic study, conducted as part of the Hwy 3132 extension south of Flournoy Lucas, indicates all these roads and intersections provide excellent service through the end of study period, which I believe was 2032.

The December 28, 2023 letter from LADOTD to TJI and Willis Knighton, which is a follow-up to a discussion held on December 7, 2023, raises more questions than it answers.

LADOTD is clear in the letter, that the overpass at Flournoy Lucas must be built (Item 1).

LADOTD, in Item 2, talks about “preserve the eligibility to use federal funds to complete the four-laning.....” I thought this was a privately funded project. Please explain.

LADOTD, Item 3, talks about Esplanade permanent access to LA 523 (Flournoy Lucas) will only be granted through an access road currently under design by DOTD. Can the residents of Esplanade be included in this process?

LADOTD, in Item 4, states, “a potential (back-door) connection to Twelve Oaks and to serve the properties to the south with a potential connection to the Esplanade development”. Why are these parties discussing these type of issues, without any public notice or hearings with the residents?

LADOTD, in Item 5, states, “....any extension of LA 3132 from LA 523 must at least connect to LA 1. To me, this seems somewhat vague when compared to Item 1’s detailed requirements for the interchange at LA 523.

My current opinion of the road portion of this project, between Flournoy Lucas and LA 1, is a land development project that benefits a few at the expense of many.

I am requesting that Caddo Administrator, Ms. Erica Bryant, and Shreveport Mayor, Mr. Tom Arceneaux organize an open forum for the residents of Esplanade.

Thank you.



Board of Directors

April 12, 2024- 10:30 am following the MPO
Seminar Room, 625 Texas Street, Shreveport, LA 71101

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION & PLEDGE

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments are to be held to 3 minutes.

FINANCIAL

Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

[Fiscal Year 2025 Estimated Income and Expenses](#)

LEGAL REPORT

OTHER BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

[Approval of Minutes from March 15, 2023](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Regular Schedule Meeting Friday May 24, 2024

ADJOURN



625 Texas Street, Suite 200 | Shreveport, LA 71101
318.841.5950 | F 318.841.5952 | www.nlcog.org

Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

Friday, April 12, 2024 (9:30 AM)

625 Texas Street, Suite 200
Shreveport, LA 71101

Members Present

Mr. Bruce Blanton – Webster Parish
Mr. Butch Ford, Vice Chair – Bossier Parish (Sitting in Mayor Chandler as Chair)
Mrs. Erica Bryant – Caddo Parish
Mr. Michael Norton–DeSoto Parish

Members Absent

Mayor Tommy Chandler, Chair – City of Bossier City
Mr. Charles Henington – Caddo Tax Assessor
Mayor Tom Arceneaux – City of Shreveport

Others Present

Mr. Kent Rogers – NLCOG
Mr. Chris Petro – NLCOG
Ms. Savannah Williams – NLCOG
Ms. Heidi Stewart – NLCOG
Mr. Adam Driskill - NLCOG
Ms. Rita Arnold – NLCOG
Dr. Shelly Barrett - NLCOG

Call to Order

Mr. Ford called the meeting to order. Mr. Ford asked Mr. Rogers to begin a roll call. Mr. Rogers began the roll call. A quorum was present.

Public Comments

Mr. Rogers stated there were no public comments.

Financial

1. Fiscal Year 2025 Budget-Estimated Income and Expenses

Mr. Rogers stated that in their packets were the Introductions of Financials for Income and anticipated expenses for Fiscal Year 2025. Again, our Fiscal starts July. Another column that's listed shows some reductions in the funds that are population based. Mr. Rogers said that the local funds are based on population factors so some of that has changed. Some have increased and some have decreased. Overall, it has decreased. The Federal Highway General PL funds are also down slightly; however, the Federal Transit funds are up. It's just the way USDOTD is programming funds now. Mr. Rogers said that as they mentioned earlier, they have the Complete Streets Program, and they have some funding that is one hundred percent dedicated to that.

Mr. Rogers continued to the second page and said that in general, it's the current estimates for salaries, benefits, taxes, and overhead. The two biggest things at the bottom are again the Safe Streets Program and the Regional Active Transportation Plan. Those are two contractual things that will be going on. The others are pretty much the same. He wanted to say that within the Professional Services division, the cost for the financial audits has gone up slightly for the financial part, but there are those additional funds that can be allocated for the Legislative Audits that has been added to that along with the adjustments that were recently made for Bradley Murchison, for Mr. Chevallier and his firm. Mr. Rogers said that they kept that line item the same and we have a little bit in there that they use for technical assistance with other firms here and there. If they reduced that amount it would have gone to technical services. This is just to give you all a look as to what's going on.

Mr. Ford asked if with the decrease in population and funding from the Feds, did they see a net gain or loss in federal funds for NLCOG? He stated that he's concerned about that because if they're giving them less money and they're going to stay the same, they're going to have to bridge that gap.

Mrs. Arnold stated that they are actually budgeted lower by two hundred sixty-two thousand seven hundred eighty-two dollars from what they have coming in as revenue. In other words, they have a cushion. They budget a lot less than what revenue is coming in.

Mr. Ford asked if the one million one hundred ninety-five thousand was above or below what they've seen in the past?

Mr. Rogers said that it's slightly below. The one thing to remember in there is that one line for Federal Highway Complete Streets line is a single year. The difference between the Highway PL funds and the Federal Transit 5303 (their major programming), most of the Federal funds come out of the general annual appropriations process where the highway side comes out of the IJAA bill, so it's set for a four-year period. The difference has been with the PL money and what they call four TMAs in the state. The MPO's include NLCOG, Lafayette, Baton Rouge area and New Orleans area. When the census figures came out, he showed them a couple of years ago, the percentages are changing and they're on the lower end of those. They are third in the line. Those percentages are changing which changes the amounts of what they're allocated to.

Mr. Ford stated that that's interesting that the population is changing, and he's read quite a bit in the last few months about how people are leaving.

Mrs. Bryant said they're leaving, but growth is only in the region for sixty-year-olds. You're not having childbearing so it's affecting their school system, the hiring because you don't have that group for professional level.

Mr. Ford said that Bossier Parish was growing about five to six hundred a year and its way, way down now. The census has been putting out information about it and it's interesting. Things are slowing down. Mr. Ford said we need some industry.

Legal Report

Mr. Rogers stated there was no legal information to report.

Other Business

1. Approval of Minutes

The next item on the agenda was for approval of the minutes from the March 15, 2024, meeting. Mr. Ford called for a motion to Approve the Minutes as provided. Mr. Blanton motioned, and Mr. Norton seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Announcements

Mr. Rogers stated that he had spoken with Mr. Chevallier, and he plans to get with the sub-committee in regard to discussing the by-laws. Mr. Chevallier said it will probably be in two weeks due to him being in court all of next week.

Mr. Rogers reminded everyone that the next regularly scheduled meeting for the Board of Directors will be on Friday, May 24, 2024.

Adjourn

With no remaining agenda items, Mr. Ford entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Norton was the first to motion, and Mr. Blanton seconded. The meeting was adjourned.



J. Kent Rogers, Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENT CARD

All cards must be returned to the Chair prior to the start of the meeting. Comments will not be accepted during the meeting. You will be called upon at the appropriate time to speak.

Please print:

Date: March 13, 2024

Name: Dave Hackney

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: () _____

I am representing: ☒ myself ☐ business ☐ organization

Name of business / organization: _____

Comment on: ☐ Agenda item ☐ Non-agenda item

Briefly describe your comment(s):

Cont'd Esplanade
TJI discussion

As a reminder, public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per speaker.

Comments relative to any issues that are in active litigation will not be heard in this meeting.

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The use of abusive or profane language shall not be allowed. No debate or argument between speakers and/or members of the audience shall be permitted.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS

March 15, 2024

My name is Dave Hackney and I reside at 9660 Railsback Ridge, Shreveport, LA. I am a resident of Esplanade subdivision. I have appeared before the NLCOG BOD meeting a couple of times over the past two years, expressing my concerns on the Tim James, Inc, Red River Express Project. More specifically, the part of the project between LA 1 and the current terminus of Hwy 3132 at Flournoy Lucas Rd.

Esplanade homeowners, who are also Shreveport and Caddo residents, taxpayers and voters, would like to be included in the discussion and have an opportunity for meaningful input on this major infrastructure project that will cut through our neighborhood. We want to support this project, but we simply have not received much information from our elected or appointed officials.

For the average private citizen, like me, it has been exceedingly difficult and quite time consuming to get any information on this project. The lack of communication and transparency is disappointing. On an individual basis, I have spoken with a number of you on several issues and for that I am thankful. Many of you were extremely helpful. So as not to be viewed as someone that comes to these meetings to only complain, I earlier this week sent some alternative ideas on this project. I hope that can serve as a basis for further discussion.

Both Shreveport and Caddo have declining population and tax base. Any major infrastructure project will need to factor in and explain to the taxpayers the implications of such projects. Quite frankly, the City, Parish and State struggle to maintain current infrastructure.

The three main issues for the residents of Esplanade are:

- The CEA between Caddo Parish and TJI
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- The extension of LA 3132 from LA 523 (Flournoy Lucas) to LA 1 and the new bridge.

The CEA with Caddo Parish and TJI is flawed with unsupported concepts and rationalizations. Concepts like "Improve quality of life" and "no cost to the Parish." Running a major highway through my neighborhood will not improve the quality of life for Esplanade residents. TJI representatives have repeatedly proclaimed the roadway will be built on private land, with private funds. This is simply not true, given the fact the roadway will connect, go through or go over City, State and Levee District land. Regarding private funding, TJI and the Port entered into a CEA (Resolution No.19 of 2023), where the Port will apply for a USDA loan to fund parts of the roadway. The USDA loan program is to assist poor, rural communities.

At the February 7, 2024 LADOTD roadshow meeting in Bossier City, Mayor Arceneaux spoke in opposition to LADOTD Project H.010206. On February 9, 2024, I emailed Mayor Arceneaux, voicing my surprise and disappointment with his comments. Mayor Arceneaux phoned me on February 16, 2024 and we had a wide-ranging discussion for about 20 minutes. Mayor Arceneaux stated concerns for "The Glen" senior citizen facility and thought a better alternative to LADOTD Project H.010206 should be found. That might be possible, but no Esplanade homeowners have been privy to what possible alternatives look like. There are also some legal issues, regarding the MPC PUD requirements for Forbing Ridge Road to connect to Flournoy Lucas Road.

As I stated in my February 9 email to Mayor Arceneaux, I think he and his office does a wonderful job communicating to the citizens of Shreveport. Just recently, the mayor went to great lengths socializing the issues surrounding the water and sewer rate increase. This was an excellent example of leadership tackling a difficult issue.

Similarly, the mayor went to great lengths in October of 2023 to explain his veto of a Shreveport City Council approval of Ordinance 110 of 2023. This ordinance was a change to the noise ordinance. Mayor Arceneaux wrote a very detailed and respectful three-page letter, explaining his thought process for the veto. The mayor wrote, "The right to be in a particular place, like one's home, without bombardment of unwanted amplified sound or other noise, is a significant right." Later in the letter, "Pursuant to existing Section 58-30(15), a person violates the ordinance if noise from the person's establishment is "plainly audible" at a residential property line, without respect to a particular decibel level, between 10 pm and 8am." Currently, on Flournoy Lucas Road, there are signs posted that state it is unlawful for vehicles to use a muffler brake (Jake Brake). There is little to no enforcement of this, as I regularly hear trucks using their muffler brake.

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proposed toll bridge, somewhere north of the Port. When Hwy 3132 was extended from Bert Kouns to Flournoy Lucas, Ellerbe Road and Flournoy Lucas roads and intersections were expanded, all with taxpayer dollars. A 2012 traffic study, conducted as part of the Hwy 3132 extension south of Flournoy Lucas, indicates all these roads and intersections provide excellent service through the end of study period, which I believe was 2032.

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LADOTD, in Item 2, talks about “preserve the eligibility to use federal funds to complete the four-laning.....” I thought this was a privately funded project. Please explain.

LADOTD, Item 3, talks about Esplanade permanent access to LA 523 (Flournoy Lucas) will only be granted through an access road currently under design by DOTD. Can the residents of Esplanade be included in this process?

LADOTD, in Item 4, states, “a potential (back-door) connection to Twelve Oaks and to serve the properties to the south with a potential connection to the Esplanade development”. Why are these parties discussing these type of issues, without any public notice or hearings with the residents?

LADOTD, in Item 5, states, “....any extension of LA 3132 from LA 523 must at least connect to LA 1. To me, this seems somewhat vague when compared to Item 1’s detailed requirements for the interchange at LA 523.

My current opinion of the road portion of this project, between Flournoy Lucas and LA 1, is a land development project that benefits a few at the expense of many.

I am requesting that Caddo Administrator, Ms. Erica Bryant, and Shreveport Mayor, Mr. Tom Arceneaux organize an open forum for the residents of Esplanade.

Thank you.



Board of Directors

June 7, 2024- 9:30 am following the MPO
Seminar Room, 625 Texas Street, Shreveport, LA 71101

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION & PLEDGE

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments are to be held to 3 minutes.

FINANCIAL

Quarterly Financial Report

[Third Quarter Year To Date Financial Report](#)

Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

[Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Income and Expenses](#)

LEGAL REPORT

Sub Committee Report and Recommendations

OTHER BUSINESS

SS4A Contract

[Approval of Contract with Alliance Transportation Group for the SS4A grant.](#)

Approval of Minutes

[Approval of Minutes from April 12, 2024](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Regular Schedule Meeting Friday June 28, 2024

ADJOURN



625 Texas Street, Suite 200 | Shreveport, LA 71101
318.841.5950 | F 318.841.5952 | www.nlcog.org

Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

Friday, June 07, 2024 (9:30 AM)

625 Texas Street, Suite 200
Shreveport, LA 71101

Members Present

Mr. Bruce Blanton – Webster Parish
Mr. Butch Ford, Vice Chair – Bossier Parish
Mr. Michael Norton–DeSoto Parish
Mayor Tommy Chandler, Chair – City of Bossier City
Mr. Charles Henington – Caddo Tax Assessor
Mayor Tom Arceneaux – City of Shreveport

Members Absent

Mrs. Erica Bryant – Caddo Parish

Others Present

Mr. Kent Rogers – NLCOG
Mr. Chris Petro – NLCOG
Ms. Savannah Williams – NLCOG
Mr. Adam Driskill - NLCOG
Ms. Rita Arnold – NLCOG
Mr. Josh Chevallier – NLCOG Legal Council

Call to Order

Mayor Chandler called the meeting to order. He stated that we generally have an invocation, roll call and a pledge at the beginning of the meeting. Mayor Chandler said that he was going to ask Mr. Johnson to lead us in prayer and Mr. Ford to lead us in the pledge. He asked if those that cared to join them to please stand. Mr. Johnson began the invocation followed by Mayor Arceneaux leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Chandler asked Mr. Rogers to begin a roll call. Mr. Rogers began the roll call. A quorum was present.

Public Comments

Mr. Rogers stated there were no public comments.

Mayor Chandler introduced Mr. Shane Cheatham, who was newly appointed from Governor Landry's office about three weeks ago. Mr. Cheatham stated he would be working out of the

Governor's office and the office of Rural Development. He was going to be in Ruston on Monday and Sabine on Tuesday. Mr. Cheatham said that he has the ten parishes that coincide with the CDC and Mr. Skaggs. He met with Mr. Skaggs a little while the previous day. He's hoping that with this new role that he can meet with the mayors, council and police jury to communicate and keep Baton Rouge informed of what we need help with here and to keep them updated with all the exciting things they have going on up here. Mr. Cheatham looks forward to working with all of them and hopefully they can figure out how to get a little more federal dollars for the Northwest Louisiana area.

Mr. Ford stated he had an announcement as well. He had two people from his office that were there today. First, was Mr. Rod White and has been with the Bossier Parish Police Jury for six to seven months. Mr. White is their Public Information Officer (PIO). Mr. Ford says that he remembers years ago that Mr. White would come to interview him when he was with KTBS. Second, was Mr. Ken Ward. He is the Assistant Administrator, and they are glad to have him on board. Mr. Ford said that Mr. Ward has worked on both sides of the river, so he knows everyone.

Mr. Rogers asks for the record to show that Mr. Henington is there.

Financial

1. Quarterly Financial Report – Third Quarter Year to Date Financial Report

Mr. Rogers stated that the first thing on the agenda was the quarterly financial, year to date financial report from July 01, 2023, through March 31, 2024. As reflected in both items, as they could see in their packets, Mr. Rogers said they are three quarters of the way through the year and roughly three quarters of the way through in terms of funding. They did make some changes that were presented to them at the last meeting a couple of months ago to move some funding around. It kept the bottom line as it was, and no changes were made to that. Mr. Rogers said that the computer hardware shows quite a bit remaining in that account, but that has been eaten up between March 31, 2024, to now, with the upgrade to the servers for the GIS. He stated that they are on track to maintaining the balance sheet and staying within the one point four-million-dollar line.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any further questions. Having none, Mayor Chandler entertained a motion for the Approval of the Third Quarter Financial Report. Mr. Blanton motioned, and Mayor Arceneaux seconded. Mayor Chandler called for questions or comments. Having none, the chair called for a vote and the motion passed.

2. Fiscal Year 2025 Budget – Fiscal Year 2025 Estimated Income and Expenses

Mr. Rogers stated in the previous meeting he had given them an introduction of some of the funding for the budget and this is just a synopsis of that budget and where they stand as far as the Federal Highway funding, local funds, the STBG and other federal funds for some of the projects. The total budget is at two point eight million, but again roughly one million to one million and a half is contractual for the SS4A (Safe Streets for All) and the Regional Active Transportation Plan. Mr. Rogers reviewed the expenses that included salaries, benefits, employment taxes, and overheads. The retirement that was discussed about six months ago is shifting now from ICMA to OneAmerica Financial Enterprise. NLCOG puts in nine percent and the employees put in nine percent. The

employees have the option to put in more into their four fifty-seven plans. Mr. Rogers said that they don't pay into social security and that's why that number is nine percent. The portion that NLCOG puts in goes into a certain category of funds.

Mrs. Arnold stated that category is called Mesirow, a Pathway to your Retirement Date. She said it's based on your age, and it could be year 2030, 2035 or 2040. Mesirow monitors and keeps up to make sure it's performing.

Mr. Rogers continued to review the expenses following the slides.

Mr. Henington asked if the GIS Maintenance and the Enterprise system that they'll be going to, included in the expenses?

Mr. Rogers said yes. The maintenance includes the software they have now. The licensing we have is for Enterprise licensing. It's a maintenance fee so it just upgrades to that next level. The level that they've had, the reason for the new servers was for more of the OS because it couldn't handle the upgrades. And also moving from SDE to Enterprise. Enterprise is the server side and Pro is the desktop.

Mr. Henington asked if they were going to have to update their servers again one more time next year to finish it?

Mr. Rogers said that should be included in that, but they will have to get an additional hardware server and that's what's included in the line item above. Most of that should be for the imagery stuff.

Mr. Henington said that he saw where the Bossier Assessor was listed on the Enterprise stuff, and he wanted to know if they were going to be paying in for them next year to use GIS?

Mr. Rogers stated that the Bossier Assessor goes through the Parish. He sends one bill to the Bossier Parish Police Jury then they collect themselves.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any further questions. Having none, Mayor Chandler entertained a motion for the Introduction of the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget for Public Comment. Mayor Arceneaux motioned, and Mr. Henington seconded. Mayor Chandler called for questions or comments. Having none, the chair called for a vote and the motion passed.

Legal Report

Mr. Chevallier said that if they recalled in the early Spring, this body formed a sub-committee to look at by-laws and membership issues with the respect to the BOD and NLCOG and they've had the opportunity to apprise Mrs. Bryant, Mr. Ford, and Mr. Norton. They've had the opportunity to meet and work with them and they have some proposals they'd like to discuss. Mr. Chevallier said it's nothing to be voted on today, it's just for initial consideration with the potential of voting and maybe making some changes at their next meeting on June 28, 2024. The primary thing the subcommittee is looking at is the membership of the board going forward. Mr. Chevallier said that as they all know from the MPO meeting and now this meeting, a lot of the projects they've been working on the last few years have been with and in conjunction with the Port of Shreveport-Bossier and they've identified that they would be a valuable, additional member to NLCOG. They would like to approach the Port about joining NLCOG in a formal capacity as a member and to have a standing seat on that Board. At this time, they are interested in doing that so now they are in the process of negotiating their governmental agreement similar to what the other members have to add the Port of Shreveport-Bossier as a member of that Board.

Mr. Chevallier stated that the addition of the Port would raise their number of Board seats to eight, which led them to look at the total number of Board seats and the way they are comprised. The way it was originally conceived in its current format in 2014-2015, there were some At-Large positions that were on the Board that served various functions including the long-term plan of adding some members that included Webster and DeSoto, which are both now members. Mr. Chevallier said that in order to keep what they feel is the right size of the Board, they would recommend the reformation of the Board to have only standing members and to eliminate the At-Large positions, one of which is vacant, and one of which Mr. Henington is currently appointed to. The Assessor's office and the Assessor's, Mr. Henington, are not members of NLCOG the way the other members of the Board are and that is the reason they are proposing that change. It will make no change to the services provided such as GIS Data or the other things that NLCOG does to support the Assessor's office or the way that they work together. To keep the Board at seven and to make it consistent with the membership being a representative of every member of NLCOG, that's what they would recommend.

Mr. Chevallier said the second change they were looking at was to potentially modify the assessments schedule for each of the members. For about the last twenty years, membership has been assessed on an annual basis at a dollar per capita for each of the members. For the parishes of Bossier and Caddo, that is population less the population of Bossier City and less the population of Shreveport. Mr. Chevallier stated that if you look back on the financials you can see what they anticipate that those numbers will be for 2024 and 2025 and the next Fiscal Year at the current rates in the Local Funds Fiscal Year 2025 Budget. Based on the current reserve funds and the way that they utilize those funds, they anticipate they're going to need to raise those rates to keep the current funding and to maintain the level of service at the way it is right now. Mr. Chevallier pointed out that if they looked under the Local section of the FY2025 Budget, the last two items they would see fifty thousand dollars of Reserve Funds being used for the regional match support for the Active Transportation Plan and two hundred thousand dollars being used for the local portion of funding for the Safe Streets 4 All plan. Those are typical of what NLCOG has been doing. Rather than reassess local matches for regional planning activities they utilize the local reserve funds that aren't otherwise budgeted to provide that local support. In doing that, they need to make sure they keep the reserve level that would allow them to do that without having to go back and reassess and raise more money for local match support for those sorts of projects. And also maintain sufficient reserve funding for all the other services that NLCOG provides.

Mr. Chevallier stated that what they are proposing is to increase beginning in the 2025 year, the assessment per capita to a dollar ten per head. The succeeding three years would be one dollar fifteen, one dollar twenty, one dollar twenty-five to cap at that dollar twenty-five and be reassessed going forward. That is a longer-term process for a number of reasons. Most notably, each membership of the entities is through an intergovernmental agreement that was adopted when the current by-laws were entered into it in 2014 and 2015. In the case of Webster and DeSoto Parish, when they joined as members of NLCOG, those provide for the assessments to amend those agreements and requires everyone to go back to the governing bodies of the entities, the Police Jury, City Councils, etc., all of things to get those changes approved. So, the process would be, if that is something of the will of this body, to approve and allow Mr. Rogers to enter into those amendments, they would do the work with all the various groups to get that approved around the region. They would make themselves available to come to every meeting to show their work, what the value is, and how these funds are being used for each of their individual bodies, jurisdictions and parishes to show why they think it remains to be a good investment.

Mr. Chevallier said that there are some minor changes on the by-laws that need to be made on a technical basis and mostly to clarify some issues that Mr. Rogers has dealt with respect to making clear to various bodies and public nature of the bodies since it's organized as a non-profit organization. Changes to the by-laws need to be made so it can be crystal clear when he gets questions about that. Those are the primary two issues that they would like to propose to consider based on their work with the sub-committee. If there's any discussion or any questions that anyone has for them, Mr. Chevallier said that he'd be happy to discuss them now. The reason they wanted to make this report now before they bring anything to vote on is so there's some time to consider it before the June 28th, 2024, meeting. And as he mentioned, especially with respect to the assessment, the 28th would not be the end of the road on getting that finalized. They probably have a good bit of work to do for the rest of the year to go and work with all their individual governing bodies.

Other Business

1. SS4A Contract: Approval of Contract with Alliance Transportation Group for the SS4a Grant

Mr. Rogers said that he had attached to the agenda a copy of the full contract with Alliance Group for the Safe Streets for All program. ATG was the group chosen by the Board at the last meeting when they gave their presentations. The maximum compensation from that contract is seven hundred eighty-five thousand five hundred dollars. Mr. Rogers said they actually budgeted and anticipated somewhere in the eight hundred thousand range so they're good with that. They're ready, eager and confident that they'll help.

Mr. Henington asked how long the contract was for?

Mr. Rogers stated it's for twelve months, but they have to have a draft of it ready by the end of December so they can start the process of the next round. The SS4A Implementation Grants will be coming out in January or February, and they have to have that draft ironed out so they can get some of those grant applications in. Part of the assistance is helping to write some of those.

Mr. Ford stated that they're just identifying the places where they need to apply for grants and maybe they can get a grant through this program.

Mr. Rogers stated that for implementation funds you have to have a plan.

Mr. Petro said that this is a typical protocol. Get the plan first, identify the project, then go out for the implementation.

Mr. Ford asked Mr. Rogers how much they were putting into this?

Mr. Rogers stated two hundred thousand dollars. The total agreement with Federal Highways is one million dollars. We're putting up two hundred thousand dollars, but that includes staff time and whatnot.

Mr. Ford asked if they were studying Webster and Desoto Parish as well?

Mr. Rogers said they were studying all the parishes and it's the same as the Active Transportation Plan. They're making them coincide with the full overall transportation plan so it will match.

Mr. Petro stated that these planning efforts are communicating with each other so there aren't any redundancies.

Mr. Ford asked that for future applications, if they make money through this program, would it come through their operation or would it be individually for each parish or city?

Mr. Rogers and Mr. Petro said it can be both ways.

Mr. Ford stated that he's been a big advocate of that because they have the staff and he's offered that if they make an application for Bossier Parish, they will help pay for the time for the people that help put those applications together. He said that they have discussed that in the past and he thinks it's a good plan to move forward.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any further questions. Having none, Mayor Chandler entertained a motion for the Approval of Contract between NLCOG and Alliance Transportation Group for Development of the Safe Streets for All Regional Action Plan (SS4A). Mr. Ford motioned, and Mayor Arceneaux seconded. Mayor Chandler called for questions or comments. Having none, the chair called for a vote and the motion passed.

2. Enterprise GIS Installation – Approval of Proposal from es2-inc for Enterprise GIS Installation

Mr. Rogers said that this was being discussed in terms of ArcGIS work and whatnot. This a contract or some professional services for es2-inc to help them with the installation configuration of the new ArcGIS Enterprise software and configuration of the servers to go with that. Mr. Rogers said he knows they've done some work with Mr. Edmiston at the Bossier Tax Assessor's office, along with a few others in the region. If they went straight through ESRI for this support, it would be twenty-seven to twenty-eight grand. It's a good rate and they have the funds. It would come out of the Professional Services category which includes Mr. Chevallier, CPA, and then some funds for this type of work for ingenuity and planning consultants.

Mrs. Arnold stated that this would be done in the Fiscal Year 2025 and that line item does have enough money to cover it for this.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any further questions. Having none, Mayor Chandler entertained a motion for the Approval of the Proposal from es2-inc for Enterprise GIS Installation. Mayor Arceneaux motioned, and Mr. Norton seconded. Mayor Chandler called for questions or comments. Having none, the chair called for a vote and the motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes

The next item on the agenda was for approval of the minutes from the April 12, 2024, meeting. Mayor Chandler called for a motion to Approve the Minutes as provided. Mayor Arceneaux motioned, and Mr. Ford seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Announcements

Mr. Rogers reminded everyone that the next regularly scheduled meeting for the Board of Directors will be on Friday, June 28, 2024.

Adjourn

With no remaining agenda items, Mayor Chandler entertained a motion to adjourn. Mayor Arceneaux was the first to motion, and Mr. Ford seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. Kent Rogers". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "J" and a cursive "R".

J. Kent Rogers, Secretary



Board of Directors

June 28, 2024- 9:30 am following the MPO
Caddo Bossier Port Regional Commerce Center
Steering Room
6000 Doug Attaway Blvd.
Shreveport, LA 71115

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION & PLEDGE

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments are to be held to 3 minutes.

FINANCIAL

Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

[Adoption of Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Income and Expenses](#)

LEGAL REPORT

Sub Committee Report and Recommendations

OTHER BUSINESS

Confirmation of Officers for Fiscal Year 2025

Chair: Mayor Arceneaux - Shreveport Vice Chair: Micheal Norton - DeSoto Parish

Confirmation of Proposed Meeting Schedule for Fiscal Year 2025

[Fiscal Year 2025 Meeting Schedule](#)

Approval of Minutes

[Approval of Minutes from June 7, 2024](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Regular Schedule Meeting Friday, July 19, 2024

ADJOURN



625 Texas Street, Suite 200 | Shreveport, LA 71101
318.841.5950 | F 318.841.5952 | www.nlcog.org

Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

Friday, June 28, 2024 (9:30 AM)

Caddo Bossier Port Regional Commerce Center
6000 Doug Attaway Blvd.
Shreveport, LA 71115

Members Present

Mr. Bruce Blanton – Webster Parish
Mr. Butch Ford, Vice Chair – Bossier Parish
Mayor Tommy Chandler, Chair – City of Bossier City
Mr. Charles Henington – Caddo Tax Assessor
Mayor Tom Arceneaux – City of Shreveport
Mrs. Erica Bryant – Caddo Parish

Members Absent

Mr. Michael Norton–DeSoto Parish

Others Present

Mr. Kent Rogers – NLCOG
Mr. Chris Petro – NLCOG
Ms. Savannah Williams – NLCOG
Mr. Adam Driskill - NLCOG
Ms. Rita Arnold – NLCOG
Ms. Heidi Stewart - NLCOG
Mr. Josh Chevallier – NLCOG Legal Council

Call to Order

Mayor Chandler called the meeting to order. He stated that we generally have an invocation, roll call and a pledge at the beginning of the meeting. Mayor Chandler said that he was going to ask Mr. Johnson to lead us in prayer and Mr. Ford to lead us in the pledge. He asked if those that cared to join them to please stand. Mr. Johnson began the invocation followed by Mr. Ford leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Chandler asked Mr. Rogers to begin a roll call. Mr. Rogers began the roll call. A quorum was present.

Public Comments

Mr. Rogers stated there were no public comments.

Financial

1. Fiscal Year 2025 Budget – Fiscal Year 2025 Estimated Income and Expenses

Mr. Rogers stated that the only comment received was the FTA refunding and that was a change of roughly twenty-six hundred dollars due to a population error at DOTD. They are still in the budget line even with that slight change.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any further questions. Having none, Mayor Chandler entertained a motion to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget. Mayor Arceneaux motioned, and Mr. Henington seconded. Mayor Chandler called for questions or comments. Having none, the chair called for a vote and the motion passed.

Legal Report

Mr. Chevallier said since their last meeting they've gotten draft documents of the amendments to the by-laws and the resolution of the changes they discussed with respect to the membership of the Port with the organization of the Board moving forward, as well as the proposed increase in assessments from one dollar a head to one dollar ten cents for next year. Mr. Chevallier stated that they want to present that all at once, the IJ with the Port, he expects that to be done by their July meeting. Once that's complete, they'll have all those on the agenda and provide everyone with the agenda for review by the board for Mr. Rogers to enter into those agreements as the other agencies of the board also agree. He hopes to have that wrapped up by the end of summer.

Other Business

1. Confirmation of Officers for Fiscal Year 2025

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any further questions. Having none, Mayor Chandler entertained a motion for the Approval of Officers for Fiscal Year 2025 – Mayor Arceneaux – Shreveport Chair and Mr. Norton – DeSoto Vice Chair. Mrs. Bryant motioned, and Mr. Blanton seconded. Mayor Chandler called for questions or comments. Having none, the chair called for a vote and the motion passed.

2. Confirmation of Proposed Meeting Schedule for Fiscal Year 2025

Mr. Rogers stated that they were moving back, once again, to every third Friday meeting schedule. There are a couple of exceptions due to the fact that they fell on a holiday.

Mayor Chandler asked if there were any further questions. Having none, Mayor Chandler entertained a motion for the Approval of the Proposed Meeting Schedule for Fiscal Year 2025. Mayor Arceneaux motioned, and Mrs. Bryant seconded. Mayor Chandler called for questions or comments. Having none, the chair called for a vote and the motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes

The next item on the agenda was for approval of the minutes from the April 12, 2024, meeting.

Mayor Chandler called for a motion to Approve the Minutes as provided. Mayor Arceneaux motioned, and Mrs. Bryant seconded. All approved and motion was passed.

Announcements

Mr. Rogers reminded everyone that the next regularly scheduled meeting for the Board of Directors will be on Friday, July 19, 2024.

Mayor Chandler wanted to speak before they were adjourned. He wanted to thank everyone for putting up with him during his year as sitting President for the Board of Directors. He really appreciated Mr. Rogers and Mrs. Williams' help during this time. Mayor Chandler said he really enjoyed it and he's learned a lot. NLCOG means a lot to Bossier and him personally. He really wants the team to go further as it goes on.

Adjourn

With no remaining agenda items, Mayor Chandler entertained a motion to adjourn. Mayor Arceneaux was the first to motion, and Mr. Ford seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Kent Rogers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

J. Kent Rogers, Secretary