

MEMPHIS AREA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Executive Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes

MAAG's Conference Room
Cordova, Tennessee

March 30, 2023
11:00 A.M. CST

Board Members Present:

Hon. Ronnie Neill, *Mayor of Somerville/ Chairman*
Hon. Craig Fitzhugh, *Mayor of City of Ripley*
Mr. Jay Johnson, *Town Manager, Representing Mayor H. Michael Brown of Oakland*
Hon. Mike Palazzolo, *Mayor of City of Germantown*
Hon. Eugene Pugh, *Mayor of Halls/ Vice Chairman*
Hon. Rhea "Skip" Taylor, *Mayor of Fayette County*
Mr. Dan Springer, *Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Representing Jim Strickland, Mayor of Memphis*
Hon. Judy Watters, *Mayor of Rossville*
Mr. Alex Wilson, *Dir. Tourism & Development, Representing Mayor Maurice Gaines, Jr. of Lauderdale County*
Ms. Dorcas Young-Griffin, *Dir. Of Comm. Services, Lee Harris, Mayor Shelby County*

Board Members Absent:

Sen. Raumesh Akbari, *Tennessee General Assembly, Distract 29*
Mr. John DeBerry, *Senior Advisor, Representing Governor Bill Lee, State of Tennessee*
Chief Roy Hill, *Representing Mayor Ida Shumpest of Jericho, AR*
Hon. Brenda Mitchell, *Mayor of Moscow*
Hon. David Parsons, *Mayor of Bartlett*
Hon. Ken Sutton, *Vice-Mayor of Oakland*
Hon. Terry Jones, *Mayor of Millington, MAAG Secretary*

Also Present:

Ms. Lisa Christine-Trexler, *MAAG*
Ms. Linda Coffman, *Linda's Accounting, CPA*
Mr. Tom Dyer, *Attorney, Wyatt, Tarrant, & Combs, LLP*
Ms. Karen Gondan, *CPA Principal, Watkins Uiberall, PLLC*
Ms. Sherry Holliman
Mr. Odell Horton, *Attorney, Wyatt, Tarrant, & Combs, LLP*
Ms. Kamillah Kelly, *MAAG*
Mr. Ralph Moore, *MAAG*
Mr. Paul Morris, *MAAG*
Ms. Virginia Rivers, *Alderwoman, Town of Mason*
Mr. Kelvin Willis, *MAAG*

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Chairman Neill called the meeting to order and welcome attending Board Members and staff.

II. Invocation

Alderwoman Virginia Rivers gave the invocation.

III. Declaration of Quorum

Chairman Neill has recognized a quorum of the Executive Committee present.

IV. **Approval of Minutes for December 15, 2022**, MOTION by Mr. Johnson – Lauderdale County, to approve minutes as presented. **SECONDED** by Mayor Taylor. Unanimously **APPROVED**.

V. **Financial Report**

- MAAG’s Financial Reports for January and February – 2023

Approval for MAAG’s Financial Reports January/February 2023 – **MOTION** by Mayor Palazzolo, to approve Financial Report. **SECONDED** by Mayor Taylor. Unanimously **APPROVED**

- Mileage Reimbursement Rates/handout – Increase with the State of TN

Approval for MAAG’s Mileage Reimbursement increase to \$0.62 – **MOTION** by Mayor Taylor, to approve Financial Report. **SECONDED** by Mayor Pugh. Unanimously **APPROVED**

- MAAG Audit Report Review Fiscal 2022

Approval for MAAG’s Audit Fiscal 2022 – **MOTION** by Mayor Taylor, to approve Financial Report. **SECONDED** by Mayor Palazzolo. Unanimously **APPROVED**

NOTE: Discussion regarding what MAAG’s dues and MAAG’s role is in the community; Alderwoman Rivers asked, why the MAAG dues were not paid from the cities and towns and what are some of the reasons? In the reports as of this meeting there are cities and towns receiving ERP funds to have assistance repairing homes.

VI. **Staff Reports**

a. Tennessee Housing Department Authority (THDA) – Mr. Morris

- Homebuyer Education

MAAG continues to provide homebuyer education activities online. Here are the numbers for the last three years: and

<u>Time Period</u>	<u>Number of online users</u>
March 2020 – March 2021	87
March 2021 – March 2022	70
March 2022 – March 2023	47

- Emergency Repair Program

MAAG is moving forward with projects in Ripley and Somerville. MAAG has completed four projects in Memphis.

In FY 2023, MAAG is partnering with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) as they launch their Memphis One Touch Weatherization Program. TVA will provide the needed weatherization repairs while MAAG will perform repairs on roofs, plumbing, electrical, structural items, and asbestos removal.

DRA – Delta Regional Authority

- State Economic Development Assistance Program (SEDAP)

The Delta Regional Authority visited the Memphis area the week of March 7th. The purpose of this visit is to monitor and ensure compliance with DRA SEDAP guidelines. The DRA staff visited the following project(s):

TN-54242 (Agricenter International Innovation District Project)
TN-54433 (Binghamton Development Corp. Business Hub Project)
TN-54705 (38126 Innovation & Technology Center Project)

b. Tennessee Department of Tourism Development/Department of Environment & Conservation (TDTD/TDEC) – Mr. Willis

- Tourism

MAAG continues the preliminary research planning & development on its 2023 Tourism Project. The proposed project will be a district wide Tour d' France style bike race. MAAG attended a Tourism Forum for Lauderdale County. MAAG has also continued discussions with TDTD concerning an upcoming grant for D/D wide Tourism development to be funded through ARP. MAAG renewed its membership with the Metro Memphis Tourism Association.

- TDEC Solid Waste Grant

MAAG continues to work with the Four County Solid Waste Directors in anticipation of completing their Annual Progress Report by March 31st. Attended ARP training conducted by TDEC. Conducted Quarterly Meetings with Solid Waste Directors. Renewed SWANA membership.

- Economic Development

MAAG has attended virtually and in person meetings sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Community and Economic Development monitoring the progress of the Ford/Blue Oval Mega-Site Project. Also attended the Delta Regional Authority training in Memphis.

c. West Tennessee Rural Planning Organization (WTRPO) – Ms. Kelly

- Composed WTRPO newsletter with current transportation grants updates.
- Submitted WTRPO Fall meeting minutes to TDOT and the 1st quarterly invoice report.
- Attended TDOT monthly conference calls and invoicing conference calls.
- Attended Fayette County Community Mobility Plan - Kick-off Meeting.
- Researched pavement funding opportunities for Mason, TN.
- Shared WTRPO lane closure and highway project report with West TN's communities
- Reviewed West TN area planning agendas for upcoming projects that could impact state Routes.
- Reviewed Blue Oval City Community Impact updates.
- Attended Lauderdale County Local Road Safety Initiative Meeting to review crash data. on various roads in Lauderdale County, including the Conner Whitefield Rd area.
- Submitted Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant letter of support for improving signalized intersection in Halls and Henning.
- Attended the RPO conference.

d. Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR) – Ms. Trexler

- Attended the DRA LDD seminar Downtown Memphis with MAAG staff.
- The invoice for Milestone Two (c) has been completed and sent to TACIR.
- Attached is the report of completion by Tennessee Development Districts.

VII. Director's Report – Mr. Moore

Mr. Moore gave his overview of the future of MAAG, cities, towns, and the region.

VIII. Other Business

- Executive Committee Election

Approval for MAAG to discuss Nominations Executive Committee to the Board - MOTION
- by Mayor Taylor. **SECONDED** - by Jay Johnson (Town Manager of Oakland). Unanimously **APPROVED**

- MAAG By-Laws - given an overview with the board at this meeting. (copy of By-Laws on tables)
- The board members will need to participate in many ways. The towns and cities need to pay dues each fiscal year to MAAG.

IX. Adjournment

MOTION - to adjourn meeting by Mr. Johnson – Lauderdale County. **SECONDED** - by Mayor Palazzolo. Unanimously **APPROVED**.