

MEMPHIS AREA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Executive Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes

Lauderdale Court House – Mayor’s Office
Ripley, Tennessee

June 16, 2022
10:00 A.M. CST

Board Members Present:

Hon. Hugh Davis Jr., *Chairman and Commissioner of Piperton*
Rep. Barbara Cooper, *Tennessee General Assembly, Distract 86*
Hon. Maurice Gaines, Jr., *Mayor of Lauderdale County*
Hon. Craig Fitzhugh, *Mayor of Ripley*
Hon. Ronnie Neill, *Mayor of Somerville*
Hon. Eugene Pugh, *Mayor of Halls*
Hon. Rhea “Skip” Taylor, *Mayor of Fayette County*

Board Members Absent:

Sen. Raumesh Akbari, *Tennessee General Assembly, Distract 29*
Mr. John DeBerry, Senior Advisor, *Representing Governor Bill Lee, State of Tennessee*
Hon. Barbara Manns, *Mayor of Henning*
Hon. Lee Harris, *Mayor Shelby County*
Chief Roy Hill, *Representing Mayor Ida Shumpest of Jericho, AR*
Ms. Sherry Holliman, *Councilwoman, Crittenden County, AR, MAAG Vice Chairman*
Hon. Keith McDonald, *Mayor of Bartlett*
Hon. Ken Sutton, *Vice-Mayor of Oakland*
Hon. Jim Strickland, *Mayor of Memphis*
Hon. Terry Jones, *Mayor of Millington*
Hon. Judy Watters, *Mayor of Rossville*

Also Present:

Ms. Linda Coffman, *Linda’s Accounting, CPA*
Mr. Andre Gist, *BWI, VP pf Operations*
Mr. Alfred Green, *BWI, Owner*
Mr. Ryan Green, *BWI President*
Mr. Odell Horton, *Attorney, Wyatt, Tarrant, & Combs, LLP*
Ms. Kamillah Kelly, *MAAG*
Mr. Ralph Moore, *MAAG*
Ms. Seemi Qureshi, *MAAG*
Ms. Lisa Trexler, *MAAG*
Mr. Kelvin Willis, *MAAG*

I. Welcome and Call to Order

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

II. Invocation

Chairman Davis gave the invocation.

III. Declaration of Quorum

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

IV. **Approval of Minutes for December 16, 2021**, MOTION by Representative Cooper, to approve minutes as presented. **SECONDED** by Mayor Gaines. Unanimously **APPROVED**.

V. **Financial Report**

- MAAG's Financial Report February/March 2022

Approval for MAAG's Financial Report February/March 2022– MOTION by Mayor Pugh, to approve Financial Report. **SECONDED** by Mayor Gaines. Unanimously **APPROVED**

- MAAG's Financial Report April/May 2022

Approval for MAAG's Financial Report April/May 2022– MOTION by Representative Cooper, to approve Financial Report. **SECONDED** by Mayor Gaines. Unanimously **APPROVED**

- DUES Write Off

Approval for MAAG's DUES Write Off/ June 30, 2022– MOTION by Mayor Gaines, to approve DUES Write Off. **SECONDED** by Mayor Taylor. Unanimously **APPROVED**

- FY 2022 Budget Amendment

Approval for MAAG's FY 2022 Budget Amendment– MOTION No Motion. **SECONDED No motion.**

- Finance Manual Amendment (Procurement)

App Approval for MAAG's Financial Manual Amendment– MOTION by Representative Cooper, to approve Financial Manual Amendment. **SECONDED** by Mayor Gaines. Unanimously **APPROVED**

- FY 2023 Budget

Approval for MAAG's FY 2023 Budget – MOTION by Mayor Taylor, to approve **FY 2023 Budget**. **SECONDED** by Mayor Pugh. Unanimously **APPROVED**

VI. **Staff Reports**

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

- Homebuyer Education

MAAG continues to provide homebuyer education activities online and will do so until THDA approves in-person training again. Approximately 80 persons took the online class in 2021, and 21 persons have taken the course online this year.

- Emergency Repair Program

MAAG, is moving forward with ERP projects in Rossville, Piperton, Ripley, Munford, and Covington. Also, MAAG is moving forward with three projects in Memphis.

In March of this year, the Shelby County Trustee published a booklet entitled “Government Services for Senior Citizens in Shelby County”. Our ERP program was one of the programs listed in the booklet. Our office received over 1,000 phone calls and the MAAG staff recorded over 600 residents needing home repairs.

Delta Regional Authority

State Economic Development Assistance Program (SEDAP) Grant

The Binghamton Development Corporation received a \$250,000 SEDAP grant from DRA. These funds will be used to help renovate their new job training facility.

MAAG staff attended the mandatory SEDAP training for all the Local Development Districts (LDDs) in New Orleans, LA on March 29, 2022.throughout the eight-state region.

b. Economic Recovery / Resilience Grant (American Rescue Plan)– Mr. Willis

- On March 24, 2022, MAAG hosted a forum at the Halloran Centre with the topic... “The Mega-Site...Next Steps.” MAAG reached out to the similarly situated regions of Huntsville, Alabama & Chattanooga, Tennessee, which have recently been awarded large OEM plants similar to the West Tennessee Mega-Site. This event was open to all interested parties in the Memphis, Southwest, and Northwest Development Districts. The goal of the Forum was to share best practices of the similarly situated regions with a view for planning a smooth and hopefully seamless transition from announcement to plant opening and beyond. MAAG once again collaborated with Kudzukian for technical production expertise. Chattanooga Mayor Tim Kelly, Huntsville Mayor Paul Battle, Regional Planners Randall Gross and Phillip Walker, and others presented. There were over 30 in-person attendees and over 1,300 persons view the event online.
- MAAG has begun preliminary negotiations for another Forum in October 2022 devoted to planning, regionalism, and transportation issues. This event will be co-sponsored by the University of Memphis and others interested partners.
- MAAG continues to stay abreast of on-going developments with regard to funding within the Development District. All of the counties, cities, and smaller municipalities have now received their funding. We stand ready to assist them in the identifying of qualifying ARP Projects. Staff has participated in numerous seminars/webinars from the U. S. Commerce Department’s EDA section St. Louis Branch of the Federal Reserve and the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration on future implementation, funding, and reporting of ARP funded projects. MAAG has also 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.

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

- City of Ripley awarded Citywide Transportation Plan
- Fayette County awarded Community Mobility Plan
- Spoken at the virtual Blue Oval City Transportation Impacts (ECD) meeting
- Attended Multimodal Access Grant webinar
- Ended RuPI contract negotiation due to time constraints
- Prepared FY23-FY24 WTRPO Work Plan
- Assisted with submitting third quarter invoice documents to TDOT
- Updated WTRPO BY-LAWS
- Attended Tennessee Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (TEVI) Meeting
- Attended Memphis MPO meeting
- Assisted with Munford and Covington submitting Multimodal Access Grant NOI
- Discussed new projects for TDOT Prioritizing List with Atoka and Somerville
- Hosted WTRPO meeting on May 31st

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

TACIR sent MAAG a new contract for 2022-2023 Mr. Moore signed the contract and emailed contract to TACIR.

Ms. Trexler will attend the webinar meeting in august regarding TACIR updates.

VII. Director's Report – Mr. Moore

a. Tennessee Department of Tourist Development (TDTD)

MAAG will be focusing on a single sporting event – **Cycling event pro/semi-pro**. This event would bring revenue to the three counties (Fayette, Lauderdale, Tipton) and MAAG will be using a cycling promotor. Mr. Moore and Mr. Willis will be contacting the counties with further details.

b. US Economic Development Administration – (US EDA)

MAAG will be updating the website. MAAG's regional CEDS was update by Randall Gross, Development Economics.

c. Introduction of new sub-committee: Metro-Solution

A future meeting for professional planners for the MAAG region. The purpose of the meeting is to agree upon development concepts to uniformly described the region. Development Districts planners will discuss the best approach for identifying and labeling general development terms. This exercise will in no way alter jurisdictions abilities for land use self-determination.

VIII. Other Business

- Presentation: Alfred Green, Ryan Green, and Andre Gist – Boilermaking and Welding Institute (BWI) – Discussed a training, Machining Program for Memphis and surrounding counties in Tennessee, *Handouts were provided*.
- Mr. Moore will draft a proposal regarding BWI and send it out to the MAAG board for review.
- Discussion: Board Election Committee for MAAG – Heading up this process will be Mayor Rhea "Skip" Taylor. Chairman Davis stated Mayor Taylor will head up the nomination committee. The committee should be comprised of a member from each county. They are charged with soliciting interest in the three elected positions. Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer. Date of election TBD.

IX. Adjournment

MOTION - to adjourn meeting by Mayor Gaines. **SECONDED** - by Mayor Taylor.
Unanimously **APPROVED**.