

**MEMPHIS AREA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**Executive Board Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes**

MAAG's Conference Room  
Cordova, Tennessee

December 15, 2022  
10:00 A.M. CST

**Board Members Present:**

Hon. Hugh Davis Jr., *Chairman*  
Ms. Sherry Holliman, *Councilwoman, Crittenden County, AR, MAAG Vice Chairman*  
Chief Roy Hill, *Representing Mayor Ida Shumpest of Jericho, AR*  
Mr. Jay Johnson, *Town Manager, Representing Mayor H. Michael Brown of Oakland*  
Hon. Brenda Mitchell, *Mayor of Moscow*  
Hon. Ronnie Neill, *Mayor of Somerville*  
Hon. Eugene Pugh, *Mayor of Halls*  
Hon. Rhea "Skip" Taylor, *Mayor of Fayette County*  
Mr. Alex Wilson, *Dir. Tourism & Development, Representing Mayor Maurice Gaines, Jr. of Lauderdale 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. Lee Harris, *Mayor Shelby County*  
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, MAAG Secretary*  
Hon. Judy Watters, *Mayor of Rossville*

**Also Present:**

Mr. Robert Berry  
Ms. Linda Coffman, *Linda's Accounting, CPA*  
Mr. Odell Horton, *Attorney, Wyatt, Tarrant, & Combs, LLP*  
Ms. Kamillah Kelly, *MAAG*  
Mr. Ralph Moore, *MAAG*  
Mr. Paul Morris, *MAAG*  
Ms. Lisa Trexler, *MAAG*  
Mr. Robert Turner, *City Administrator of Somerville*  
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 June 16, 2022, MOTION by Councilwoman Holliman, to approve minutes as presented. **SECONDED** by Mayor Pugh. Unanimously **APPROVED**.**

**V. Financial Report**

- MAAG's Financial Reports for October and November 2022

**Approval for MAAG's Financial Reports October/November 2022– MOTION** by Councilwoman Holliman, to approve Financial Report. **SECONDED** by Mayor Gaines. 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 30 persons have taken the course online this year.

- Emergency Repair Program

MAAG has completed ERP projects in Ripley, Munford, and Covington. Also, MAAG has completed three projects in Memphis and is moving forward with four additional projects.

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

- Technical Assistance – Post ERP Counselling Survey

MAAG staff has completed its survey of 17 households that received ERP funds for home repairs in 2021 and 2022. Through this survey, MAAG is gaining a better understanding of our ERP clients. The average ERP home repaired by MAAG was built/purchased in 1953. Some of the houses that MAAG repaired were built as early as 1910, while other houses were built as late as 2001. Additionally, our typical ERP clients have lived in their current homes for approximately 37 years. Roughly one-third of the ERP clients surveyed had lived in their house for at least 50 years. Finally, three-fourths of our ERP clients are widows/single women between 65-75 years of age.

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

- Tourism

MAAG has begun the preliminary research planning & development on its 2023 Tourism Project. The project will be a district wide Tour d' France style bike race. MAAG will also be represented at the Governor's Conference on Tourism in Memphis September 27th-30.

- TDEC Solid Waste Grant

After a two-year hiatus the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) has re-authorized funding for MAAG to assist the four (4) counties in the MAAG Development District. This will allow MAAG to assist those counties with the Annual Progress Reports, Solid Waste Board Training, a District Wide Needs Assessment, and to foster greater collaboration among the four (4) County Solid Waste Directors.

- CARES Grant/ Economic Development

MAAG completed its required commitment under the two-year CARES Act Grant through the Department of Commerce (EDA). The CEDS Report has been completed and the final

public meeting for the CEDS Committee will be held in Somerville on September 21st. MAAG had begun preliminary negotiations for another Forum in October 2022 devoted to planning, regionalism, and transportation issues. However, this Forum was cancelled.

- **Regional Updates**

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 American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding. We stand ready to assist them in the identifying of qualifying ARP Projects. 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.

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 31<sup>st</sup>

**Approval of /five /state legislative voting members, MOTION by Councilwoman Holliman, to approve minutes as presented. SECONDED by Mayor Pugh. Unanimously APPROVED.**

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. US Economic Development Administration – (US EDA)

b. 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.

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**

- Election of New Officers

**IX. Adjournment**

**MOTION** - to adjourn meeting by . **SECONDED** - by Councilwoman Holliman.  
Unanimously **APPROVED**.