

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2008 (Draft)

PRESENT:	Jim Ring, Bangor	Rob Kenerson, BACTS
	David Pardilla, Penobscot Nation	Don Cooper, BACTS
	Linda Johns, Brewer	Dianne Rice, BACTS
	Frank Higgins, Brewer	Jayda Maher, BACTS
	Bob Osborne, Hampden	Charles Webb, EMDC
	Ron Harriman, Orrington	John Perry, Federal Highway, via phone
	Charles Heinonen, Old Town	Maria Weinberger, Orono
	Bill Reed, Veazie	Cal Smith, Orono
	Commissioner Cole, MDOT	Mike Laberge, MDOT
	Dale Doughty, MDOT	

1. **Call to Order**

The Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee met on Tuesday, March 18, 2008 in the Penobscot Board Room of Eastern Maine Development, 40 Harlow Street, Bangor Maine. Committee Chair, Bill Reed, called the meeting to order at 9:45. Those present introduced themselves.

2. **Approval of January 15, 2008 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**

It was moved (Linda Johns) and seconded (Jim Ring) to approve the January 15, 2008 Policy Committee Meeting minutes as presented. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved without revision.

3. **BACTS/EMDC Annual Contract Discussion and Approval**

Rob said it is the same contract as last year and indirect charges are not to exceed 55 percent. It was moved (Jim Ring) and seconded (Charlie Heinonen) to approve the contract between BACTS and EMDC

At Rob's request, those present introduced themselves.

4. **BACTS Final Public Involvement Process Discussion and Approval**

The Policy Committee approved the Draft BACTS Public Involvement Process at the November meeting and it was put out for public comment. We did not receive any comments so this committee can approve it as final. It was moved (Jim Ring) and seconded (Frank Higgins) to accept final version.

5. **Bangor Main Street/Cedar Street Email Vote Confirmation**

According to BACTS by-laws an email vote needs to be approved by the Policy Committee so that it is in the minutes. 13 Votes to Approve and 0 Votes Opposed. This was the earmarked project for Main/Railroad/Summer Street. Rob handed out a copy of the email.

It was moved (Charlie Heinonen) and seconded (Ron Harriman) to affirm the confirmation of the email vote.

Rob handed out a letter that he wrote that is an amendment to the TIP. Maine DOT and Federal Highway want to replace the Red Bridge in Bangor, which is on route 2

from Hogan Road to Veazie. Preliminary engineering on that project will be \$165,000. It was moved (Mike Laberge) and seconded (Jim Ring) to approve and send the letter.

6. **BACTS FY-06 and FY-07 Audits**

The FY-2007 BACTS audit has been sent to the State. The BACTS FY-2006 audit is fine so a review was not warranted. Several members wanted to view the audit before approval so Rob will email a copy to committee members for discussion at the next meeting.

7. **BACTS Project Overruns and Project Transfer**

Rob said that we have 3 projects that we need to take some action on.

- PIN 7832.00 – The Broadway and Burleigh Rd. intersection project is construction complete and is over run \$12,433. Rob has copies of the expenses if needed. Mike said the balance in the holding PIN #147272.40 is about \$548,000. The over run can be transferred from the holding PIN.
- PIN 8836.00 – The Bangor Downtown Circulation project is construction complete at \$151,442.02. The current available funds are \$147,000 which leaves an overrun of \$4,442.02. Rob asked Mike why the current available funds were \$147,000. This project was originally funded at \$150,000 and Rob had no record of the \$3,000 being transferred out of the project. It was recommended the committee transfer \$1,442 from the holding PIN and if it is found that the \$3,000 transfer was legitimate, than the committee could make that transfer at a future meeting.
- PIN 13077.00 – The estimates for Wilson Street are now at \$1,941,065.00, which is \$24,095.35 below the current available funds of \$1,916,969.65. MDOT won't let a project go out to bid if the latest estimate doesn't match the available funds.

It was moved (Charlie Heinonen) and seconded (Frank Higgins) to approve transferring:

\$12,433.00 from the BACTS holding PIN 147272.40 to PIN 7832.00, the Broadway/Burleigh Rd. intersection project;

\$1,442 from the BACTS holding PIN 14272.40 to PIN 8836.00, the Bangor Downtown Circulation project; and

\$24,095.35 from the BACTS holding PIN 147272.40 to PIN 13077.00, the Wilson Street project.

8. **Commissioner Cole**

Commissioner Cole did not make a presentation. He announced that Dale Doughty is the new regional manager out of the Bangor Office and feels that this is a good thing for the region.

He discussed the need for MPOs to put together plans, even though we do not know what the funding will be.

Commissioner Cole opened the floor for a brief question and answer session.

9. **I-395 Corridor Study Update**

The agenda should have said an I-395 Corridor Study Update. Rob has been invited to sit on the Public Advisory Committee for the I-395 Corridor Study. The meetings will begin again this spring and are scheduled to continue until the end of this year.

Rob stated that on a related topic, next month there will be another Policy Committee meeting and MeDOT is scheduled to come and discuss the I-95 Corridor study.

10. FY 2010-2011 Capital Work Plan process update

Rob provided a hand out of all the projects that have been submitted for consideration for the FY 2010-2011 Capital Work Plan.

11. Other Business

- Mike Laberge said that the Kittery area MPO has a project that needs to be finished but they are \$350,000 short. It is a big project and if they cannot raise the money they will have to wait for one year to get more money, in order to finish it. He inquired about BACTS loaning that money from the holding pin and be paid back in about 18 months.

The committee decided that it would not support loaning that money as BACTS would not be at a comfort level to do so at this time. It was moved (Frank Higgins) and seconded (Bob Osborne) not to approve lending \$350,000 to the Kittery area MPO.

- Rob got an email from Kay Rand she is under contract with MDOT to gather a group of stakeholders to look at the Traffic Movement Permits process. The group will determine if the current process is flawed and if so look at the possibility of impact fees. Rob asked if anyone would like to sit on the panel. Jim said that he also received an email from MMA and is planning to sit on the panel. Charlie H said that he would sit on the panel if nobody else volunteers.
- Rob was chosen to sit on the Transportation Research Board's (TRB) "Transportation Planning in Small and Mid-sized Communities" subcommittee for 3 years.
- Rob gave a brief report on his Transportation Security Planning workshop in Orlando.
- Frank said that the City of Brewer has money earmarked for transportation impacts related to the reuse of the old Eastern Fine plant. There is currently more money than is needed for the project but the earmark states that the money can be used on Route 15 in Brewer. Frank has talked to Jim Ring about the option of asking the State to change the designation of Route 15 back to Broadway east of the Interstate and across the Penobscot River bridge and along North Main Street across Wilson Street to the I-395 intersection. This would allow the earmark money to be used to construct the North Main Street project between State and Wilson Street instead of the limited BACTS funds. The City of Brewer may come back to BACTS for a letter of support for this change.

13 Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:15.