



**MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

Official Minutes

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**MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING
HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE AND IN JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI,
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission was held on Wednesday, April 7, 2021, via video conference and at the Missouri Department of Transportation, 105 W. Capitol Ave, Jefferson City, Missouri. Michael T. Waters, Jr., Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following Commissioners were present: John W. Briscoe, Gregg C. Smith, Robert G. Brinkmann, P.E., Terry L. Ecker, and W. Dustin Boatwright, P.E.

The meeting was called pursuant to Section 226.120 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, as amended. The Secretary verified that notice of the meeting was posted in keeping with Section 610.020 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, as amended.

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Patrick McKenna, Director of the Missouri Department of Transportation; Rich Tiemeyer, Chief Counsel for the Commission; and Pamela J. Harlan, Secretary to the Commission, were present on Wednesday, April 7, 2021.

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*“Department” or “MoDOT” herein refers to Missouri Department of Transportation.
“Commission” or “MHTC” herein refers to Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission.*

-- CLOSED MEETING --

VOTE TO CLOSE MEETING

The agenda of the closed meeting was posted in keeping with Sections 610.020 and 610.022, RSMo, including the following statutory citations allowing the meeting to be closed:

1. Section 610.021(1) – Legal actions and attorney-client privileged communications.
2. Section 610.021(3), (13) – Personnel administration regarding particular employees.
3. Section 610.021(11), (12) – Competitive bidding specs, sealed bids, or negotiated contracts.

Upon motion duly made and seconded to convene in closed session, the Chairman called for a voice vote of the members. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Waters, Aye
Commissioner Briscoe, Aye
Commissioner Smith, Aye
Commissioner Ecker, Aye
Commissioner Brinkmann, Aye
Commissioner Boatwright, Absent

The Commission met in closed session on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. and adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

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-- OPEN MEETING --

COMMISSION/DIRECTOR ITEMS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Commissioner Briscoe, seconded by Commissioner Smith, the Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 3, 2021 and the special meeting held March 2, 2021. The Chairman and Secretary to the Commission were authorized and directed to sign and certify said minutes and to file same in the office of the Secretary.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda Process

In order to make the most efficient use of Commission meeting time and to ensure Commission members are well informed on issues requiring their action, staff prepares and submits to the Commission members, in advance of their meeting, internal memoranda consisting of advice, opinions, and recommendations related to the items of the Commission meeting agenda. Those items considered by staff to be of a routine or non-controversial nature are placed on a consent agenda. During the meeting, items can be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any one Commission member. The items that are not removed from the consent agenda are approved with a single motion and unanimous vote by a quorum of the members.

Minutes reflecting approval of items on the consent agenda are singly reported herein and intermingled with minutes reflecting action on related subjects that were openly discussed. Reference to “consent agenda” is made in each minute approved via the process described in the paragraph above. Minutes reflecting action on items removed from the consent agenda and openly discussed reflect the open discussion and vote thereon.

Consideration of April 7, 2021, Consent Agenda

No items were removed from the consent agenda. Upon motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Ecker, the consent agenda items were unanimously approved by a quorum of Commission members present.

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COMMISSION COMMITTEES AND COMMISSION RELATED BOARDS

The Commission has two standing committees: Audit and Legislative. In addition, it elects Commission representatives to two boards: Missouri Transportation Finance Corporation Board of Directors and MoDOT and Patrol Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees. The following committee and board reports were made during the April 7, 2021, meeting.

Audit Committee – Commissioner Waters stated there was no report; the next Audit Committee meeting is scheduled for June 2021.

Legislative Committee – Commissioner Briscoe reported the General Assembly is back after enjoying its annual spring recess. With less than 22 legislative days remaining in this year's session, both the House and Senate are actively pursuing the passage of their respective chamber's legislative priorities including a fiscal year 2022 budget.

Commissioner Briscoe provided an update on the funding measure that is currently being considered by the legislature. Senate Bill (SB) 262, the fuel tax increase bill passed by the Senate, awaits debate in the House. The Senate proposal would impose an increase of 2.5-cents per gallon each year for five years. These additional revenues, as outlined in the state's constitution, could only be used to build and maintain roads and bridges across the state with a portion of the revenues going to counties and cities for their transportation needs.

The bill also includes language that would allow any taxpayer who does not wish to pay for the new tax, an opportunity to request a refund from the state of Missouri for those taxes paid each year. This refund is only allowed for passenger vehicles and commercial motor vehicles licensed under 26,000 pounds. The bill also includes an increase in the state's current alternative decal fees; establishes an Electric Vehicle Task Force for studying taxation of electric vehicles; and a federal mandate provision

that disallows a CDL holder to have a commercial motor vehicle license if found guilty of a felony involving human trafficking.

Missouri Transportation Finance Corporation (MTFC) – Commissioner Smith stated there was no report; the next MTFC meeting is scheduled for May 2021.

MoDOT and Patrol Employees’ Retirement System (MPERS) – Commissioner Brinkmann stated the Board has not met since the last commission meeting, therefore there is no report.

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DIRECTOR’S REPORT

During the April 7, 2021, Commission meeting, Director Patrick McKenna provided the following report:

Leadership In Action Coin – The Director reported Commissioner Smith presented Cory Beasley, Senior Maintenance Worker at the Clinton Maintenance building, with a leadership coin for his actions that showed good situational awareness and genuine care for the condition of MoDOT equipment. On the evening of March 11, Mr. Beasley was driving when he noticed a vehicle parked next to one of the department’s tractors, and the driver attempting to break into the vehicle. Mr. Beasley pulled over and called 911 to describe the scene, vehicle, and suspect, and turned his vehicle around to continue to monitor the driver from a safe distance. Once law enforcement arrived on the scene and had the suspect in custody, Mr. Beasley stayed on the scene to provide details to the responding officers and inspected the tractor for damage. Director McKenna thanked Mr. Beasley for going above and beyond the call of duty and being a great servant leader.

Funding Update – Director McKenna reported the department is planning for possibilities as discussions around the state and country are about transportation investment. As the state was reimbursed with federal CARES Act Funding, \$73 million in state road funds were returned to MoDOT, some of which helped the Commission with the asset management deficit program for maintenance operations, and another portion helped reinstate the Governor’s Cost Share program. The federal COVID relief bill provided about \$234 million to Missouri to help the state recover its losses in transportation funding during the pandemic. The Commission was able to revise its financial forecast in February due to receipt of these funds. Currently, there is a gas tax bill being debated by Missouri’s General Assembly, Missouri’s gas tax has not changed since 1996. The department is very supportive of this proposal advancing. From the federal passage of the American Recovery Act, Missouri is expected to receive significant funding. MoDOT is hopeful the Governor, General Assembly, and cities and counties will plan to use a portion of those funds on transportation investment. President Biden’s jobs act that is being considered at the federal level will provide significant funding for all modes of transportation. The department is closely following the development of that proposal. The federal reauthorization for surface transportation was extended through September; MoDOT is hopeful with Congressman Graves leadership for continued funding through reauthorization. In anticipation of these potential funds, the department went through a public process with planning partners to prepare an unfunded needs list which is ready should any of these sources of revenue become available.

No MOre Trash – Director McKenna stated the No More Trash Bash is an annual part of the department’s year-round litter control efforts. This year it will be the month of April to encourage volunteers to help clean up litter to help beautify Missouri. Last year, MoDOT spent \$6.4 million to remove litter from more than 385,000 acres of roadsides along 34,000 state highway miles. Every effort by the public to eliminate or clean up litter helps offset trash removal costs and allows the department to put more money back into maintaining Missouri's roads and bridges. For example, the annual volunteer efforts to pick up litter along Missouri’s highways, including the Adopt-A-Highway program, have been valued at more than \$1 million. This year’s No MOre Trash! Bash kickoff will include virtual events with Adopt-A-Highway volunteers, students, and community groups interested in participating in roadside trash pickup.

AASHTO – Director McKenna was pleased to report he has been asked to serve as chairman of the National Safety Committee for AASHTO. This fits very well with MoDOT’s mission and team that are focused on safety. The department continues to receive national attention for its Buckle Up Phone Down effort. The Director stated he believes working at the national level is vitally important to raise awareness on safety measures in Missouri and across the country.

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MODOT PRESENTATIONS

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION UPDATE

On behalf of the Director, Linda Wilson Horn, Communications Director, presented a brief overview of the responsibilities and accomplishments of the Communications Division. The Communications Division consists of content creation, production, special projects, and customer service. The central office division works in coordination with communications staff in each district office to take communication products from creative ideas to fully executed plans for both internal and external customers. The Communications Division truly serves as an in-house advertising and public relations agency for MoDOT.

Ms. Horn shared more detail on some of the services that are listed above. She began with media relations and outreach. The communications team works hard to foster positive relationships with media outlets across the state who are a vital part of helping tell the MoDOT story. MoDOT’s communications professionals work with staff to help them refine their talking points and prepare for media interviews. The division also organizes news conferences throughout the year to bring attention to things like Buckle

Up Phone Down, new construction with major traffic impacts, or winter operations. During the pandemic, backdrops and lighting were prepared to do Zoom media interviews, speeches, and even for the Director to run the AASHTO annual meeting virtually. More than 40,000 people across Missouri receive MoDOT's news releases and information through the e-update system. MoDOT offers the external Express Lane, which is delivered every other week to 21,000 subscribers statewide.

The Communications team supports the department's billion dollar a year program delivery effort. Helping engineers develop public involvement plans for planning studies, environmental studies and overall project development. Keeping the public informed through detailed project websites, public meetings and construction update emails. Marking progress with groundbreaking and ribbon cutting ceremonies.

Social media such as Facebook and Twitter are a standard communications tool for providing safety messages, construction updates, or awareness of weather warnings, or highway closures. Social media allows direct interaction with customers. MoDOT has nearly 195,000 followers on MoDOT's Twitter accounts across the state, and MoDOT Facebook accounts have more than 400,000 followers. Last year, Twitter impressions were more than 83 million and Facebook reach was another nearly 17 million.

MoDOT's website is another vital tool to provide information to the public. Over the past couple of years, the department transitioned its website to a new content management tool which allows the website to work well on mobile devices. Mobile users make up more than half of the website visitors so that was an important upgrade to the system. In 2020, the website had nearly 5 million sessions with page views reaching nearly 10 million.

Photography is an important part of storytelling. Images are used in all communication platforms and MoDOT has some great photographers! MoDOT is capable of shooting aerials for projects, work zone photos for internal and external use, event photography, photos for legal documentation, and much

more. MoDOT's Flickr library currently houses nearly 65,000 photos that have had more than 13 million views. Graphic design helps brand MoDOT's information and make it visually appealing. Whether that is creating a logo, new advertising campaigns, PSAs, or materials to help educate our citizen such as the Citizen's Guide to Transportation Funding.

MoDOT also has its own in-house print shop that can print in both color and black and white. Having those services internally saves a lot of money. The print shop produces items for the department including training materials, safety posters, external publications, project plans, reports, business cards, and event materials. Last year there was a decline due to COVID with about 1,000 printing projects. Typically, the print shop handles about 3,000 printing projects a year. With a lot less interaction occurring during the pandemic, MoDOT printed a lot less in 2020. But having those in-house capabilities gives the department timely and inexpensive printed materials.

All these various components come together into the initiatives that the public sees. Things like the Buckle Up Phone Down campaign, Don't Drive Impaired, and the upcoming Work Zone Awareness Week new campaign which is Work With Us.

Employees are a key audience for the Communications Division, as well. The internal newsletter "Connections" is sent via email to every MoDOT employee every other week. Articles are submitted from the Communications staff across the state, highlighting major projects and individual accomplishments, as well as serving the latest news about internal policies or other changes. A weekly newsletter is delivered electronically to all employees via monitors in every MoDOT facility. The "Weekly News" was designed to highlight some of the top news and provide a concise way to share that with frontline staff in buildings across the state. These two publications, along with emails, videos, and virtual meetings, keep employees informed about MoDOT issues and changing policies.

There is an incredible team of Communications staff located in every district, seven district Communication managers oversee the regional production and contact creation, project delivery support,

and customer service. They handle the local media requests and all the work associated with supporting project delivery and public involvement, and the day-to-day communication on construction and maintenance impacts to the traveling public. In total there are thirty professional Communications staff spread out across the seven district offices and the Central Office.

Twenty-five years ago, MoDOT created its customer service center and toll-free number in 1996. MoDOT continues to provide outstanding customer service and a live person answering the phone 24-hours a day, seven days per week. Customer service centers are housed in each district with at least two representatives and in the larger urban areas they have additional staff. In addition, the center in St. Louis answers calls 24/7 with a combination of MoDOT personnel and contracted staff that maintain operations 365 days a year. In 2020, customer service representatives handled more than 125,000 customer calls and generated more than 35,000 call reports for MoDOT staff to respond to those customers concerns. The February 2020 customer service survey report indicates 94 percent responded that staff were polite, 88 percent said MoDOT was responsive, and 87 percent indicated they were satisfied with the clarity and the response they received. Communications continues to work on customer service because it is certainly not just the role of the customer service representatives, but every employee within MoDOT plays a role in providing that customer service to the public.

Communications is proud of what it does, proud to serve the citizens of Missouri with critical information that they need to safely use Missouri’s transportation system, and most importantly the team loves to tell the great story of MoDOT and its staff. Commissioner Briscoe thanked the Communications Division for their creative and quality work, and for the support they provide to the Commission.

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INFORMATION SYSTEMS UPDATE

On behalf of the Director, Beth Ring, Information Systems Director, presented a brief overview of the responsibilities and accomplishments of the Information Systems Division (IS). Ms. Ring noted it is

very difficult to think about any part of our personal or professional lives that have not been touched by or impacted by technology. She noted that it has been particularly true during the last year when everyone has been trying to remain socially distant from one another while remaining connected.

Information Systems' role is to build and maintain a critical information technology infrastructure to support MoDOT and provide information to the traveling public. Ms. Ring stated that is accomplished by ninety talented employees statewide, about one-third of which are in the district offices, and staff is supplemented with external contractors. She reported that it is easy to think about technology through the lens of what is used every day such as the applications, laptops, and iPhones, but the work of the division is much more complex. The division manages a statewide fiber optic network and has disaster recovery plans and exercises in place. IS has developers that write applications for internal software for use by MoDOT or the public. The division handles cyber security, the phone system, and manages its own procurement as provided by state law.

She explained how the division handles those responsibilities by using the \$20 million the Commission allocated to IS through the operating budget. The division is not only responsible for providing the resources for new technology solutions but is also responsible for maintaining the existing system. The division works to hold down the cost of taking care of the system so that as many resources as possible can go toward new solutions. Historically, IS carved out about twenty percent of that budget, or \$4 million, to invest in new solutions because it costs about \$16 million a year to maintain the system. About \$10 million a year is expended on software licensing and maintenance, with the remaining balance going toward hardware replacement, networking, and communication.

She noted some Commissioners have experienced first-hand the great customer service that division staff provides to its customers. But in addition to that customer service, IS has about 9,800 pieces of equipment that includes laptops, desktops, iPhones, and printers that are maintained. The help desk on

average receives about 35,000 calls a year. Typically, these are technology problems that a ticket is created in order to resolve those problems for staff.

Ms. Ring described the magnitude of the fiber optic network. There are hundreds of miles of fiber that MoDOT either owns or owns the right to use. The department purchases and manages the equipment to control the traffic on this network that connects not only hundreds of MoDOT facilities, but also many traffic devices around the state. The fiber optic network is a tremendous asset.

Additionally, the department has around 550 servers on which applications reside. The department maintains and manages hundreds of applications. Ms. Ring shared some of the high impact applications including the traveler information map. This is an application that has been used for years internally to manage roadway conditions, and the traveling public relies on this significantly so that they can get safely to their destination. The transportation management system (TMS) is a suite of applications that was built many years ago to house all things roadway and bridge related. It includes mapping capabilities with location-based data, and many of the department's critical transportation decisions are based off information contained in TMS. The maintenance management system (MMS) is a relatively new application. Becky Allmeroth, Chief Safety and Operations Officer, formed a dedicated team who developed an application designed to provide automation to that section of the organization that was really the least served by technology. MMS is designed to help maintenance leadership make decisions that are fact-based and to make it easier for maintenance crews to do their work. MoDOT Carrier Express is the suite of applications that manages all things motor carrier making it easier to provide services and accomplish the work necessary to provide those services including credentials and permits.

Information Systems has several goals within the division. The division tries very hard to prioritize and align all its work with MoDOT's strategy. Requests for technology are reviewed to ensure they help are going to help the organization achieve its goals. IS aims to build and maintain a sustainable and secure information technology environment. The division uses consultants to efficiently manage workload and

provide specialized expertise to supplement and support department staff. This approach allows the ninety division employees to focus on things that are unique to MoDOT and unique to transportation. The division's goals include to preserve, protect, and fully utilize data. The division always works to build and maintain an engaged workforce.

There are many challenges that go along with working in technology. The most recent challenge has been the pandemic response. Just over a year ago the division was told with very little notice, that most of the organization was going to have to begin to work remotely. Ms. Ring explained with pride, how quickly staff provided thousands of people with the tools and the technology they needed so they could work from home. During the year, the division analyzed and provided collaboration tools. WebEx is an example of a collaboration tool that is being used to conduct meetings including this Commission meeting. Application developers developed an application to track positive COVID cases with heat maps. The division wrote an application to manage all the COVID testing that took place during the pandemic. The division provided a mechanism for all state employees to sign up for vaccination clinics. The division has been very engaged in working through the pandemic, and now is turning its attention to finding solutions for what the department will look like and how it will operate post-pandemic.

Cyber security is always a huge issue when you speak about anything technology. Over the last year, there have been over 15,000 email campaigns that attempted to breach MoDOT's environment through bad code contained in email links or email attachments. The department is fortunate to work closely with the statewide office of cyber security. The division has also recently created and filled a security officer position. Unfortunately, ninety-five percent of successful security breaches are a result of human error, making it a constant battle for the division to address.

The next challenge is constantly evolving technology. From a leadership perspective, it really requires a lot of discipline because what often happens is by the time a business problem is defined, a solution identified and begin implementation, something bigger and better comes along. IS makes sure

that everyone that wants to do anything technology-related puts a cost benefit analysis together and commits to that long-term vision.

It is a huge challenge to recruit and retain quality staff. Technology skill sets have been in high demand for a very long time, and MoDOT has a lot to offer with exciting work and a lot of flexibility. At the end of the day people have families to feed, and so money matters. The division appreciates the Commission's support to address this problem through MoDOT's pay plan. Commissioner Brinkmann thanked Ms. Ring for her presentation and inquired about how long ago was it when the department was still drawing plans by hand. Ms. Ring noted the department began automating some of those manual functions in the early 1990's.

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HIGH PRIORITY UNFUNDED NEEDS

On behalf of the Director, Eric Schroeter, Assistant Chief Engineer; Eric Curtit, Transportation Planning Director; and Frank Miller, Southwest District Planning Manager, presented Missouri's High Priority Unfunded Needs. Missourians have repeatedly established the number one goal for MoDOT is to take care of the existing system; however, many needs still exist that remain unfunded. The Citizen's Guide to Transportation Funding identifies \$825 million of high-priority unfunded annual transportation needs under six categories.

The Department and Commission value the importance of public input and the established planning framework that utilizes Regional Planning Commissions and Metropolitan Planning Organizations to select and prioritize needs and projects. The Commission originally adopted a planning framework policy in 2004, that was revised and updated in 2013, and reaffirmed in 2019. Through the established planning framework policy, MoDOT can collaboratively and strategically work with local officials throughout the state to address unlimited needs with limited resources and involve planning partners in the decision-making process. In 2019, there was going to be possible additional funds for

transportation available. In order to be prepared to receive and use these funds as quickly as possible, the department developed the first High Priority Unfunded Needs List. This list was used to educate transportation leaders and elected officials about transportation needs in Missouri and how additional transportation funds would be used. It also allowed the department to include planning partners in the process that developed the list.

Over the last several months, MoDOT staff worked with nine Metropolitan Planning Organizations and eighteen Regional Planning Commissions throughout the state to develop an updated list of unfunded road and bridge needs. The funding assumption targeted a total of \$2.5 billion for two tiers. Tier one targeted \$500 million and tier two targeted the remaining \$2 billion. The project list that resulted from the process exceeded the targeted amounts, totaling \$2.7 billion statewide. The tier one list totaled \$540 million and the tier two list totaled \$2.2 billion. The list of high-priority unfunded needs that were identified through this collaborative process was shared with the Commission.

The department would like to bring the High Priority Unfunded Needs List to the Commission annually. The list will include multiple tiers of needs. The first tier represents the highest priorities which could be delivered with additional funds in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program timeframe. The second tier represents the highest priorities which could be delivered beyond the horizon of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. The distribution of funds is based upon the third step of the Commission's Funding Allocation policy for flexible funds. Planning partners are an essential element in the process that develops this list. Establishing a process to annually prepare a list of unfunded transportation needs enables the department to be prepared should additional resources become available and continue its collaboration with its planning partners.

On behalf of the Director, Eric Curtit, Transportation Planning Director, recommended the Commission approve the revised Statewide Transportation Improvement Program – Long Range

Transportation Plan policy as indicated below with the green text for new language and red strike through text for deleted language:

Category: STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
Subcategory: Long Range Transportation Plan

LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The Commission recognizes the importance of having a long-term view of the transportation system that identifies challenges and needs that, if addressed, will preserve the system through asset management, and enhance safety and economic development for Missouri. Further, federal regulations require state departments of transportation to develop and maintain long-range transportation plans. The Director is authorized to periodically develop a long-range transportation plan for the State of Missouri in accordance with federal regulations. Such development must include broad input from the citizens of Missouri as well as strategic partners in transportation. It must lay out a clear and concise vision that is supported through public involvement in the development of the document.

Part of the Long Range Transportation Plan includes identifying unfunded transportation needs. The Director is authorized to establish a process to annually prepare a list of unfunded transportation needs. The Director shall implement a high priority unfunded needs process that ensures public involvement in a transparent process that identifies high priority unfunded transportation needs. Public input into this process will be through regional planning commissions, metropolitan planning organizations, and others. Engaging Missourians in this process will culminate in the development of a High Priority Unfunded Needs list that provides citizens an opportunity to determine how transportation funds are spent.

Effective Date: ~~February 6, 2019~~ April 7, 2021
Supersedes Policy Dated: ~~November 7, 2013~~ February 6, 2019
Last Reaffirmed:
Date of Origin: July 8, 1994
Related Commission Minutes: July 8, 1994; November 7, 2013 – Comprehensive Policy Review; February 4, 2015-adopt 325 system; January 6, 2016-rescind adoption of 325 system; February 6, 2019 – comprehensive policy review; April 7, 2021 policy revised to implement a process to develop a list of high priority unfunded needs.

Following discussion and consideration, Commissioner Briscoe moved to approve the changes to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program – Long Range Transportation Plan policy as indicated above, and to approve the 2021 High Priority Unfunded Needs list. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Boatwright and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the motion.

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BUSINESS ISSUES

SUPPLEMENTAL SIGNING PROGRAM CONTRACT

On behalf of the Director, Nicole Hood, State Highway Safety and Traffic Engineer, reported the Commission’s contract to administer the supplemental signing program will expire on June 30, 2021. Supplemental guide signing displays the names of specific sites on various forms of highway signs. The

supplemental signing programs which are currently administered by MoDOT include logo signs, traffic generator signing for private tourist oriented direction sites (TODS), college signing, state and federal agency owned and operated recreational and/or historic site signing, welcome center affiliate signing and signing for state correctional centers. There is no cost to the Commission under this contract. The Supplemental Guide Sign Program is fee based and costs associated with the program are covered by the fees collected.

MoDOT recently bid a new proposal for a three-year contract with an optional two-year renewal. The department received only one response from Missouri Logos. The department recommended the Commission authorize the Director, Deputy Director/Chief Engineer, and Assistant Chief Engineer to execute the contract, subject to approval as to form by the Chief Counsel's Office. Via approval of the consent agenda, the Commission unanimously approved the department's recommendation.

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STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (STIP)

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS FOR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

On behalf of the Director, Travis Koestner, State Design Engineer, presented the following recommendations pertaining to bids received on federal aid and state highway and bridge projects during the past month. He noted Calls B03, C05, and F07 have local funding, as noted in Table I below, and the department received all the necessary concurrences.

Mr. Koestner recommended: (1) Award of contracts to the lowest responsive bidders for bids received at the March 19, 2021, letting, as recommended and noted in Table I below. (2) Rejection of bids received on Call H02 due to excessive bids per Section 102.15 of the Missouri Standard Specifications for Highway Construction, as recommended and noted in Table II below

**Table I
Award of Contracts
March 19, 2021, Bid Opening**

Call No.	Route	County	Job No.	Bid Amount	Non-Contractual Costs	Contractor	Description
A01	I-29	Various	J0I3007B	\$1,041,213.77	\$0.00	Herzog Contracting Corp.	Job Order Contract for Concrete Pavement Repair
A02	I-35	Various	J0I3007D	\$1,041,213.77	\$0.00	Herzog Contracting Corp.	Job Order Contract for Concrete Pavement Repair
B01 ^	15	Scotland	J2P3089	\$2,424,765.21	\$0.00	Bleigh Construction Company	Bridge Replacement
			J3P0568				
B02 ^	C	Lewis	J2S3148	\$1,698,197.13	\$0.00	Bleigh Construction Company	Bridge Replacement
	K		J3S2202				
B03 *	2nd Street	Lincoln	J2S3359	\$83,577.40	\$0.00	Widel, Inc.	Bridge Removal
C01	V	Lafayette	J3S3105	\$1,248,911.05	\$0.00	Emery Sapp & Sons, Inc.	ADA Improvements
	W		J3S3157				Pavement Resurfacing
	V		J3S3146				
C02	53rd Ter	Clay	J4S3386	\$2,376,874.20	\$0.00	Emery Sapp & Sons, Inc.	Bridge Replacement
	I-435		J4I3436				Drainage and Pavement Replacement
C04	J	Cass	J4S3286	\$545,283.25	\$0.00	Widel, Inc.	Bridge Deck Replacement
C05**	7	Jackson	J4S3298	\$549,763.52	\$0.00	Gunter Construction Company	ADA Improvements
C06	7	Cass, Jackson	J4S3326	\$1,338,697.87	\$0.00	Leavenworth Excavating & Equipment Company, Inc.	Intersection Improvements
C07	350	Jackson	J4S3338	\$313,821.05	\$0.00	Gunter Construction Company	Intersection, Signal and ADA Improvements
C09	70	Jackson	J4M0259B	\$84,928.65	\$0.00	Millgoal Enterprises II, LLC	Mowing, Landscaping, and Litter Pick-up
D01 ^	I-44	Laclede	J5I3324	\$502,424.00	\$0.00	Kozeny-Wagner, Inc.	Bridge Rehabilitation and Guardrail
D02	C	Crawford	J5S3265	\$677,273.10	\$0.00	Gershenson Construction Co., Inc.	Bridge Replacement
F01	Various	Various	J0I3007K	\$612,900.00	\$0.00	R. V. Wagner, Inc.	Job Order Contract for Concrete Pavement Repair
F02	I-270	St Louis	J6M0284	\$293,270.44	\$0.00	KCI Construction Company	Bridge Rehabilitation
F03	AH	Franklin	J6M3410	\$244,120.00	\$0.00	Concrete Strategies, LLC	Bridge Girder Repair
F04	Various	Various	J6P2421B	\$766,125.00	\$0.00	R. V. Wagner, Inc.	Job Order Contract for Concrete Pavement Repair
F05	Various	Various	J6Q3469	\$1,327,654.32	\$0.00	Gerstner Electric, Inc.	ITS Improvements
			J6Q3473				
F07 ***	OR 70	St Charles	J6S3408	\$2,956,107.23	\$0.00	Gershenson Construction Co., Inc.	Intersection Improvements

Call No.	Route	County	Job No.	Bid Amount	Non-Contractual Costs	Contractor	Description
G01 ^	EE	McDonald	J7P3190F	\$1,634,285.00	\$69.20	Hartman and Company, Inc.	Bridge Replacement
G03	7	Benton	J7P3464	\$1,828,729.77	\$0.00	APAC-Central, Inc.	Resurface
G04	60,413	Greene	J8P3129	\$1,029,286.70	\$0.00	D & E Plumbing and Heating, Inc.	ADA Improvements
H01	160	Ozark	J9P3458	\$4,800,000.00	\$0.00	Pace Construction Company	Resurface and Adding Shoulders
H04 ^	C	Madison	J9S3213	\$2,294,000.00	\$0.00	Pace Construction Company	Bridge Replacement
H05	Various	Various	J9S3638	\$148,125.00	\$0.00	Putz Construction, LLC	Job Order Contract for ADA Improvements
			TOTAL:	\$31,861,547.43	\$69.20		

^Focus on Bridges Program

*Call B03 – Funding by City of Moscow Mills – \$20,000.00
 Funding by Lincoln County – \$20,000.00

**Call C05 – Funding by City of Blue Springs – \$549,763.52

***Call F07 – Funding by City of Lake Saint Louis – \$2,466,107.23

**Table II
 Rejection of Bids
 March 19, 2021, Bid Opening**

Call	Route	County	Job No.	Description
H02	Various	Various	J9P3632	Job Order Contract for Asphalt Pavement Repair

Commission Consideration and Action

After consideration, and upon motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Boatwright the Commission took the following action with abstentions noted below.

1. Awarded contracts to the lowest responsive bidders for bids received at the March 19, 2021, bid opening, as recommended and noted in Table I above. Non-contractual costs for these projects are shown on the above tabulation.
2. Rejected the bids received on Call H02 due to excessive bids per Section 102.15 of the Missouri Standard Specifications for Highway Construction, as recommended and noted in Table II above.
3. Authorized the Director, Chief Engineer, Chief Financial Officer, or Assistant Chief Engineer to execute the contracts awarded above.

Commissioner Brinkmann abstained from Calls F02 and F03.

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APPROVAL OF PLANS FOR CONDEMNATION

On behalf of the Director, Travis Koestner, State Design Engineer, recommended the Commission approve the following detailed project plans, approved by the Chief Engineer, for filing as necessary for the condemnation of right of way.

<u>County</u>	<u>Route</u>	<u>Job Number</u>
St. Louis	I-270	J6I3020B

In accordance with Section 227.050 RSMo, the Commission via approval of the consent agenda, approved the detailed project plans for the above noted projects and directed they be filed as necessary for the condemnation of right of way.

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-- **REPORTS** --

REPORTS

The Commission received the following written reports.

MEDICAL AND LIFE INSURANCE PLAN: MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL MEDICAL AND LIFE INSURANCE PLAN REPORT

On behalf of the Director, Ashley Halford, Assistant to the Chief Administrative Officer, and Medical and Life Insurance Plan Board Chairman, provided financial and claims data reports for the period July 2020 through December 2020, and for the most recent five calendar years, to update the Commission on the cost and utilization of the Medical and Life Insurance Plan.

Ms. Halford reviewed the number of claims processed monthly. There was an increase of 9.5 percent in the total number of claims processed when compared to the calendar year 2019. There was an increase of 23 percent in Medical claims, and a decrease of 8.1 percent in pharmacy claims processed. The increase in medical claims is expected after the first part of the year saw lower claims as a result of office closures due to COVID-19 and procedures being delayed until later into the year.

A review of the claim costs indicates an increase of 6.3 percent in total claims expense when compared to calendar year 2019. Medical claim costs increased 5.7 percent while pharmacy claims increased 8 percent when compared to the same time frame in 2019. The specialty drug cost has increased to 57.09 percent over the past calendar year, while the volume continues to account for only 1 percent of all pharmacy claims.

The total operating revenues increased 1.8 percent compared to 2019. This is primarily the result of there being no change in medical premiums in 2020, a decrease in optional life insurance rates, and medical claims coming in just below projected trends. The medical plan had a net income of \$8,444,536 in 2020; resulting in a net position of \$51,225,249 as of December 31, 2020.

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MODOT BRIEFING REPORT

Patrick McKenna, Director, provided to the Commission the written monthly Issue Briefs that are sent from the department to the Governor since the previous MoDOT Briefing Report. There were no briefing reports for the past month.

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FINANCIAL - BUDGET - REPORTS – YEAR-TO-DATE, FINANCIAL REPORT PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2021

Todd Grosvenor, Financial Services Director, submitted a written financial report for fiscal year to date February 28, 2021, with budget and prior year comparisons.

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CONSULTANT SERVICES CONTRACT REPORT

Travis Koestner, State Design Engineer, submitted a written report of consultant contracts executed in the month of February 2021, for both engineering and non-engineering related projects. The department utilizes consultants to efficiently manage workload and provide specialized expertise to supplement and support department staff. Expenditures for consultant services are funded from the Commission approved Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and MoDOT Operating Budget. There were 379 active contracts held by individual engineering consultant firms prior to February 1, 2021. Five engineering consultant services contracts were executed in February 2021, for a total of \$727,899. There was one non-engineering consultant contract executed in February 2021, for a total cost of \$27,852.

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By unanimous consensus of all members present, the meeting of the Commission adjourned.

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The Mission of the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission is to:

- Represent the citizens of Missouri pursuant to the Constitution by providing independent and nonpartisan governance of the Missouri Department of Transportation; and
- Establish policies, exercise oversight, and ensure accountability in developing and maintaining a world class transportation system in Missouri which fosters safety and economic development.

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