**Call to Order:**
The meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m.

**Introductions/Roll Call:**
Introductions were made. The announcement was made that Dominic Pavone is now officially the Bay County Transportation Planner/GIS Manger and no longer the acting manager. Congratulations Dominic! Interviews for the Transportation Planner/GIS Technician have been completed and a job offer is pending.

**Those Present Were:**

Laura Ogar, Bay County Environmental Affairs and Community Development Department; Dominic Pavone, BCATS Staff; Jim Lillo, BCRC; Brian Stark, MDOT; Cody Bodrie, EMCOG; Eric Sprague, BMTA; Terry Moultane, City of Bay City, Glenn Rowley, Bangor Township Supervisor, Terri Close, Hampton Township Supervisor, and; Cyndi Gaul, Administrative Assistant, Bay County Environmental Affairs and Community Development Department.

**Minutes from December 22, 2022 BCATS Policy Meeting**

It was moved by Moultane, seconded by Ogar, approve the minutes from the December 22, 2022 BCATS Policy Committee Meeting. Lillo had the following amendments to the meeting minutes:

* Page 1 – Under EMCOG Update the font is in red and should be in black print.
* Page 3 – Under 2045 Long Range Plan Project Update the second paragraph the last two lines are not correct and should be removed.
* Page 3 – Under the MDOT Project Updates Line 11–13 is printed in orange and is incorrect about the bridge rehabilitation and needs to be removed.
* Page 4 – Under the Bay County Road Commission Project Updates line 3 is incorrect as the BCRC has not purchased Bob’s Bar since purchase is contingent upon the Environmental Assessment Study.

A motion was made by Moultane, seconded by Ogar, to approve the minutes from the December 22, 2022 BCATS Policy Committee Meeting as amended. Motion passed unanimously with above amendments.

**Public Comment**
There was no public comment brought before the committee.

**Legislative Update:**

The FY2022 funding will be changing as there are some new funding sources available to small MPOs. The new Carbon Reduction Funding will be more restrictive than the Flexible Funding. Bay Metro Transit Authority (BMTA) funding was done through a continuing resolution and they are still waiting to find out what the 2022 funding will be.

**EMCOG Update:**
There was no EMCOG updates brought before the committee.

**BCATS Public Hearing on 2020-2023 TIP Amendment/Administrative Modification:**

There were no amendments or administrative modifications brought before the committee.

**Approval of BCATS 2020-2023 TIP Amendment/Administrative Modification:**
There was no committee approval required as there were no amendments or administrative modifications brought before the committee.

**2045 Long Range Plan (LRP) Update**
Updates are still being made to the 2045 Long Range Plan. BCATS staff is moving forward as they continue to work toward meeting the existing deadlines. With both the 2045 LRP and 2023-2026 TIP deadlines coming up, staff is working on both documents simultaneously. Please let Dominic Pavone know if you have any additional project updates for the 2045 Long Range Plan. Pavone may be asking for clarification of projects over the coming weeks. The City of Bay City has removed two jobs from the LRP Project list as they have received alternative project funding. The jobs were updated and they show up as abandoned in JobNet.

**FY 2023-2026 TIP Update**

Staff is working on the FY2023-2026 TIP updates and on the 2045 LRP simultaneously. Pavone is working to meet the deadline, though being short staffed has been making this difficult.

**Project Updates:**

**Transportation Planning Program:**

There is still 2022 funding available under the COVID-19 Funds in the amount of $300,000 that can be used for construction only, it can’t be used for PE. If there are projects that can utilize the funds, please let Dominic Pavone know. The BCRC didn’t think there would be enough time to get anything in for this funding before the end of the year. It would be nice to get Ridge Road repaired as the road is part Bay City and part Hampton Township. The cemetery fence keeps getting hit due to the road curve and it would be nice to fix this problem. Ridge Road isn’t in the TIP so it would need to be programmed. Pavone will check with the City of Bay City to see if they have a project that can use it. He will also check with the City of Essexville to see if they might be able to utilize any of the COVID-19 funding for the Caroline Street Project (Borton – Thomas). A re-pavement project will be coming up for the boat launch off Patterson Road and also on Lighthouse Lane, the road that leads to the Saginaw River Rear Range Lighthouse. The Bay County Middlegrounds Contamination Remediation Project will be moving forward as DOW Chemical wants the project done by the end of this year. The Dow funded remediation was required by the EPA for the Dow Contamination at this site and an EPA project manager will oversee the work. Since there will be large trucks hauling out the contaminated soil and damaging the road, Dow Chemical is required to rebuild the road. Ogar will forward the contacts she has for this project to the BCRC and the City of Bay City so they can find out the exact dates of the remediation project. The DNR State Park renovation will be utilizing COVID-19 funds that were received for the Bay City State Park. This will be a large project including a complete re-do of the Bay City State Park campground, including drainage improvements, and a re-alignment of the Bay City State Park entranceway. The Bay City State Park Day Use Area will also be seeing improvements and upgrades, including a re-configuration and removal of parking spaces. There was discussion about having a pedestrian bridge over State Park Drive for safer access from the campground to the day use area. There was also discussion about installing a Hawk system out at the cross walk.

**Bay County Road Commission (BCRC):**

The BCRC is still waiting for the Environmental Assessment for soil testing Bob’s Bar located at the M-15/22nd Street Intersection. There were no underground tanks at the site. An appraisal of the property hasn’t been done yet. It would be nice to have the road work completed at this crossroad before the signal project takes place. There is a lot of coordination needed to ensure the project can safely move forward. The South Euclid (Hotchkiss – Salzburg) Project will go out for bid next week. Michigan Sugar is paying for the rail road crossings since their employees have to drive over them to get to work. Everything will be ripped out except for the sanitary sewer. This will be a $2.5M project. The first stage of the Midland Road Project has an April 2022 let. All the rural task force projects have been obligated.

**Bay Metro Transit Authority (BMTA):**There was a meeting with MBS Airport staff to find out how the MBS Airport can work with public transit and determine what role they can play in future economic impacts. The MBS Airport is interested in hosting a terminal for public transit. BMTA is a member of an automated consortium that wants to test automated buses in the area. The automated buses are very expensive and there have been some issues with them not working correctly. The amount of money received in bus fare doesn’t make an automated bus cost effective. The automated buses are still in the testing phase. There are some questions about whether or not the BMTA Buses will need to pay a toll on the Liberty Bridge. BMTA has been good at getting funding to cover repairs and structure upgrades which have benefitted public transit. Right now it’s not clear how the toll bridge will work for public transit.

**Bay City:**

There were no project updates to report at this time. The Liberty Bridge is still being worked on and the bridge is open to two-way traffic along one side of the bridge while construction is being one on the other side.

**MDOT:**

The Westbound US-10 Project (Standish Connector) is the main focus project right now. Staff met with business in the area to discuss the impact of local traffic with the new round about. The Garfield Road Project is moving forward and will be done in 2026. The Parish Road Bridge is still out. All bridge projects are coming in very high due to the increased cost of materials. As of last week, asphalt was coming in at 3% higher in price.

**Other/New Business:**

***BCATS Monthly Meetings***With staff working on two big BCATS documents, the 2045 LRP and the FY2023-2026 TIP, Pavone suggested that the BCATS committees meet every month until the documents are completed. The BCATS Policy Committee was supportive of having monthly meetings. BMTA offered to host meetings in their large meeting room.

**Next Meeting:**

The next regularly scheduled BCATS Policy Committee Meeting will be Wednesday, ***April 20, 2022*** at 1:30 p.m.

**Special Meeting**
There will most likely be a BCATS Policy Committee Meeting on **March 16, 2022** at 1:30 p.m. Pavone will send out a meeting notice for this March meeting. The new Transportation Planner/GIS Technician will be onboard so they can be introduced at the March BCATS meeting.

As there were no further business, a motion was made by Rowley, seconded by Moultane, to adjourn the February 16, 2022 BCATS Policy Committee meeting at 2:37 p.m. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dominic Pavone

Dominic Pavone

Bay County Transportation Planner/GIS Manager

 *Transcribed by C. Gaul*