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

**Introductions/Roll Call:**
Introductions were made.

**Those Present Were:**

Laura Ogar, Bay County Environmental Affairs and Community Development Department; Dominic Pavone, BCATS Staff; Jim Lillo, BCRC; Anita Boughner, MDOT; Terry Moultane, City of Bay City; Rachel Phillips, City of Bay City; Glenn Rowley, Bangor Township Supervisor, Terri Close, Hampton Township Supervisor; James Deweerdt, BCATS Staff, and; Cyndi Gaul, Environmental Affairs and Community Development Department. Brian Stark, MDOT via phone.

**Minutes from February 16, 2022 BCATS Policy Meeting**

It was moved by Moultane, seconded by Rowley, to approve the minutes from the February 16, 2022 BCATS Policy Committee Meeting. Motion passed unanimously with above amendments.

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

**Legislative Update**

The Federal Buy Out Bill (Michigan Senate Bill 465/466) was signed by the Governor on Monday, April 18th. These funds have been blocked out to be used to fund state projects through MDOT. The funding from the Buy Out Bill requires projects be TIP approved projects with one funding source to qualify for eligibility. The Rural Task Force Flex Funds will provide a “buy out” for locally funded projects using the funding exchange of 90 cents on every dollar. The $25M funding will become available October 1, 2022. Local Obligation is at 96% and Rural Obligation is at 60%. Repurposed Earmarks are coming out of a different funding source then regular Earmarks.

**Lafayette Street Bridge Project**
The MDOT Lafayette Street Bridge (M-13/M-84) project is scheduled for 2023, though if funding becomes available it may be moved to 2022. This bascule bridge located in Bay City was tabled as a future year project due to the rising cost of materials; however, this project has been moved up to 2023.

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

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

The Public Hearing was called to order at 1:43 p.m. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to discuss changes to the 2020-2023 TIP. Pavone provided a handout of the FY 2020-2023 TIP Amendment/Administrative Modification for review and recommendation to the Policy Committee for approval. Even though there are projects with the same number, they are separate jobs. The following is the TIP Amendment/Administrative Modification requested:

**FY 2022:**

1. Phase Budget change of equal or over 24% for the regional traffic safety job number 205858 in Saginaw and Bay Counties.
2. STP-Flex Small MPO funding reallocation for Road Rehabilitation job number 215514 E John St (S Wenona to S Walnut) for HMA Rehabilitation
3. ST funding removal for Road Rehabilitation job number 215515 N Grant St (9th to 3rd) for HMA Rehabilitation
4. Phase budget change of equal or over 24% for Road Rehabilitation job number 215557 Saginaw St (14th to 10th) for HMA Rehabilitation

**FY 2023:**

1. Phase Budget change of equal or over 24% for Bridge Replacement job number 202144 over US-10 (Mackinaw Road)
2. State to Federal Funding change for Roadside Facilities project number 213224 at the Bay City Rest Area for building replacement work.
3. GPA over 25% for Bridge Rehabilitation job number 204851 on US-10 for overlay- shallow.

The Public Hearing on the TIP Amendments and Administrative Modifications to the BCATS 2020-2023 TIP was adjourned at 1:49 p.m.

**Approval of BCATS 2020-2023 TIP Amendment/Administrative Modification:**
The regular BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was reconvened at 1:49 p.m. A brief discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Moultane, seconded by Lillo, to approve the FY 2020-2023 TIP Amendments as listed above. Motion Passed Unanimously.

**Approval of the FY 2023-2026 TIP Local Project Prioritization and Selection**

Pavone provided a list of the BCATS 2023-26 Local Project list for review and approval. There was a discussion about the project list. The BCATS Policy Committee decided to table approval of the FY2023-26 TIP Local Project Prioritization and Selection list until the next meeting.

The City of Bay City is in the process of applying for grant funding. The funding eligibility for these grant funds requires the project to be in the TIP. It was recommended that the City of Bay City write up the project for the TIP and make sure to list the regionally significant project as 100% locally funded. The funding source can be changed later. The Bay County Road Commission wanted BCATS staff to make sure that the State Park Project is in the TIP.

There was discussion about the Carbon Fund which was set up to provide funding for projects that will help reduce our carbon footprint. Funding is being provided for non-motorized type projects. Lillo and Pavone will meet to discuss how to allocate the Carbon Fund Projects.

**2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for Long Range Planning Update:**
BCATS staff has continued work on the 2045 MTP/LRP and it is still in draft format. The MTP/LRP is due to MDOT by August 31, 2022. There will be a public comment period for the MTP/LRP coming up in June. Boughner of MDOT wanted to make sure that the MTP/LRP goes out for public comment and that the public comments have been received for discussion at the July BCATS meetings. It is expected that the MTP/LRP will be approved at the July 20, 2022 BCATS Policy Committee meeting.

There was discussion regarding the Salt Brine Mining Facility is being constructed in Bay City with access coming from the Essexville. The state approved the use of the vacant brownfield property located on North Water Street (by the old Hooligan’s) as the site of the new mining facility. The City of Bay City isn’t aware of any projects taking place to enhance the roads around this project. This mineral extraction company’s investment in Bay City will bring more jobs into the area.

Laurel Joseph, Director of Transportation Planning for the Grand Valley Metro Council based in Grand Rapids, sent out information about the designation of critical freight and rural corridors. There was discussion about designating the Port Fisher inland port off the Saginaw River as a critical freight corridor. It will require coordination with the local port terminals and finding out if they are willing to invest in this type of project.

**FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Update**

Pavone is finalizing the TIP for an internal review. The public comment period and open house press release will be in the Sunday, April 24th edition of the Bay City Times. The 30-day public comment period will take place from April 25, 2022 through May 24, 2022. A Public Open House is scheduled for Wednesday, May 4, 2022 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in room #128 in the Bay County Community Center located at 800 John F. Kennedy Drive, Bay City, MI 48706. Pavone will send out the draft copy of the FY2023-26 TIP to the BCATS Tech and Policy Committees next week when during the public comment period.

**Unified Work Program (UWP) Update**
BCATS staff has continued work on the UWP and finishing up the indirect costs and other budgeting aspects of the document. Reimbursement request estimates, salaries, and net costs need to be submitted to Pavone for this report. Lillo mentioned that he has provided this information in the past and can work with Pavone to provide what he needs. Stark is setting up a meeting with Pavone for Friday, April 22nd to go over the UWP document.

**Project Updates:**

**Environmental Affairs and Community Development Department**Ogar announced that the permit for the Linwood Scenic Access Site Project has been approved.

**Bay City:**

The Wenona Street Project hasn’t started yet due to the changes being made by Consumers Energy along that corridor. At some point during this project there will be a closure of the west-bound one-way M-25/Jenny Street. There are several curb, water, and gutter projects taking place throughout Bay City including John Street, Midland Street, Water Street, and Grant Street. Bay City has a list of the construction taking place along with the timelines for construction on their website. The City of Bay City has submitted a non-motorized grant application for the rehabilitation of the Crooked Bridge pedestrian bridge located in Bigelow Park.

**MDOT:**

There were no project updates to report.

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

The South Euclid (Hotchkiss – Salzburg) Project is on hold while Consumers Energy is doing work on this corridor. This project is expected to begin May 24, 2022. There will be a Public Open House on April 26, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bay City Chambers. The BCRC has several mill and fill projects throughout Bay County.

**Bay Metro Transit Authority (BMTA):**There were no project updates to report.

**Other/New Business:**

***BCATS Monthly Meetings***Through August, there will be monthly Technical and Policy Meetings as there is a need for mapping the location of local projects and detours for the on an online map.

**New Meeting Room Location**Due to conflicting schedules, the BCATS meetings will no longer be meeting in the 3rd floor conference room. The BCATS meetings starting in May thru December 2022 will be held in the 2nd floor Conference/Break Room in the office of the Department on Aging located in the Bay County Building, 515 Center Avenue, Bay City, Michigan. Pavone will be sending out updated meeting notices to the BCATS Committees.

**Next Meeting:**

The next regularly scheduled BCATS Policy Committee Meeting will be Wednesday, ***May 18, 2022*** at 1:30 p.m. The meeting room has been changed to the 2nd Floor Conference/Break Room located in the Department of Aging in the Bay County Building, 515 Center Avenue, Bay City, Michigan.

As there were no further business, a motion was made by Ogar, seconded by Boughner, to adjourn the April 20, 2022 BCATS Policy Committee meeting at 2:28 p.m. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dominic Pavone

Dominic Pavone

Bay County Transportation Planner/GIS Manager

 *Transcribed by C. Gaul*