



Minutes for May 30, 2008 meeting at 8:00 A.M.  
Illinois Municipal League Building, 500 E. Monroe, Springfield, Illinois.

**Opening:**

The regular meeting of the IL MPO Advisory Council was called to order at 8:00 at the Illinois Municipal League.

**I. APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Sims and seconded by Mr. Soltau to approve the minutes dated April 4, 2008. Motion passed.

**II. FINANCIAL REPORT**

The financial report produced by ILARC was presented. Six month dues for the period January 1, 2008 – June 30, 2008 have been invoiced and collected from all MPO's. Invoices for full year dues for the period July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009 will be sent soon. Mr. Moore commended Ms. Murray of ILARC for the financial statements. A motion was made by Mr. Soltau to accept the financial statements and seconded by Mr. Blair. Motion passed. No further discussion.

**III. INTERIM CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

*Nominating Committee Report* – A motion was made by Mr. Sims to adopt the report, which nominates Cameron Moore to serve as Chairperson and Terry Kohlbuss as Secretary Treasurer for the July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009 program and fiscal year, and seconded by Mrs. Bulat. Mr. Moore opens the floor for other nominations. Hearing none, a motion was made by Mr. Soltau to close the nominations from the floor, seconded by Mr. Ernst. Motion passed. The Nominating Committee report passed unanimously.

*Operating Guidelines* - The operating guidelines will be updated from MPO Caucus to MPO Advisory Council. Mr. Blair suggested a graphic representation of the task items. A motion was made by Mr. Russell to accept the operating guidelines with the stipulated change to MPO Advisory Council and seconded by Mr. Vanvill. Motion passed.

*National Planning Organizations* – There was discussion last August to pursue a statewide membership to NARC. Mr. Nunes indicated that federal funds are allowable to purchase this membership and IDOT is willing to use federal funds to purchase a statewide NARC membership for the MPO's and RPC's. IDOT requests that ILMPOAC share legislative alerts with their office. Florida and Texas have statewide membership. Florida may have utilized an in-kind match. The group recommended ILMPOAC staff reach out to Florida to learn how they structured the local match. Mr. Moore will put together a recommendation to IDOT to purchase a statewide membership to NARC. A motion was made by Mr. VanMill to send a letter of request to IDOT purchase a statewide membership to NARC, provided there is no cash match required of the MPO's and RPC's, seconded by Mr. Sims. Motion passed.

#### **IV. STAFF REPORT**

*Unified Work Plan* - Mr. Sims expressed the need to specify deliverables and timelines in the UWP. IDOT recommended technical changes to the document. Mr. Blair asked if ILMPOAC should take a position on reauthorization and whether this issue should be reflected in the UWP. Mr. Moore indicated ILMPOAC plans on producing policy papers in response to state and federal legislation proposals. Most MPO's have provided input on the UWP and will do additional outreach to remaining MPO's. Ms. Perales will develop a timeline and distribute to members. The plan is to have a board meeting via a conference call in late June to approve the final UWP for the period of July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009.

*Summer Work Plan* - Ms. Perales presented the tasks to be addressed over the next sixty days. Ms. Perales discussed the congressional transportation briefing she attended earlier in the month. Future transportation funding options were discussed. Mr. Moore stated Colorado and Oregon have innovative transportation funding programs. Mr. Nunes indicated FHWA may dramatically reduce the number of programs and condense them into functional modes. This was one of the recommendations from the Revenue Policy Study Commission. He plans to forward the information to ILMPOAC for distribution.

*Website Outline* - Ms. Perales presented the outline. Mr. Sims expressed the need to keep costs down and utilize existing templates at this time. He also requested a link to each individual MPO's. There was also a request to ensure a link from ILARC to ILMPOAC. Some felt that both websites should have a consistent look.

#### **V. OLD BUSINESS**

*Rescission Letter* - The letter from the ILMPOAC to the entire Illinois congressional delegation on May 16 was presented.

*Corridor Grant Planning Program Letter* - A draft was presented to the group and will be sent out June 5.

#### **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

*HB 5152* - CMAP and IDOT are opposed to the bill which specifies what percentage of transportation dollars will be spent in specific parts of the state. Concerns were expressed that this legislation would prevent IDOT from spending funds where they may be most needed. Mr. Sims stressed his concern about opposing legislation at this time. HB5152 is sitting in the rules committee in the Senate and will most likely not be presented for a vote in committee in the near future.

*Travel Demand Model* - This endeavor will be a cooperative effort between Champaign and the University of Illinois at Chicago. Mr. Moore advised the members that someone from his MPO staff will be contacting each MPO to enlist their participation in this project. Ms. Bulat commended the effort and stated there is a peer review in Iowa. The model review lasts of a couple of days and they utilize both transCAD and transPLAN. Mr. Sims stated the conversion process plan is time consuming. Mr. Nunes stated non-TMA's are able to participate. Mr. Soltau would like to maintain a model in house. Members expressed the need for a round table discussion on this topic at the fall planning conference this year.

*FY09 PL/5303 Program* - Mr. Nunes stated IDOT would like to streamline payments on reimbursements. Direct deposit is available and monies can be received in 30 days

*Safe Route to Schools* - Ms. Holt of IDOT presented the application process for SRS. She stated there is a new process and the deadline is October 31 at 5 p.m. There is a reduction from \$400,000 to \$250,000 per awardee this year. Most municipalities and school districts use these monies for radar signs. There is a maximum of three projects on the funding cap. Statewide training will be available June and July strategically throughout the state to ensure accessibility. Members can also sign up for the SRS email newsletter. Ms. Holt strongly suggested an engineer review the plans submitted to the SRS program.

*Other New Business* - Mr. Nunes indicated that 5310 applications are due June 4. JARC and New Freedom did not have a large application submittal, so IDOT wants do a 3 year solicitation. Ms. Bulat did not have a problem with multi-year projects. Monies will need awarded by October of next year so there is no possibility of losing 2007 dollars.

## **IX. CALENDAR**

Ms. Bulat stated the next ILARC annual meeting which is scheduled for August 7-8 in Mattoon at the Comfort Suites. Tentatively, the ILMPOAC will have a meeting on August 7 in the afternoon prior to the ILARC meeting.

### **Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m. by Cameron Moore.

Minutes submitted by: Marta Perales

Approved by: Cameron Moore

### **ATTENDEES:**

#### **Metropolitan Planning Organizations:**

Cameron Moore, Champaign County Regional Planning Commission; Denise Bulat, Bi-State Regional Councils; Jerry Blair, East West Council of Governments; Paul Russell, Mclean County Regional Planning Commission; Norm Sims, Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission; Mike VanMill and Mike Lamney Kankakee Area Transportation Study; Bob Soltau, Stateline MPO (Beloit); Steve Ernst, Rockford Metropolitan Planning Organization. *Teleconference:* Maggie Martino, Peoria Tri-County Regional Planning Commission; Brian Dickson, DeKalb-Sycamore Area Transportation Study.

#### **Other attendees:**

Jon-Paul Kohler, Federal Highway Administration, Les Nunes, IDOT, Bureau Chief of Programming & Planning, Chandra Ravada, Dubuque MPO, Megan Holt, IDOT, Marta Perales, IL MPO Coordinator.