

Disclaimer: These interim minutes of the Western Connecticut Council of Governments (“WestCOG” or “COG”) are released and “available for public inspection” and “posted” on WestCOG’s website, in accordance with C.G.S. §1-225(a). Said interim minutes are subject to review and approval by the COG members, after which time the final approved minutes will be available and posted in accordance with laws. Accordingly, the interim minutes may contain inaccuracies and do not reflect the final action of the COG.

INTERIM Council Minutes

for the 01/20/2022 Meeting

Held via Zoom Webinar

Chairman Rudolph Marconi

Treasurer Julia Pemberton - Secretary Lynne Vanderslice

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Bethel..... First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker
Bridgewater..... First Selectman Curtis Read
Brookfield First Selectman Tara Carr
Danbury Mayor Dean Esposito
Darien First Selectman Monica McNally
Greenwich..... Selectman Lauren Rabin
New Canaan..... First Selectman Kevin Moynihan
New Fairfield First Selectman Pat Del Monaco
New Milford..... Mayor Pete Bass
Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal
Norwalk..... Absent
Redding..... First Selectman Julia Pemberton
Ridgefield..... First Selectman Rudy Marconi
Sherman..... First Selectman Don Lowe
Stamford Mayor Caroline Simmons
Weston..... Absent
Westport..... Absent
Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice

OTHERS ATTENDING

HARTransit CEO Rick Schreiner, Kathryn Faraci from CTDOT, NTD CEO Kimberlee Morton, WestCOG staff members in attendance were Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Kevin Mahoney, Todd Fontanella, Nicole Sullivan, Kristin Floberg, Betsy Paynter, Victoria Ricks, Cricket Carpenter, and Executive Director Francis Pickering. Also in attendance were DRS Commissioner and Gov. Lamont’s Sr. Infrastructure Advisor Mark Boughton, Tracey Alston from Eversource, James Michel from Greenwich, Erika Lindeberg from Traffic Operations and Safety Engineering Division, Natasha Fatu from the Office of Traffic Operations and Safety Engineering, Jennifer Carrier from FHWA, Guyauth Gabbidon from

HARTransit, Dan Gundersen Senior Vice President of Camoin Assoc., Paige Lawrence from CTrides, State of CT Environmental Analyst Bruce Wittchen and Mariah Okrongly.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 by Chairman Rudy Marconi.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: No members of the public offered comment when asked to do so.

ACTION ITEMS:

Infrastructure Discussion with Commissioner Boughton: Commissioner and Governor Lamont's Sr. Infrastructure Advisor Mark Boughton provided an overview. There was no action required.

Presentation and Adoption of Strategic Vision and Plan: Dan Gundersen, Vice President of Camoin Associates provided a presentation of the Strategic Vision and Plan. To allow the newly elected CEO's time to review the plan, there was no vote. Comments will be submitted no later than two weeks following the meeting, with the Plan on the February meeting agenda for approval.

Approval of December 15th, 2021 Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe and seconded by New Milford Mayor Pete Bass, the minutes of the December 15th, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved.

Approval of December 23rd, 2021 Special Meeting minutes: After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Monica McNally and seconded by Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice, the minutes of the December 23rd 2021 Special meeting were unanimously approved.

Election of Officers: WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering introduced the nominating committees' recommendations. Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi to serve as Chair, Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton to serve as Co-Chair, Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice as Treasurer, New Canaan First Selectman Kevin Moynihan as Secretary, with Bethel First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker and Darien First Selectman Monica McNally to serve as Members at Large. After review and on a motion made by New Milford Mayor Pete Bass and Seconded by Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, the Election of the officers was unanimously approved.

Quarterly Financial Report: Treasurer Julia Pemberton provided a review. After review and on a motion made by Bethel First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker and seconded by Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice, the Quarterly Financial Report was unanimously approved.

2022 Policy Priorities: Francis provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Bethel First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker and seconded by Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice, the 2022 WestCOG Policy Priorities were unanimously approved.

Agriculture and Forestry Grant: Francis provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe and seconded by Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton, the Agriculture and Forestry Grant was unanimously approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Legislative Luncheon: Francis provided an overview.

Broadband RFP: Francis provided an update.

OTHER BUSINESS: No Other business was discussed.

Next Meeting: Legislative, MPO & COG Meeting February 17th 2022

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion made by Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton and seconded by Bethel First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker, it was voted to unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 2:12pm.