

MINUTES OF THE 7/6/10 SCCOG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
SCCOG Office, Norwich, CT

Present: Richard Matters, Robert Congdon, Dan Steward, Paul Formica, Mark Oefinger,
Thomas Sparkman

Staff: James Butler, Richard Guggenheim

Chairman Matters called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1. FY 2010-11 Local Road Accident Reduction Program

The Executive Committee received a report from staff regarding the two applications submitted. One was from the City of New London for a project at the intersection of Broad and Williams, and the other by Stonington for a project on Hewitt Road. Since only two applications for funding were received, under the maximum of three that can be submitted to CONNDOT, the SCCOG could submit both of these projects to CONNDOT. Staff reported they have worked with each municipality's staff to make sure their applications met CONNDOT submission requirements.

MOTION: To recommend to the full COG the submission of the New London and Stonington projects to CONNDOT for funding under the Local Road Accident Reduction Program (Congdon, Sparkman). So voted unanimously.

2. Revised STP-Urban Program Policy

The Executive Director outlined changes made to the policy document that should make it more clear to towns how to apply and what can be applied for. He also said the ranking criteria has been simplified. Mr. Steward asked that in the document to be forwarded to the COG, that the revisions be highlighted.

The Executive Committee by consensus accepted the proposed revisions and asked that the document be forwarded to the full COG for action.

3. Sustainable Regional Planning Grant Program

The Executive Director reported on this program which is being managed by HUD and which makes available \$100 Million nationwide. Applications are due August 23rd. He said he had not heard back from the consultant working for SCRCOG concerning their having reached out to have SCCOG join their large multi-region application, and said he would continue discussions with WINCOG and NECCOG regarding a potential three-region application.

The Executive Committee suggested that SCCOG could submit an application for funding for a regional water supply study.

4. Appointments to Legislative Committee

The Executive Director said that Paul Formica, Ed Haberek, Bob Congdon, Gregg Schuster, Nick Mullane, and Mark Oefinger had all volunteered to serve on a re-constituted SCCOG Legislative Committee.

MOTION: To appoint Paul Formica, Ed Haberek, Bob Congdon, Gregg Schuster, Nick Mullane, and Mark Oefinger to the re-constituted SCCOG Legislative Committee (Matters, Steward). So voted unanimously.

5. Possible SCCOG retreat to Update Long-Range Objectives

The Executive Committee discussed the holding of a retreat as recommended by the Legislative Committee. Items to be discussed include updating the SCCOG's Long-Range Objectives, desired legislation, and RPO's future mission and boundaries. It was suggested that such a retreat should be held in late August or early September. A facilitator might be used to help the discussion.

6. CARPO RPO Boundary Study

The Executive Director referred to the study which had been prepared on behalf of the Executive Directors of RPOs which make up CARPO. This report was prepared in anticipation of OPM's legislatively mandated review of regional boundaries, which must be completed by the end of 2011. He said the study was up on the SCCOG web site, and copies would be provided to all members. He distributed a letter from the HVCEO to OPM urging adequate resources being applied to the boundary study and stating that they while they will remain open minded, they are comfortable with their ten-town region and its current regional boundary.

7. FY 2010 TIP/STIP Amendments

MOTION: To recommend to the full COG the approval of the FY 2010 TIP/STIP amendments (Sparkman, Oefinger). So voted unanimously.

8. Meeting with Norwich Board of Aldermen

The Executive Committee considered several dates offered by the Norwich City Manager to meet with the Board of Alderman to discuss the SCCOG tax issue and selected August 2nd. That meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m., so the Executive Committee decided to switch the start of their regularly scheduled Executive Committee meeting that day to 5:00 p.m.

9. Other

The Executive Director referenced June 24th traffic accident on I-95 in Stonington and suggested the SCCOG may wish to call a meeting of the Traffic Incident Management Committee. The Executive Committee agreed that such a meeting should be called.

The Executive Director reported that the agency's contribution to the Municipal Employee Retirement Fund was going up an additional 2%.

Mr. Formica and the Executive Director reported on a meeting at DECD concerning the New London – East Lyme water interconnection project, and that State officials there encouraged a SCCOG leadership/management role for this project. The potential of formalizing the SCCOG's relationship with Chris Clark of the Mohegan Tribal Utility, who has been contributing his time to this project assisting the two municipalities and the SCCOG, was discussed.

Members of the Executive Committee who also represent the SCCOG in regional water discussions scheduled their next meeting with municipal utility officials for Monday, August 12th, at 9:00 a.m.

The Executive Committee received a letter from the Chairman of the Representative Advisory Board of SCWA asking the SCCOG to nominate three names to be considered for appointment by SCWA to a seat on the Authority. Mr. Harry Watson of Groton, previously nominated by SCCOG and appointed to the Authority, has his term expiring on September 18th, 2010. The Executive Committee by consensus decided to only submit one name and that Mr. Harry Watson be nominated for re-appointment to the SCWA.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

James S. Butler, Executive Director