

MINUTES OF THE 11/1/10 SCCOG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
SCCOG Office, Norwich, CT

Present: Richard Matters, Robert Congdon, Dan Steward, Paul Formica, Mark Oefinger,  
Staff: James Butler

Chairman Matters called the meeting to order at 8:31 p.m.

1. FY 2011 TIP/STIP Amendments

The Executive Director noted these were all statewide projects. The Executive Committee requested that staff obtain from CONNDOT whether or not these projects involve any locations within southeastern Connecticut prior to full COG action.

MOTION: To recommend to the full SCCOG the approval of the proposed FY 2011 TIP/STIP amendments, pending receipt of detail concerning the location of the projects (Oefinger, Steward). So voted unanimously.

2. SCCOG Nomination to seCTer Board of Directors

The Executive Director stated that Mr. Mullane's term on seCTer Board of Directors was ending, and that he was willing to continue to serve.

MOTION: To nominate Nick Mullane, North Stonington First Selectman, to another term on the seCTer Board of Directors (Oefinger, Steward). So voted unanimously.

3. Request from Timothy Bowles to Address SCCOG re: Regional Social Services Coordinating Council

The Executive Committee agreed to allow Mr. Bowles to address the SCCOG on this issue at the November meeting.

4. Indian Reservation Roads Program

The Executive Director referred the Executive Committee to a memo on this subject prepared by Assistant Director Guggenheim. He said that Mr. Guggenheim had attended a meeting with CONNDOT officials on this program. This program could provide additional federal funding for road improvements to roads that receive this designation.

The Executive Committee asked staff to arrange for a meeting between the chief elected officials of impacted towns and CONNDOT for a briefing on how this program would work in Connecticut.

5. Proposed AMTRAK High Speed rail Service

The Executive Director said that he had been contacted by New Haven's Assistant

Planning Director regarding AMTRAK's press release that it was studying a new High-Speed Rail route between Washington and Boston that would take an inland route through Connecticut, bypassing the existing shoreline route. He shares the concern of the New Haven Assistant Planning Director that if built, such a route could detract from or make obsolete the shoreline route which runs through southeastern Connecticut. It was agreed that staff would continue to monitor this issue.

6. Proposed Central Corridor Rail Line

The Executive Director told the Executive Committee that he had received an invitation to an informational meeting concerning a proposed Central Corridor Rail Line from New London to Brattleboro, VT. He reported he discussed this with New London City Manager Berliner, but was unable to attend the meeting. Staff will continue to monitor this proposal.

7. FY 2009 – 2010 Audit

The Executive Director said that he had hoped to have received the Audit which the SCCOG Auditor had said he would e-mail over the weekend, but the internet was down this morning. The Audit will be taken up at the December Executive Committee meeting.

8. Other

The Executive Committee activated the SCCOG Nominating Committee, naming Tom Sparkman Chairman, along with Nick Mullane and Gregg Schuster.

Staff noted that another solicitation for STP-U funded projects has been sent to all SCCOG towns, in an effort to fill in outlying years where funding is still available.

Staff noted the increasing number of requests for letters of support. He said sometimes these requests come in with little information and just before the requesting party wants the letter to be written. He said he attempts to request information concerning the project that the requesting agency is asking the SCCOG to support, so that he can ascertain that the proposal is consistent with the SCCOG's Regional Plan of C&D and other policies. He said he also is concerned when letters are requested by outside agencies, and usually asks for some kind of documentation that the local CEO is aware that a letter of support has been requested from the SCCOG. The Executive Committee agreed that staff should continue to exercise his own judgment as to when a letter should be provided and said that they should be contacted whenever there was any question whether or not the SCCOG should provide such a letter.

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

James S. Butler, Executive Director