

**Regular MetroCOG Board Meeting
Thursday, April 27, 2023, 10:00 am
Connecticut Metropolitan Council of Governments
1000 Lafayette Boulevard, Bridgeport, CT 06604**

Name

Representing



Joseph Ganim, Mayor (Ken Flatto, Proxy)	Bridgeport
David Bindelglass, First Selectman, Remote	Easton
Brenda Kupchick, First Selectwoman (Jackie Bertolone, Proxy), Remote	Fairfield
Kenneth Kellogg, First Selectman, Chairman, Remote	Monroe
Vicki Tesoro, First Selectman, Remote	Trumbull
Matthew Fulda, Executive Director	MetroCOG
Patrick Carleton, Deputy Director	MetroCOG
Colleen Kelleher, Finance Director	MetroCOG
Meghan Sloan, Planning Director	MetroCOG
Jennifer Pacacha	CTDOT
Ani Chaghatzbanian	UI
Ellen Graham	Blumenthal's Office

Minutes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, First Selectman Kellogg at 10:03 am. Mr. Fulda performed a roll call; the following board members were present:

Jackie Bertolone, Proxy, Fairfield
First Selectman Bindelglass, Easton
First Selectman Tesoro, Trumbull
Ken Flatto, Proxy, Bridgeport
First Selectman Kellogg, Monroe

II. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. March 30, 2023

Mr. Fulda noted that the year was listed incorrectly in the agenda and would be updated in the minutes.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Flatto and seconded by First Selectman Tesoro. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. Action Items

a. EcoInteractive - Cloud Based TIP Management

A motion to approve the resolution was made by First Selectman Tesoro and seconded by First Selectman Bindelglass.

Mr. Fulda explained the cloud-based software and its functionality as a public-facing platform to manage the Transportation Improvement Program. He noted other COGS were moving forward with EcoInteractive, which would be an improvement from the current Access database.

Mr. Fulda also commented that the software would be funded using PL (USDOT) and the contract offers options to extend. Mr. Fulda mentioned that if CTDOT joins EcoInteractive, MetroCOG would have access to the State license and would no longer need to extend the contract in future years.

b. MetroCOG FY 2024 Health Insurance

Mr. Fulda explained that MetroCOG coordinated with a healthcare insurance broker to research best options after Connecticare dropped small group plans. Mr. Fulda explained the differences between the plans being offered and noted that Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield honors existing providers.

There was a brief discussion regarding other plan options as well as future potential plan options including association insurance.

A motion to approve the plan with Anthem was made by Mr. Flatto and seconded by First Selectman Bindelglass. The motion carried unanimously.

V. Other Business

a. Financials

Mr. Fulda explained that staff developed projections through June and are estimating an increase in the fund balance. Mr. Fulda noted that the surplus is expected to change before the fiscal year ends.

Ms. Kelleher noted that staff would continue to update projections and expects to provide a draft budget at the next meeting.

b. Small Business Digital Technical Assistance

Mr. Fulda offered to provide board members with a link to the application and noted that about 50 responses were received. Staff is having trouble getting businesses to respond to follow-up inquiries. He noted that 10 businesses were currently set up with consultants.

First Selectman Kellogg suggested reaching out to Economic Development departments to follow up with businesses.

Mr. Flatto inquired about criteria in selecting businesses.

Mr. Fulda explained that all the businesses are located in the region and are typically small businesses.

Mr. Carleton confirmed most businesses were local restaurants, startups and retailers.

c. Regional Lobbyist

Mr. Fulda explained that he only had one response to the scope for a Regional Lobbyist but would resend the email.

Mr. Flatto noted that Bridgeport has a lobbying firm and if of value, he could inquire regarding specific bills of interest.

First Selectman Kellogg inquired if it would be a one off and wanted to ensure there would be no conflict of interest if the firm wanted to submit a proposal.

d. Next Meeting Dates:

- i. May 25, 2023
- ii. June 29, 2023

VI. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.