**Mississippi River Parkway Commission**

**Transportation Committee Teleconference Meeting**

**February 2, 2021 | 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM**

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**AGENDA**

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# Introductions

MRPC – Anne Lewis

Arkansas – Jeff Ingram

Illinois – Erin Holmes, Todd Smith

Iowa – Lisa Walsh

Kentucky – James LeFevre

Louisiana – no representatives

Minnesota – Tim Wilcox, Chris Miller, Carol Zoff

Mississippi – Lindsey Killebrew

Missouri – Mark Kross, Julie Stotlemeyer, Andrew Seiler

Tennessee – Michael McClanahan

Wisconsin – Sherry Quamme, Liat Bonneville, Francis Schelfhout

# Approve September 1, 2020 Teleconference Minutes

# Motion/Second to approve from Sherry (WI)/Mark (MO)

# Motion passed unanimously

# All American Road Update

As of 1/6/2021, FHWA continues to consider nominations for the 2020 designations for All-American Roads and Scenic Byways – the latest additions to the National Scenic Byways program. All eligible nominated routes submitted through the online Byways Nomination Portal are still under review.

FHWA intends to post the list of designated byways on National Scenic Byways website. Following the announcement, FHWA will send a congratulatory letter to each successful applicant and a Feedback Summary detailing an explanation to those applicants who did not receive a designation.

Mark Falzone, President of Scenic America and FHWA partners have been the sources of these timely updates.

The following link provides a listing of all NSB and AAR designated byways in the U.S.:

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/scenic_byways/nominations/designated_byways.pdf>

# Transportation Committee Roster - finalize

# 2021 Byways Funding – States’ Intention to apply for Grants

AR: Unsure of status – still to be discussed

IL: Was not represented by a voting member – no conversations have been had as reported by other IL attendees

IA: Plans have begun to apply for bridge rehab/replacement – will be awaiting grant application materials

KY: Unsure of status – still to be discussed

LA: Was not represented by a voting member – no report was provided by other LA attendees

MN: Has identified a need - fiscal budget commitment to receive and match funds - replace/maintain interpretive panels a possibility

MS: Intends to apply - discussions of potential projects has not occurred yet

MO: Only has 21 miles of Scenic Byways – do not anticipate changing stance on participation from past

TN: Intends to apply – potential projects include byway signage both from an intra and inter-state approach

Mike McClanahan mentioned that the Tennessee Great River Road will be opening a Rest Area at Realfoot Lake on 3/12/2021. This project was funded under a historically “old” grant program, but due to political and legal issues has been delayed until now. They are planning a great event surrounding this opening with press releases and other grandeur.

WI: Anticipates applying, possible projects in interpretive signage new/replacement/updates, MRT signage, improved sight lines/river views, planting/beautification efforts (pollinators)

# Transportation Committee (MRPCmembers.com) Webpage

## General – What do we want our webpage to provide?

### Transportation – repository of files, status on current work efforts

### MRPCmembers.com – history and what is the MRPC – invitation to visitors or new members – Nation Office to handle

## Archived: AAR Materials, NSB Materials, CMP Materials

## Meeting Agendas/Minutes – re-organized by year

## Archives/Statutes/others

General update on webpage progress – redesign is nearing completion. Transportation Committee page being considered as a model for MRPCMembers.com in other locations. Continue to stress the gathering of all AAR nominations and attachments (pictures) for use by National Office if AAR Designations are received.

# Great River Road Ten-State Corridor Management Plan

## Great River Road

### Alignment

### Route Signage

### Way-Showing

## Mississippi River Trail

### Alignment

### Route Signage

### Way-Showing

Prioritization was taken off of this effort in support of the AAR nominations and attachments to support designation to AAR (anticipating FHWA announcement any day)

# Next Meetings

## MRPC Board Meeting – February 12th

## Committee Chairs/Executive Committee – March 12th

## Transportation Committee Meeting – March/April???

Conversation was had, a general feeling to meet in March would best serve maintaining committee momentum and allow for co-chairs to report at the Committee Chairs/Executive Committee meeting on March 12th.

Goals for next meeting: 1.) website updated to address comments

2.) roster updates complete and submitted to N.O.

3.) AAR pictures/attachments submitted to N.O.

Doodle Poll will be sent looking for availability the first week of March.

## Semi-Annual Meeting – April 14th

Motion/Second to adjourn by Lisa (IA)/Mark (MO)

Motion passed unanimously