Schweitzer, Policy Committee chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. No introductions were necessary as all attendees could be identified in the meeting attendee list.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Voting Members Present
Terry Brod (Cannon Township)
Dan Burrill (City of Wyoming)
Karyn Ferrick (City of Grand Rapids)
Shay Gallager (Village of Sparta)
Dennis Kent (Proxy for Mike Burns, MDOT)
Dennis Kent (Proxy for And Don Mayle, MDOT)
Jim Miedema (Ottawa County Road Commission)
Josh Naramore (City of Grand Rapids)
Casey Ries (GFIAA)
Liz Schelling (Proxy for Kevin Wisselink, ITP-The Rapid)
Darrel Schmalzel (City of Walker)
Terry Schweitzer (Chair, City of Kentwood)
Rick Sprague (Proxy for Steve Warren, KCRC)
Julius Suchy (Ada Township)
Jeff Thornton (Village of Caledonia)
Laurie VanHaitsma (Jamestown Township)
Cameron Van Wyngarden (Plainfield Township)
Rod Weersing (Georgetown Township)
Mike Womack (City of Cedar Springs)
Steven Wooden (Kent County)

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present
Janet Arcuicci (MDOT OPT)
Mark Bott (MDOT)
Brad Doane (GVMC Staff)
Andrea Faber (GVMC Staff)
Laurel Joseph (GVMC Staff)
Tyler Kent (MDOT)
George Yang (GVMC Staff)
APPROVED

ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Schweitzer entertained a motion to approve the November 20, 2019 Policy Committee minutes and the Joint Technical/Policy Committee minutes from September 16, 2020.

MOTION by Naramore, SUPPORT by Schmalzel, to approve both the Nov. 20, 2019 Policy and the Sept. 16, 2020 joint Technical/Policy Committee minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IV. TIP AMENDMENTS

Referring to Item IV: Attachment A, Joseph introduced the TIP amendments that were being requested, which are as follows:
MDOT has added a 2022 project to the Trunkline road GPA that triggered a GPA amendment. Joseph opened the discussion for Dennis Kent to highlight any projects additionally.

Kent – I-196 business loop in Wyoming has added a resurfacing project. Some exempt projects may not be specifically on the list. Next year there will be a resurfacing on M-37 from Middleville to 92nd Street. Also, an Environmental Planning phase will kick off between 92nd and 76th for M-37 which is a project for FY2024. There will be a PE phase for US-131 between Richmond & Bridge which will be in FY2024 and beyond. They will be also working on some pedestrian underpass options using TAP funds coming in the next few years. There will be a resurfacing project on I-96 between Monroe and Leonard. There will also be a major reconstruct I-196 between Fuller and Maryland. Some projects are getting delayed; M-37 in Kentwood will get delayed from FY2021 to FY2025, and M-21 in Ada will be delayed from FY2021 to FY2025 because of budgeting issues.

Kent County Road Commission is requesting to add two local bridge projects to FY2022 which are not yet in Jobnet but will likely trigger a GPA amendment. Approval of adding these projects would also include modifying the GPA threshold. Additionally, they are requesting to replace a FY2021 Division Avenue project for resurfacing from 68th to 76th with one from the Illustrative list which is 68th from Division to Eastern and add a Fruit Ridge Avenue project which will be funded with purchased flex funding from Newaygo County Road Commission. They are also requesting to increase the Federal portion of another project using funds they purchased from Newaygo County Road Commission.

Grand Rapids is requesting to modify some local fund allocations for a job that has additional watermain replacement added to the scope which does not affect Federal funding. Grand Rapids also made it through the Grant review process for TAP programming for sidewalk on Eastern Avenue and it needs to be added to the TIP since we now have a conditional commitment which triggers a GPA threshold increase for the Local Livability and Sustainability GPA.

Schweitzer entertained a motion to approve the TIP amendments, as requested.

**MOTION by Naramore, SUPPORT by Wooden, to approve the TIP amendments requested by the MDOT, KCRC, and Grand Rapids with the inclusion of Grand Rapids’ TAP project. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY by roll call vote.**

### V. FY2021 LOCAL PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS

**Referring to Item V: Attachment A,** Joseph presented some new updated budget projections for FY2021, which have decreased the federal funding available in several of our funding programs, but pointed out that we have additional HIP funds that need to be programmed, which can be used to supplement the shortfalls. Joseph proposed supplementing the impacted projects using the HIP funding. The Technical Committee recommends using the HIP for shortfalls on a few KCRC
projects and one for Grand Rapids on Lake Eastbrook.

Schweitzer entertained a motion to approve the changes in program allocations, as requested and supported by the Technical Committee.

**MOTION by Schmalzel, SUPPORT by Naramore, to approve the Allocation Changes requested for the City of Grand Rapids and KCRC MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY by roll call vote.**

**VI. 2021 SAFETY TARGETS**

Referring to Item VI: Attachment A, Yang presented on MDOT’s establishment of 2021 five year moving traffic safety targets. MDOT was required to develop targets prior to August 31, 2020 and the MPO is now required to support them or develop their own before February 27, 2021.

Mark Bott from MDOT gave a presentation on the methodology for developing the State’s targets.

Schweitzer asked if there is any work being done at the state level looking deeper into the numbers at what types of issues and what types of programs are going to be effective to break down the causes and effects increases in incidents. Bott responded with a couple of tools they are looking into and highlights that education at the MPO level seems to be the most effective.

Staff is recommending we support the state targets. Joseph further discussed progress on implementing our own safety goals regionally outside of the state’s requirements with examples.

Naramore from Grand Rapids asked what the incentive is to adopt more rigorous targets. He explained being more aggressive allows us to see where we can have a greater impact. Yang and Joseph agreed it’s a good idea to dig deeper into our local level data and think about peripheral targets in addition to what MDOT is suggesting. Discussion ensued.

Schweitzer entertained a motion to support the State’s 2021 Safety Targets as outlined in the handouts.

**MOTION by Naramore, SUPPORT by Sprague, to approve supporting the state safety targets for FY2021. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY by roll call vote.**

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

- **MDOT**
  - Kent (Dennis) began with noting that GVMC & MDOT have begun preliminary discussion about ITS as a recommendation from FHWA to be more in coordination with examples of future involvement opportunities we will be arranging.
- Kent (Dennis) mentioned that the US-131 PEL is also undertaking a MetroQuest survey as well to get some comments on purpose and need as well as some evaluation criteria. This survey should be out in early December to the public.
- Kent (Tyler) provided information regarding the FY2021 transportation budget, which included $600 million from the general fund distributed by the Act 51 formula. Further information was provided by the rebuilding Michigan bond program and MDOT is looking to try and put some on this funding to use on this side of the state.
- Kent (Tyler) further highlighted two projects being the 100th bridge and the I-196/I-96 flip that are now open and they are great examples of interagency collaboration.
- Kent (Tyler) also noted the MM2045 State Long Range Transportation Plan survey on MetroQuest and asked for members to take the survey and give feedback.

- **GVMC**
  - Faber gave an overview of the efforts for our Freight plan as well as the survey that is now available. Secondly, she offered up more safety outreach materials in addition to our bike lights, including slap bracelets, safety belts, and TIP cards. Faber offered up these items to our jurisdictions and would like to coordinate on any events forthcoming for disbursement. Finally, there is also a newly designed safety outreach webpage that our members are encouraged to explore.

Bott from MDOT asked if there is a press release that describes our safety efforts. Faber will put together a press release for MDOT. Schweitzer said that a press release on social media and to the members would also help get the message out.

VIII. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION by Naramore, SUPPORT by Burrill, to adjourn the meeting.**