Commission for Logistics & Supply Collaboration
FINAL Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2018

Members Present:
Polly Kent for Tim Hoeffner
Robert Boehm
Matthew Chasnis for Jeff Mason
Roger Huff
Dr. Pasi Lautala (via phone)
Joe McCulloch for Gordon Wenk
Fred Schlemmer
Janice Walsh

Special Guests from SteelPro:
Lisa Russo
Paul Russo
Noella Russo
Mike McIntosh

Members Absent:
Peter Anastor
Les Brand
Dr. David Closs

The meeting was called to order at around 9:35 a.m.

Polly Kent, Administration of Asset Management and Policy Division at Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) welcomed Commissioners for the Logistics & Supply Chain Collaboration (LSC), MDOT support staff, and special guests, the Russo family.

The following handouts were included in Commissioners packets.

1. MDOT Governmental Affairs Updates
2. State Long-Range Transportation Plan Freight & Rail Plan Integration Updates
3. Freight Advisory Committee Survey Updates
5. Michigan Economic Development Updates
6. State of Michigan Port Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes for June 28, 2018

Draft minutes from May 10, 2018 were approved.
Polly noted that there would be a Public Comment period at the end of the meeting.

**Wayne Industries (SteelPro)**

Fred Schlemmer, Chief Financial Officer at SteelPro, gave a presentation on one of its subsidiaries, Wayne Industries. Mr. Schlemmer provided an overview of SteelPro’s corporate umbrella. He stated that Wayne Industries is an integral part of the SteelPro group of companies, a Women’s Business Enterprise, and owned by Noella Russo who was present during the meeting. He gave an overview of Wayne Industries; a company that provides just-in-time solutions for the steel and aluminum industries through its fleet of 450 heavy-haul flatbed trucks and five warehouses throughout the Midwest. Approximately 83% of Wayne Industries revenues are derived from transportation, 15% from warehouse activities, and the remaining 2% from property rents. Their top ten customers are steel and aluminum producers, which account for 70% of the company’s revenues. Through its transportation activities, the company provides coverage in all 48 contiguous states and four Canadian Provinces. Its primary coverage area is in the mid-central part of the country. Slides for all five of the company’s warehouse operations were presented in addition to aerial footage. A key feature of each warehouse is their strategic location on main-line railroads. The company has partner relationships with three major railroads: Norfolk Southern, CSX, and Canadian National. In a typical month, the company will handle 600,000 tons of steel and aluminum, with 100% of these commodities arriving by rail and 90% departing by truck, making SteelPro, truly, a key component in the logistical flow of steel and aluminum in the upper Midwest.

**MAASTO Freight Advisory Committee Survey**

Polly Kent gave an update of Mid America State Transportation Officials (MAASTO) survey on Freight Advisory Committees. Seven of ten states have responded to the survey. Across the states, the makeup of each Freight Advisory Committee (FAC) varies somewhat, but typically include members representing railroads, trucking, and private sector logistics companies. It was pointed out that Michigan’s FAC does include trucking representation, a correction that will be made on the handout. Most FACs meet quarterly, as the LSC does. Congestion and federal regulation were among the top freight concerns for most groups across the Midwest.
Truck Parking Information Management System

Collin Castle, ITS Program Manager at MDOT gave an overview of the Mid America Association of State Transportation Officials (MAASTO) Regional Truck Parking Information Management System (TPIMS) Deployment. TPIMS is a project funded through a $25 million TIGER grant awarded in 2015, where eight of the ten MAASTO states are participating in the successfully-awarded project (KS, KY, IA, IN, OH, MI, MN and WI). The Kansas DOT is the Lead Agency and is administering the Federal TIGER grant agreement and requirements with FHWA on behalf of the eight-state partnership task force.

The TPIMS System will provide a regional network of safe, convenient parking areas with the ability to collect and broadcast real-time availability to drivers through a variety of media outlets including dynamic signs, smart phone applications and traveler information websites. This will enable drivers to proactively plan their routes and make safer, smarter parking decisions. The project goals were to:

- Enhance highway safety by providing timely and reliable truck parking information
- Provide a sustainable and scalable truck parking solution – able to be expanded to other states and corridors in the future
- Provide a secure solution to protect user privacy and data
- Maximize user acceptance – develop and track performance measures in order to measure deployment’s success

The project need, goals, technologies, measures of success, and current deployment schedule were presented, with a projected system turn on date of January 1, 2019.

Highway Electrification & Truck Platooning

Niles Annelin, Manager of the Asset Management and Policy Section, Transportation Planning, presented on Truck Platooning and the Designation of I-94 as an Alternative Fuels Corridor. He described in general terms what truck platooning is and how it works. Platooning is the practice of electronically “coupling” multiple trucks to significantly shorten gaps between
vehicles. This means the two or more trucks are linked together and the lead truck controls the speed of the following trucks. Platooning has the added benefits of increased safety through automated braking and accelerating technology, increased fuel efficiency, and environmental benefits because of more efficient fuel use.

Niles also highlighted a MAASTO coalition whose aim was to help states in the Midwest educate their legislatures and citizens about the benefits of platooning, such as safety. With the ultimate goal of uniformed truck platooning laws across the region and hopefully across the country.

Furthermore, he discussed several platoon testing activities which have involved MDOT in recent years. Several tests with TARDEC (a division of the US ARMY) to test vehicle to chicle and vehicle to infrastructure communication along I-69 and a cross border test at the Blue Water Bridge. Also, a demonstration with Peloton along I-96 in western Oakland County.

Niles also informed the Commission about MDOT’s participation in a Federal Highway Administration grant to designate stretches of I-94 as alternative fuel ready.

**Open Discussion Topics**
The next LSC Commission meeting is scheduled for November 8th at Aeronautics Commission Room in Lansing. It will be a joint meeting with the Governor’s Port Advisory Committee.

Polly mentioned that after the November 6th Election, Michigan will have a new Governor. It is likely that the new administration could appoint new LSC commissioners.

**No public comments were made**

**Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m. followed by an on-site tour at ACM.**