

**Final Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
Connecticut Metropolitan Council of Governments  
Thursday, April 25th, 2019 at 9:45 am  
MetroCOG Conference Room Bridgeport, Connecticut**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Joseph Ganim, Mayor (Ken Flatto, Proxy)	Bridgeport
Adam Dunsby, First Selectman	Easton
Michael Tetreau, First Selectman, Chairman	Fairfield
Ken Kellogg, First Selectman	Monroe
Vicki Tesoro, First Selectman	Trumbull
Matthew Fulda, Executive Director	MetroCOG
Patrick Carleton, Deputy Director	MetroCOG
Devin Clarke, Regional Planner	MetroCOG
Mark Goetz, GIS Director	MetroCOG
Colleen Kelleher, Deputy Finance Director	MetroCOG
Meghan Sloan, Planning Director	MetroCOG
Susan Bysiewicz, Lieutenant Governor	Connecticut
Jimmy Tickey, Lieutenant Governor's Office	Connecticut
Dan Roach	Bridgeport
Sara Radacsi (phone)	CTDOT

## Minutes

### I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, First Selectman Tetreau, at 9:49 AM.

**II. Public Participation:** There was no public participation

### III. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- a. **March 28, 2019:** First Selectman Dunsby made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Flatto. The motion carried unanimously.

### IV. Presentations:

#### a. Susan Bysiewicz

Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz announced that she was acting as the liaison to First Selectman and Mayors and was making individual visits to all Chief Elected Officials and Council of Governments. She noted that it is important to the Governor and herself to be bipartisan and to ensure a good working relationship.

Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz is proud of the current administration and acknowledged the financial crisis. She explained that the State was going on a debt diet, focusing on economic development and transportation and introducing IT platforms to create more efficient communication across departments.

Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz noted that transportation is key to economic development and that the Business Council of Fairfield County came forward to endorse the toll plan. Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz proceeded to describe the current proposal where out of state drivers fund 40% of tolling while CT drivers will be responsible for 60%.

Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz briefly explained the Complete Count initiative (census) and noted that Bridgeport was the first to adopt it. She offered to send a resolution example to the other towns and urged the board to create Complete Count Committees.

First Selectman Dunsby inquired if there were any current Fairfield County focused economic development projects that the Lieutenant Governor had in mind.

Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz responded that there was nothing specific but to reach out to David Lehman or David Kooris, at DECD, if the towns had any projects in mind.

Mr. Fulda noted that MetroCOG has applied for a CEDS grant and is waiting on the award and commended MetroCOG's robust Brownfields program.

First Selectman Tetreau expressed concern for lack of focus on economic development in Fairfield County at the state level and commented on the importance of Fairfield County to international investors.

Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz commented that she was excited to see housing units being built around the train stations in Fairfield County. She will communicate concerns to David Lehman and have him sit down with the MetroCOG Board.

Mr. Flatto noted that Bridgeport lost grants because of the prior administration and inquired how the Governor will approach infrastructure projects.

Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz responded that transportation infrastructure is a priority; workforce development is also a pressing issue.

There was a brief discussion about the debt diet and trends of the region's school populations.

Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz inquired what a regional priority was.

First Selectman Tetreau commented that a 60-minute commute from Fairfield to New York City would encourage more people to use mass transit and get them off the highways. The ripple effect would also impact real estate.

There was a brief discussion regarding real estate sales in the region with a consensus that high-end real estate was not moving.

There was a discussion about the state's teacher pension costs. First Selectman Tetreau noted that if the pension cost transfer proceeded as proposed there would be incentive to pay teachers less.

Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz responded that the Governor has a number of priorities and the state pension cost transfer was number one on the list. They are trying to figure out how to keep town budgets as whole as possible.

First Selectman Kellogg expressed concern about ECS and teacher pensions and the draconian impact it will have in Monroe. First Selectman Kellogg is also concerned about the lack of response to his attempts to reach out.

Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz responded that someone will be in touch.

A motion to move item VII Communication was made by Mr. Flatto and seconded by First Selectman Dunsby.

#### **V. Communications & Announcements:**

**a. LOTCIP**

Mr. Fulda explained that MetroCOG received applications and is confident that most or all of the projects will be covered. Staff will be meeting with the towns in the next few weeks to prioritize projects.

**b. Transportation Alternatives Program (FHWA)**

Ms. Sloan explained that she will be speaking with Fairfield to discuss a strategy. Ms. Sloan noted that other town's current project may not be a good fit for a bike and pedestrian funding program. She noted that there is a 20 percent match involved.

**c. Financials:** Mr. Fulda explained that there was no significant update to the financials.

First Selectman Tetreau requested that the audit line item be broken out and inquired if MetroCOG would be required to pay CTDOT again next year.

Mr. Fulda confirmed that as the new indirect rate has not been approved yet by CTDOT, MetroCOG will owe again.

First Selectman Kellogg commented that the projections in the snapshot did not seem accurate.

Mr. Fulda responded that now that Ms. Kelleher was back from leave those items would be updated.

#### **VI. Action Items:**

**a. Upgrade Existing Laserfiche (AIS) agreement for regional implementation:**

Mr. Fulda provided a brief overview of the resolution.

Mr. Flatto inquired what the cost to the COG would be over the next 3 years.

Mr. Fulda responded that it would cost \$120,000 for the first year and \$60,000 for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

Mr. Flatto asked if the price was negotiated. Mr. Fulda confirmed that it was.

There was a brief discussion about the different user levels.

First Selectman Tetreau commented that Fairfield was not ready to move forward and was concerned about the different user fees. First Selectman Tetreau wanted to know if Mr. Fulda received pricing from other VARs. Mr. Fulda confirmed that he did not.

First Selectman Tetreau was concerned with the lack of thorough evaluation and requested to review the contract. He also requested a presentation from Laserfiche. First Selectman Tetreau noted that he would like his IT Director to be more comfortable with the system.

Mr. Flatto commented that the concept has a lot of merit. He agreed with First Selectman Tetreau's concerns but wanted to know how the concerns would affect the grant timeline.

Mr. Fulda explained that the grant needed to be spent by June 30<sup>th</sup> or it would have to be returned, and next years funding would not cover the costs.

First Selectman Tesoro noted that Trumbull budgeted for Laserfiche and that Mr. Fulda met with the department heads.

First Selectman Kellogg also commented that it was a priority for Monroe. Monroe was confident with the company and followed up on its references. First Selectman Kellogg recommended expediting resolution of concerns as it would be a travesty to lose the money.

There was a brief discussion noting that after 3 years there was no obligation to the towns to continue if they were not satisfied.

First Selectman Tetreau reiterated that he would like responses directly from the vendor.

First Selectman Dunsby asked if First Selectman Tetreau would be prepared to vote after having his list of questions answered.

First Selectman Dunsby commented that there was the issue of time and noted that MetroCOG already used this software and it would be difficult to switch vendors.

There was a brief discussion of the benefits of the software.

First Selectman Tetreau commented that the philosophy was excellent, but he would like to see the contract in writing.

There was a brief discussion regarding what would happen if the contract was not signed soon.

It was decided that no action would be taken. Mr. Fulda would send the contract to the board via e-mail and an e-vote would be taken.

**VII. Other Business:**

**a. Executive Director Update on MetroCOG Activities:**

**i. Hazard Mitigation Plan update:**

Mr. Fulda provided an update on the NHMP. A public meeting will be held in Fairfield and a draft will go to the board as soon as it is finalized. Mr. Fulda recommended that it be reviewed by the RTM and other local legislative bodies.

**ii. County Equivalency update:**

Mr. Fulda explained that the County Equivalency has stalled.

First Selectman Tetreau requested an email go out following up with the State Representatives.

Mr. Fulda noted that May's meeting was being moved to May 23<sup>rd</sup>. First Selectman Tetreau commented that he would try to set up a meeting with Mayor Martin and requested that a vote not be added to the agenda until they had all of the information.

**VIII. Adjourn**

At 11:42 am, a motion to adjourn was made by First Selectman Dunsby made and seconded First Selectman Kellogg. The motion carried unanimously.

---

First Selectman Adam Dunsby  
MetroCOG Secretary