I. Welcome:

Policy Committee Chairman Peter Olson called the meeting to Order.

II. Public Comment Period:

Chairman Olson advised that there would be a public comment period of ten minutes, however there were no members of the general public that had shown up to speak.

III. Approval of Minutes for November 5, 2014 Policy Committee meeting:

Peter Olson called for a vote for approval of the November 4, 2014 Policy Committee meeting minutes. Sam Grove made the motion, and Radney Simpson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous for approval of the November 4, 2014 Policy Committee minutes.

IV. Presentation on GDOT Funding- Jeff Lewis, GDOT:

GDOT Representative Jeff Lewis addressed the Policy Committee Board and advised them of the latest news in GDOT funding. Mr. Lewis advised the Board that a need had been recognized for a Bill to fund transportation improvements, as currently we can only raise enough funds to repave our roads once every 50 years. Transportation needs include not only roads and bridges, but also transit and rail options for urban areas. It is also recognized that transit improvements were needed to attract business to Atlanta.

Jeff Lewis highlighted several features of the Transportation Act of 2015, also known as House Bill 170. Options for transportation capital funding include the possibility of removing the sales tax on gasoline at 7 ½ cents per gallon while creating an excise tax on gasoline of approximately 30 cents per gallon, initiating a vehicle mileage tax where taxes are paid based on the number of miles driven per vehicle, or moving the current 4th
penny of the gas excise tax back to GDOT. This 4th penny could bring approximately 2 million dollars back to state transportation funding. Mr. Lewis also spoke of the alternative fuel vehicles, of which there are approximately 6,000 large commercial vehicles driven on Georgia roads daily per the GDOT Study Committee. These alternative fuel vehicles are not paying any taxes toward road improvement and are causing just as much wear and tear to Georgia roads as vehicles currently paying gasoline excise taxes. To address this, House Bill 170 is being proposed to increase the money available for transportation needs.

V. LRTP Goals and Objectives:

At this time, Tom Sills then spoke briefly about the LRTP Goals and Objectives as proposed by ARCADIS. With no changes proposed by Board members, Chairman Peter Olson called for a motion of approval of the LRTP Goals and Objectives. Sam Grove made the motion, and Radney Simpson seconded the motion. The vote to approve the LRTP Goals and Objectives as proposed by ARCADIS was unanimous.

VI. Functional Classification change for Blackacre Road:

Transportation Planner Tom Sills advised the Committee that Bartow County currently has Blackacre Road classified as a local road. Bartow County was looking to recommend a change of the road classification from local road to major collector, however, Paulding County had recommended Blackacre Road be listed as a minor collector. For consistency sake with Paulding County, staff recommends that Bartow County change its recommended status of that road segment to that of minor collector. Chairman Peter Olson called for a motion to approve the functional classification change from major to a minor collector for Blackacre Road. Radney Simpson made the motion, and Sam Grove seconded the motion. The vote for approval of the functional classification change was unanimous.

VII. Bylaw change for election of TCC officers:

Tom Sills then went over the Bylaw change for the election of TCC officers as was written up in a Memo dated February 10, 2015. There is a conflict concerning the timing of elections due to the change in the MPOs fiscal year to the calendar year of January through December brought about by the recent adoption of the FY 2015b UPWP. This change would allow for elections in July, so officers can be in place for the development of the UPWP and its start at the beginning of the year. Chairman Peter Olson called for a vote of approval of the Bylaw change for the election of TCC officers. Sam Grove made the motion, and Lee Castro seconded the motion. The vote for approval of the Bylaw change for election of TCC officers was unanimous.

VIII. 2010 Socioeconomic Data:

Transportation Planner Tom Sills spoke of the gathering of the 2010 socioeconomic data which is basic information needed for the various documents that the CBMPO is tasked to create as a new MPO. The employment data received from ARC required additional work and it took CBMPO Staff some time to get this information as correct as
The MPO did receive word that this data had been accepted by GDOT this week. The next step will be ARCADIS developing the 2040 socioeconomic data. This will help identify future transportation issues, which will then be presented to GDOT so projects can be identified for funding. Currently, the CBMPO is looking at March 2016 as the adoption date for the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan.

**IX. Existing Conditions:**

At this time, Tom Sills went over the MPO Project Update Sheet dated December 17, 2014. All updates are shown in red and are included in the Minutes for reference.

**X. Other Business:**

None at this time.

**XI. Reports:**

Tom Sills then spoke about project updates, meetings, and staff activities.

a) Projects were discussed, including the possibility of Third Army Road being moved to the Atlanta MPO.

b) LRTP Next Steps and Schedule was discussed, with public information Open Houses being tentatively planned for June or July of 2015 for input from the public regarding their views of transportation needs.

c) Staff Activities were discussed, including Tom Sills’ meeting with Human Resources agencies concerning transit needs, and FTA funds being eligible for transit. The question now is how to get transit work done, and a cost estimate is being gathered for a transit study at this time and a quote is expected by next week. Other updates included FLAP MOA’s being signed, Mr. Sills completing the LAP Certification training, and FTA funding being assigned to Glade Road.

Discussion then turned to the possibility of a meeting being called to go over the 2040 data when it is received from ARCADIS. Due to the fact that it is only one item to look over and approve, it was decided that Mr. Sills would send the information out by email and not call an additional meeting.

The next meeting of the CBMPO Policy Committee will be held on schedule, on May 6, 2015.

**X. Adjourn:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Policy Committee Chairman Peter Olson.