

**BUTLER COUNTY TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION**  
**MARCH 10, 2011**  
**OKI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT**

**President's Report (Ed Humphrey) -**

Public Service Recognition Form - Due April 1, 2011 at OKI (must be submitted by OKI Board Member) - see attached form and instructions

**Executive Director's Report (Mark Policinski) –**

Mr. Policinski presented the following information:

1. Kiplinger's Report rated our region as the 7<sup>th</sup> most friendly region in the nation for commuters (average daily one way commute - 19 minutes - time hasn't increased much in 30 years)
2. Census Data for Ohio released 3-9-11 - Butler County saw about a 10% increase in population
3. Federal Transportation Bill - Senate & House have differing perspectives - if not completed this year, 2012 is presidential election year and will cause the bill to be put off until 2013. Thus we would be operating on temporary provisions. President Obama has offered his proposal that includes an 85% increase in funding to a level of between \$565-580B. The problem with this is there is no funding source identified to accommodate his proposal.
4. Norfolk Southern's double stack clearance project from Columbus to Sharonville is progressing. Bids will be open March 18 and construction will begin April 19 and the project will be completed this year. Note: 2 of the 5 project pieces are in Butler County - Middletown near AK Steel and the other below Millikin Road in Liberty Township.
5. A question was raised about the streetcar. Mark noted that the OKI Board had approved \$4M for the Cincinnati Streetcar. These funds are available during the FY 2012 (July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012).

**Legislative Report (Mark Policinski) –**

Mr. Policinski reported on behalf of Brian Cunningham who was out of town. ODOT's Transportation Budget has been presented and consists of \$5.6B for the next two years (July 1, 2011-June30, 2013). The budget emphasizes maintaining existing systems, streamlining the process, and creating innovative ideas for project funding.

**Item #2 - OKI Regional Freight Plan (Robyn Bancroft) -**

Robyn noted that the power point that the consultants put together is posted on OKI's web site ([www.oki.org](http://www.oki.org))

The consultants are wrapping up their data collection. But for now, the following is known:

- Shippers want Reliability & Consistency first and foremost
- Regional Strengths include Highway Capacity; Access to good rail connections

- Regional Weaknesses are with the cutbacks in the air flights, there is decreased cargo capacity/space; access to waterway/river is a challenge - river terminals need direct access to the short line railroads
- NS has 60 and CSX has 35-40 trains per day in our region - mainline and yard improvements may need to be looked at to improve flow because of blockages and pinch points
- CSX and NS have a cooperative agreement for directional flow into and out of Cincinnati from the north - this can cause some trains to back up as far as Chicago and block roadways in Butler County
- CSX and Rail America have agreed to a cross-over agreement whereby Rail America can cross the tracks through the Queensgate Yard (CSX property) to reach the other side, thus eliminating a very costly capital expenditure project
- Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport is ranked 32<sup>nd</sup> in the nation for airfreight shipments
- Pipelines - there are 900 lineal miles of pipeline in our region

Next steps -

May - Summary of analysis findings

June - Listing of potential projects created

June/July - Public Meeting on the Freight Plan and Potential Projects

August - OKI Board Approval Request

### **Item #3 - Intermodal Coordinating Committee (Mark Paine)**

#### **A. Amendment #34 of the FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program**

This amendment includes addition and revision in the current TIP. 3 Highway projects in Ohio, 2 highway projects in Kentucky and 1 highway project in Indiana - one of the projects is in Butler County - revision of the Butler Warren Road Widening.

*Resolution OKI 2011-06 approved.*

### **Item #4 - Amendment #34 to the Regional Water Quality Management Plan (Jane Wittke)**

This resolution updated the Regional Water Quality Management Plan for Dearborn County as recommended by their Board of Commissioners.

*Resolution OKI 2011-07 approved.*

### **Item #5 - OKI's Banks Intermodal Center HOV Parking Project**

This resolution authorizes OKI to participate in a pilot project to encourage the use of HOV parking in the Banks Intermodal Center. This is a 3-year pilot project that will work in conjunction with OKI's RideShare program.

*Resolution OKI 2011-08 approved.*

### **Item #6 - Consent Agenda**

Approved as presented.

**Next Meeting - OKI Board of Trustees - Thursday, April 14, 2011 – 10:30 AM – OKI Board Room**

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**Two upcoming meetings at the OKI Board Road (720 East Pete Rose Way; Ste 420):**

Friday, March 18, 2011 - OKI Regional Planning Forum; 10 - 12 AM

Monday, April 11, 2011 - OKI Fiscal Year 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program; 5 PM

See OKI's web site for more information ([www.oki.org](http://www.oki.org))

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,  
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