Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions – Michael Beazley, Oregon City administrator and caucus facilitator, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. Introductions were made by everyone present. Mr. Beazley explained the purpose of the Caucus for those new to TMACOG.

Caucus members in attendance included:

- Kevin Aller- Director of Public Safety/Service, City of Sylvania
- Bob Anderson – City Administrator, City of Northwood
- Abby Arnold- Deputy Chief of Staff. City of Toledo
- Mike Aspacher- Mayor, City of Bowling Green
- Mike Beazley- Administrator, City of Oregon
- Matt Cherry- City Council Member, City of Toledo
- Matt Choma- Deputy Director or Public Utilities, City of Perrysburg
- Robert Clark- Mayor, City of Monroe
- Mary Duncan- City Council Member, City of Waterville
- Jon Eckel- Assistant Administrator, City of Perrysburg
- Theresa Gadus- City Council Member, City of Toledo
- Alice Godsey – Director of Public Utilities, City of Perrysburg
- Yvonne Harper- City Council Member, City of Toledo
- Christopher Harrison- Legislative Administrator, City of Toledo
- Gary Johnson- City Council Member, City of Toledo
- Eric Keckler- Mayor, City of Fostoria
- Neocles Leontis- City Council Member, City of Bowling Green
- Jan Materni- City Council Member, City of Perrysburg
- Scott Noonan- City Council Member, City of Maumee
- Timothy Pedro- Mayor, City of Waterville
- Rob Ross- Director of Public Services, City of Perrysburg
- Angie Ruiz- City Council Member, City of Fremont
- Robert Ruse- City Council Member, City of Rossford
- Bill Sanford- Economic Development Director, City of Sylvania
- Ed Schimmel- Mayor, City of Northwood
- Craig Stough- Mayor, City of Sylvania
- Lyndsey Stough- City Council Member, City of Sylvania
- Mary Westphal- City Council President, City of Sylvania

TMACOG support staff in attendance included:

- Marissa Bechstein – Transportation Planner
- David Gedeon – Vice President of Transportation
Elections of Representatives to the Board of Trustees - The first order of business on the agenda was the election of caucus members to this year’s Board of Trustees. A motion was made and seconded to elect the following representatives to this year’s TMACOG Board of Trustees.

**Trustees**
- Jan Materni – City of Perrysburg
- Tim Pedro – City of Waterville
- Angie Ruiz – City of Fremont

**Alternates**
- Scott Noonan – City of Maumee
- Greg Robinette – City of Bowling Green
- Craig Stough – City of Sylvania

Election of City Representative to Transportation Council – A motion was made and seconded to elect Neocles Leontis to represent the City Caucus on the Transportation Council and Angie Ruiz as the alternate.

Introduction of Discussion Topics – The following topics were discussed by the caucus.

**H2Ohio Initiative** – Caucus members were asked whether they have taken advantage of these funds and if they have not, they were highly encouraged to look more into opportunities. The City of Perrysburg was looking at possible wetlands around the city that might be eligible for ODNR money. Mike Beazley reported that the City of Toledo and surrounding areas are interested in assisting with cleaning up the wetlands and other areas to assist cleanup of the lake. Coastal areas need to be improved and there is money available for this region especially because the algae in the lake was a significant driver for the funding. Caucus members discussed the political pushback regarding the belief that park spaces will be eliminated due to the projects derived from these funds. Ottawa, Wood, and Lucas Counties and the City of Oregon are seeking funds that will replace a series of septic systems with sewer systems. Dave Gedeon mentioned that in the past, TMACOG has had watershed grants available to update/replace outdated septic systems.

**Cooperative Dispatch and Fire Issues** – Caucus members provided updates on the 911 consolidation in their jurisdictions/counties. Lucas County initially had political pushback, but now they are moving forward. The consolidation should make it safer and save tax payers money. Northwood and Northern Wood County have not yet consolidated due to political pushback and monetary issues. The City of Fremont said their people are pushing back because of the change in hours and it is hard to connect with someone in a non-emergency situation. Monroe County now has dispatch for the entire county. The City of Sylvania is not going to save money during the consolidation because they will not be shutting down the local police department. However, they agree consolidation is the right move, but for reasons other than saving money. The City of Fostoria has three counties to work with they are also struggling with people needing access during the middle of the night. They are also not saving money because of the new equipment that needs purchase for consolidation. The City of Bowling Green has applied for capital funding to apply for a communication tower that will assist with consolidation efforts.
Criminal Justice and Municipal Court Funding – Caucus members discussed the 911 levy that is coming up in Lucas County and the potential for the availability of more funds that can be used as leverage to move towards a County Court System. Cities are currently paying anywhere from $500,000 to $12,000,000 from general funds to maintain municipal courts. Switching to a county-wide system could save municipalities money. One concern discussed was the pushback from municipal court judges. A solution that was identified was to have satellite courts in each jurisdictions and judges could be elected by districts. Another concern was that people assume criminal justice funds are going to be used for a new county jail when they are already paying a lot of taxes for the existing jail.

Legislative Update - Caucus members discussed the ongoing issue regarding the legislature trying to erode Cities’ abilities to collect income taxes, property taxes, etc. There is a new bill (Senate Bill 206) currently in the hearing stage that says the city cannot collect taxes from people who live outside of the city but work in the city. However, these individuals utilize the city roads and fire/police services. In Michigan, a large few cities have a local city tax which requires a tax from employees however smaller cities do not have this tax. Another issue Michigan has involves the legislative mandates that are reducing the local’s abilities to manage their funds. Most mandates are unfunded, and they are spending public dollars to fix issues in communities. The example discussed was the mandate for municipalities to replace residential lead pipes. Solar arrays are another potential income for local jurisdictions, but there is legislation that would keep local governments from participating. Caucus members agreed that they wanted to pass a resolution opposing Senate Bill 206. A motion was made by Ed Schimmel to oppose Senate Bill 206 and Neocles Leontis seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

Roundtable Discussion/Next Steps – Caucus Members went around the room and discussed newsworthy information on their respective cities

Adjourn – There was no further business. Mr. Beazley adjourned the meeting at 9:50 am.