

MEETING MINUTES

Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Board Meeting
February 4, 2010
Post Falls City Council Chambers, City Hall, First Floor
Post Falls, Idaho

Board Members in Attendance:

Jimmie Dorsey, Chair	East Side Highway District
Clay Larkin, Vice Chair	City of Post Falls
Bob Miller (alternate)	Post Falls Highway District
Richard Panabaker	City of Hayden
Vic Holmes	City of Rathdrum
Al Hassell	City of Coeur d'Alene
James Mangan	Worley Highway District
Marv Lekstrum	Lakes Highway District
Damon Allen	Idaho Transportation Department

Board Members Absent:

Norma Peone	Coeur d'Alene Tribe
Lynn Humphreys	Post Falls Highway District
Todd Tondee	Kootenai County

Staff Present:

Glenn Miles, Executive Director
Ryan Stewart, Senior Transportation Planner
Donna Lively, Administrative Secretary

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board was called to order by Chair, Jimmie Dorsey at 1:31 pm.

2. Approval of January Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Al Hassell made a motion to approve the January 7, 2010 meeting minutes. Mr. Vic Holmes seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

3. Public Comments – There were no comments given.

4. KCATT Recommendations.

Mr. Kevin Jump, KCATT Chair, reported that KCATT, in preparation for potential future economic stimulus funding, discussed the readiness of projects on last year's economic

stimulus project list that have not received funding to date. KCATT had no KMPO Board recommendations to report on.

5. Administrative Matters – Glenn Miles

a. KMPO General December 2009 Expenses & Financial Report

Mr. Glenn Miles reported that December's vouchers included the Board approved final payment to Ruen-Yeager & Associates for the SH 97 Corridor Study.

Mr. Clay Larkin made a motion to approve the KMPO Vouchers payment for December 2009 in the amount of \$47,658.47. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vic Holmes and unanimously approved.

6. Public Transportation

a. Citylink Status Report – Alan Eirls

Mr. Alan Eirls reported that both the Link and the C routes had significantly higher ridership in January over the previous month and the same month a year ago. A breakdown caused the loss of a portion of a run and they are addressing repair issues on two buses.

Mr. Panabaker asked how many buses Citylink: which Mr. Eirls responded 19, but 10 are specifically for the casino and 2 are for emergencies. Mr. Al Hassell noted that ridership has steadily increased since 2007. Mr. Eirls stated that Citylink hopes to piggyback their bus request with one from the Oregon Transportation Department in order to expedite acquiring additional buses to accommodate the increase in ridership.

b. KATS Status Report – Helen Stephens

Ms. Helen Stevens reported that the numbers are about the same as last January. Shuttle services are down, although ridership from Rathdrum is up. Mr. Vic Holmes asked whether the increase in Rathdrum's ridership was due to call in requests or the number of riders at the designated stop. Ms. Stevens responded that it was both.

c. ARRA Public Transportation Projects Update – John Austin

Mr. John Austin reported that the Pan Handle Area Council will meet with the County Commissioners next week to discuss securing the 14 vehicles using the ARRA funds. They anticipate vehicle delivery as early as May.

d. Financial Report – John Austin

This item was detailed in line item e. below.

e. FY 2010-2011 Kootenai County Public Transportation FTA 5307 Budget Approval – John Austin

Mr. Austin reviewed the vehicle replacement capital reserve for Kootenai County. The line items have been removed for each of the operators (KATS, Kootenai Medical Center, and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe) and a capital reserve has been established for bus repair and replacement.

He noted that jurisdictional matches will remain the same; the Coeur d'Alene Tribe has exceeded their match of \$402,000 to \$650,000. Federal funds are tapped out that would otherwise close this gap. Given the census this year, he hopes that more federal funds will be made available in the near future. He emphasized the Tribe's commitment in funding public transportation in the region.

Mr. Al Hassell noted that it usually takes a few years before census results are applicable. Mr. Austin concurred, stating that KMPO was born out of the 2000 census and the effect of this year's census results will be seen in 2012.

Mr. Larkin asked for confirmation that the jurisdictions' share will not be increased over the next 12 months since they are in their budget cycles. Mr. Austin confirmed that rates will not be increased and stated that letters of agreements will be sent out shortly for council approvals.

Mr. Al Hassell made a motion to approve the FY 2010-2011 Kootenai County Public Transportation FTA 5307 Budget. Mr. Vic Holmes seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

7. Director's Report – Glenn Miles

Mr. Glenn Miles reported that a letter from the City of Harrison was forwarded to the Board earlier in the week asking for Board consideration to extend public transportation services to the City of Harrison. Mr. Miles stated that staff will review the work program and coordinate with the service providers and Mr. Austin in determining how to respond to the request. He suggested a cost estimate could be provided for these services after ascertaining what type of service and frequency is needed.

Mr. Miles reported that the presentation he gave to the Joint House and Senate Transportation Committee on how metropolitan planning organizations select and prioritize projects went well and there were many in attendance.

He reported that there will be construction activity at the State Line; ITD has a stimulus funded project while Spokane County will be replacing the State Line bridge.

Staff is working on updating the Kootenai Area Construction Map. Given the limited resources available, Mr. Miles anticipates that the map will be updated on the KMPO

website and that an electronic notification with a link to the site will be sent out shortly thereafter.

Mr. Clay Larkin made a motion that the Kootenai Area Construction Map not be reprinted but that an updated version be posted on the KMPO website. Mr. Al Hassell seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Mr. Miles reported that there is a March 2nd deadline for stimulus funds to be obligated or returned to the federal government for redistribution. With regard to the upcoming Jobs Bill; there is concern that a stipulation requires that funds be awarded to the contractor in 90 days. According to ITD it takes on average 90 to 93 days for funds to go from obligation to award. There are several area projects that could qualify: 1) the City of Coeur d'Alene's Atlas Bike Path, and 2) Lancaster from Huetter to Highway 41, which requires no right of way work and would coincide nicely with the project at US 95 and Lancaster. Mr. Miles noted that highway districts have also submitted their rural projects list to Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC).

Mr. Miles asked Mr. Ryan Stewart to present a request on behalf of the Public Transportation Roundtable. Mr. Stewart reported that at the January Public Transportation Roundtable meeting there was continued discussion regarding the feasibility of a Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) in Kootenai County. A motion was made supporting the continued discussion and research on the formation of a RPTA. Members are requesting Board consideration to have Public Transportation Roundtable representation on the KMPO subcommittee that was formed to research the feasibility of a RPTA in Kootenai County. It was noted that the next Public Transportation Roundtable meeting is scheduled for April. Mr. Dorsey responded that he would draft a letter to the Roundtable Chair stating that the request is inappropriate since the Roundtable serves in an advisory capacity to the Board.

Mr. James Mangan asked Mr. Miles for clarification on the term "obligation" from the earlier discussion. Mr. Miles stated that under the federal terms, obligation means that the State has submitted all materials to the Federal Highway Administration and that the funds are protected.

8. Other Business

a. DEQ Update – Mark Boyle

Mr. Mark Boyle reported that the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new ozone standard is still out for public comment. EPA has been working on a new hourly NO₂ standard though it is not expected to impact Kootenai County.

9. Board Member Items

Mr. Jimmie Dorsey introduced the City of Hayden's new KMPO Board representative, Mr. Dick Panabaker.

10. Adjournment.

There being no further business before the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm.

Donna Lively
Recording Secretary