

MEETING MINUTES

Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Board Meeting
December 4, 2003
Idaho Transportation Department District 1 Headquarters
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Board Members in Attendance:

Mark Soderling (for Chris Hanson)	Lakes Highway District
Ken Renner (for Dick Edinger)	East Side Highway District
Anson Gable	City of Hayden
Joe Hassell	City of Rathdrum
Lynn Humphreys	Post Falls Highway District
Gus Johnson	Kootenai County Commissioner
Bill Melvin (for Clay Larkin)	City of Post Falls
Dixie Reid, Chair	City of Coeur d'Alene
Andrea Storjohann (for Scott Stokes)	ITD District 1 Engineer

Board Members Absent:

Tom St. John, Vice Chair, Worley Highway District
Chris Hanson, Lakes Highway District
Dick Edinger, East Side Highway District
Clay Larkin, City of Post Falls

Staff Present:

Glenn Miles, Transportation Manager
Tanna Dole, Transportation Planner

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board was called to order by Chair, Dixie Reid, at 1:05 pm.

2. Approval of October Meeting Minutes.

Lynn Humphreys made a motion to approve the November 6, 2003 meeting minutes. Gus Johnson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

3. Administrative Matters.

a.) Approval of October Vouchers

Gus Johnson made a motion to approve the payment of the October voucher list in the amount of \$6,175.12. Lynn Humphreys seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

4. KCATT Recommendations

Glenn Miles reported the change put forward by the KMPO Board regarding the KCATT By-Law revision was presented to the KCATT members at the November 25th meeting. The KCATT members accepted the changes and had no other comments or submissions.

5. Urban Balancing Committee

Glenn Miles said there would be a meeting of the Urban Balancing Committee on December 10th. He will be attending the meeting via a conference call. Miles introduced Clair Bowman, the director of COMPASS in Boise. Bowman is also the chairman of the Urban Balancing Committee.

6. Public Transportation Report – John Austin

John Austin reported work had begun on the next 5307 application for FTA funding. Austin stated the preliminary numbers look unchanged from last year and he believed the local match would remain around \$4,000.00. Austin also reported that Kootenai County sent the reimbursement checks to the cities of Coeur d' Alene, Post Falls, and Hayden. The cities advanced funding to assure continued transit services while waiting for the 2003 FTA funding. Austin thanked the cities and the KMPO Board for the support. Glenn Miles reported that Nelson/nygaard Inc., the consulting firm awarded the contract for the Public Transportation Study, has been given the notice to proceed.

7. Old Business

a. Huetter Road Corridor Study Scope of Work – Update

A copy of the scope of work was delivered to the KMPO board members prior to the meeting. Glenn Miles reported KCATT was in the process of reviewing the Huetter Road Corridor Scope of Work. The Huetter Road Corridor Study would be discussed at the next KCATT meeting on December 23rd and KCATT's recommendation would be ready for the January meeting of the KMPO board. Miles explained the delay in reviewing the document was due to questions regarding the environmental scope portion of the study.

b. Public Involvement Plan

Miles explained the Public Involvement Plan had completed a mandatory 45-day public comment period. Miles said the Plan had been advertised and was posted on the KMPO website. No comments were received. Chair Dixie Reid had a question regarding #4 listed under the Public Involvement Procedure. Reid wanted to know if the KMPO

meeting dates were published in a newspaper and in which newspaper. Miles said the meeting notices have been published in the Coeur d' Alene Press. He further explained this is done at the beginning of each year and does not preclude the KMPO from changing a date if necessary. A discussion ensued regarding whether or not to adopt one newspaper as the official publication of the KMPO. The members adopted the Coeur d' Alene Press as the official newspaper for publication. Chair Reid then asked the members to review on page 2 the reference to the KMPO website and suggested each participating jurisdiction to provide links to the KMPO web page. Reid continued by referring to page 3 regarding the Key Audience list. Reid suggested sending minutes of the KMPO board meeting to the legislators. The membership concurred. **Lynn Humphreys made a motion to adopt the Public Involvement Plan as written. Gus Johnson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

c. Aecom Scope of Work

Miles explained the scope of work involves updating Kootenai travel demand model. Miles stated that Aecom has significant experience in converting travel demand model sets. **Gus Johnson made a motion to approve the scope of work as outlined. Lynn Humphreys seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

8. New Business

a. Election of Officers

Chair Reid opened the floor to nominations for Chair. Lynn Humphreys moved to nominate incumbent Dixie Reid as Chair. Gus Johnson seconded the motion. **With no other nominations the membership unanimously voted to retain Dixie Reid as KMPO Chair.**

Chair Reid opened the floor to nominations for Vice Chair. Joe Hassell moved to nominate incumbent Tom St. John. Ken Renner seconded the motion. **With no other nominations the membership unanimously voted to retain Tom St. John as KMPO Vice Chair.**

b. Meeting Date for January 2004

Chair Reid informed the members the next regularly scheduled meeting for KMPO was January 1, 2004 and suggested the date be changed. The membership decided to hold the next meeting on January 7, 2004. Gus Johnson requested permanently changing the time of the meetings from 1:00 PM to 1:30 PM. **Andrea Storjohann made a motion to retain the first Thursday of the month as the regular meeting day of the KMPO but change the meeting time from 1:00 PM to 1:30 PM. Lynn Humphreys seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

c. Public Transportation Task Force Discussion

Glenn Miles provided background on the Idaho Task Force on Public Transportation. Miles had previously distributed to the KMPO board the executive summary from the October 21 and 22 meeting of the Public

Transportation Task Force. Miles introduced Clair Bowman who is the executive director of Compass from Boise and a member of the Public Transit steering committee. Miles asked Bowman to attend the KMPO board meeting to provide information and encourage discussion regarding public transportation in Idaho. Bowman began by explaining that public transit funding in the past has largely been seen as an issue limited to southern Idaho. Bowman emphasized the need for public transit is not limited to urbanized areas. Every geographic area in the state has at least one segment of population identified as users of public transit and solutions for funding should be addressed on a statewide basis. Bowman further stated that in Idaho funding is essentially on a year-by-year basis, dependent upon local match dollars provided by local property tax revenues and he believes property taxes as a funding source for public transit is not stable or effective. Idaho is the only state that he knows of still using that approach. Other states allow other options for funding public transit. Bowman said there is interest from a group of legislators to examine public transit funding issues statewide. Idaho legislation provides for the organization of a regional public transportation authority, however, no funding provision is included. He requested KMPO to participate in the opportunity to discuss public transit needs during the 2004 legislative session. Bowman explained that Cecil Ingram, Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee and JoAnn Wood, the Chair of the House Transportation Committee have agreed to joint sessions of the Senate and the House allowing for three meetings in the first few weeks of the legislative session. The specific purpose will be to hear the results from the Public Transportation Task Force discussions as well as other input regarding Public Transportation issues in Idaho. Chair Reid requested that Bowman notify KMPO of the dates for the meetings so a representative of KMPO could attend. Glenn Miles explained there were various alternative funding options considered by the Task Force. Among the options were, 1.) Fuel tax - requires constitutional changes and not looked upon favorable. 2.) Fuel Tax Advalorem - could create economic issues by residents crossing state borders for purchases. 3.) Vehicle Registration - still viable option and considered easy to administer. 4.) Vehicle Property Tax - easy to collect, but residents may go to a county with a lower-cost. 5.) Tire Tax - eliminated, agreed there would not be enough revenue to collect. 6.) Sales Tax - residents would consider making purchases across state border. 7.) Impact Fee - eliminated. 8.) Employment Head Tax - eliminated because of possible economic development impact. 9.) Title Transfer Fee - considered viable. Miles stressed it was important to collectively decide as a local jurisdiction the geographic boundaries for public transportation in their region and to have a well defined plan that demonstrates financial constraint in order to gain the support of the people. Miles asked the KMPO board to support the use of local options in drafting alternatives for the funding of public transportation. The board unanimously concurred.

9. Board Member Items

Bill Melvin wanted to know if the contracts KMPO entered into had legal review prior to signing. Chair Reid answered yes there was legal review. Melvin also requested that as the contracts are sent out for review by the board there be note made to the members whether or not the contract had been through legal review. Melvin also asked the board to re-affirm opposition to the legislation regarding the 129,000 lbs truck weight limit. The issue was to be put on the 2004 legislative agenda. **Gus Johnson made a motion to re-affirm the KMPO's opposition to any articles of legislation increasing truck weight limits. Mark Soderling seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.** Further, Melvin asked if KCATT would look at the access to the Coeur d' Alene Airport. Glenn Miles agreed to bring the matter to the KCATT. Chair Reid introduced Freeman Duncan, the attorney for KMPO, and Coeur d' Alene City Councilman elect Al Hassell.

10. Director/Public Comments

No comments were made.

11. ADJOURN Regular Session

There being no further business before the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 PM.

TANNA DOLE
Recording Secretary