

**KCATT MEETING
MINUTES
April 27, 2004
ITD District 1 Conference Room
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho**

Call to Order:

Chairman Joe Wuest called the KCATT meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions:

Elmer Hingston from Post Falls Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee was present.

Approval of the March Minutes:

John Pankratz made a motion to accept the March 23, 2004 minutes. The motion was seconded by Tom Nigh, which passed unanimously.

Update With Utilities:

Avista:

Steve Meredith reported work has begun at I-90 and Government Way. Also along Jacklin Road and also working on a loop feed at the Coeur 'd Alene Airport. Avista is also in the process of calculating work for the Bridging The Valley project.

KEC:

Bob Hallock reported they were working on Chilco Road and Dodd Road and subdivisions.

Adelphia:

Bruce Hathaway reported work was primarily in subdivisions and along road re-alignments. Bruce also reported the State Utility Council meeting was in Lewiston the week prior. The meeting was well attended. The Utility Councils were awarded a \$20,000 statewide grant to be used for public education and advertising. The funds will be shared by utility councils across the state.

Project Updates:

Lakes Highway District:

Joe Wuest reported Lakes Highway District that Lancaster Road west of US 95 to Crawford Park would be ready for paving 4/29 or 4/30. Because of an increase in traffic on Boekel Road Lakes Highway District plans on moving forward with railroad crossing improvements at the crossing between Ramsey and Atlas. Also the CMAQ project scheduled for Chilco Road will go out to bid May 8. Wuest said Lakes dust abatement program would begin next week.

ITD:

Andrea Storjohann reported there are dynamic message boards being installed near the Rose Lake and Wolf Lodge interchanges on Interstate 90. I-90 between Sherman Avenue and Wolf Lodge Bay will be repaved and the Veterans Memorial Bridge is schedule for joint repair. Blue Creek Bay Bridge will receive a new deck and require lane closures during the repair and be restricted to 12-foot wide loads. US 95 – Belgrove to Mica will finished this year. The bid for the portion between Setters to Belgrove has been awarded to Gonzales from Newman Lake. Construction on the five-mile portion will begin in May. Verizon will be completed with the re-location project at Government Way underpass by August.

Eastside Highway District:

John Pankratz reported that East Side Highway District was finishing up the Rocky Canyon project and the road is open. Pankratz anticipates construction on Bonnell Road to begin next week.

Worley Highway District:

Tom Nigh reported that Worley Highway District had opened bids the day before for one mile of new road construction called the Rockford Creek Project. It is anticipated the new road will be open in the fall.

Post Falls Highway District:

Kelly Brownsberger reported that Idaho Street (CMAQ project) between Prairie Avenue and Hayden Avenue is scheduled to be paved May 12. Paving of the connected section of Pleasantview Road from Seltice to Prairie is scheduled for May 3. Brownsberger also reported that Huetter Road between Mullan Avenue and Seltice Way would be closed for 2 weeks for the installation of water lines.

City of Rathdrum:

Bob Lloyd reported the City of Rathdrum was preparing East Main and Bingham for paving.

City of Hayden:

Jeff Zaug reported the City of Hayden had a public hearing last evening regarding the Government Way project. Currently ITD is reviewing the environmental and Zaug stated the preliminary design would be completed within the week.

City of Coeur d' Alene:

Gordon Dobler reported Phase I of the Government Way project is nearing completion. Signalization at Dalton and Government Way is progressing. Right of Way acquisition for Phase II of the Government Way project is almost complete. Construction of Phase II may begin in the fall. Dobler said the design along 4th Street funded by an economic development grant is underway and construction will soon follow.

City of Post Falls:

Rob Paulas reported the City of Post Falls opened bids for a new reservoir on the west side of the city. Paulas also reported the City Council and Planning & Zoning Commission will meet on Thursday to finalize the transportation plan prepared for the city by David Evans & Assoc., Inc. Paulas also mentioned the concept report for Mullan Avenue widening project was in progress.

ITD Board Update:

John McHugh reported the board meeting was in Lewiston on April 15. One issue of discussion was political signs in the road right of way. ITD opposes this use of right of way and wants signs removed if safety is compromised.

Old Business:

US 95-Garwood to Sagle Recommendations

The KCATT advisory committee supports the concept of a four-lane facility with limited access and recommends the following alignment alternatives be **advanced for further investigation**. The KCATT members believe the following alternatives would most closely follow the existing alignment. This would result in fewer negative impacts on local access roads, provide better visibility for the existing businesses and have minimal environmental impact.

A3/ Athol Silverwood West - This alternative could improve the existing highway from SH 53 to just south of Silverwood. From that point it would construct 3 miles of new highway around the west side of Silverwood connecting back with the existing highway just south of Athol. From there it would combine with alternative A8 (existing alignment) which would construct one mile of new highway just east of Athol at SH 54 to avoid existing businesses and the school on the west side of the highway.

A7/Existing Alignment with Silverwood Bypass - This alternative could improve the existing highway from SH 53 to just south of Silverwood. From that point it would construct 2 miles of new highway around the east side of Silverwood then connecting back with the existing highway. From there it would combine with alternative A8 (existing alignment) which would construct one mile of new highway just east of Athol at SH 54 to avoid existing businesses and the school on the west side of the highway.

B1/Granite Realignment – This alternative could realign the existing curves and reconstruct the roadway to have flatter grades. The alignment would be close to the existing, but would be shifted west or east of the existing alignment up to several hundred feet to more closely fit the terrain.

The KCATT members recommend the following alternative be **removed from any further consideration**. KCATT believes the following alternatives could adversely affect properties, create conflicts with Kootenai County's comprehensive plan and the KMPO long-range transportation plan. These alternatives could also have a detrimental effect on the surrounding environment.

A1/Chilco West – This alternative alignment would construct 13 miles of new highway to circumvent the Chilco/Silverwood/Athol area to the west from south of SH 53 to the County Line. It would pass through developing areas of farms and low density residential. The

existing highway could become a business route or turned over to the Highway District for local access.

A2/Athol West – The alternative alignment would be similar to A1 except that it would divert from the existing alignment just south of Silverwood. It would construct 8 miles of new highway to circumvent the Silverwood/Athol area to the west from south of Silverwood to the County Line. It would pass through developing areas of farms and low density residential. The existing highway could become a business route or turned over to the Highway District for local access.

A4/Athol Silverwood East – This alternative could improve the existing highway from SH 53 to just south of Silverwood. From that point it would construct 6 miles of new highway around the east side of Silverwood and Athol connecting back with the existing highway north of Athol.

A5/Athol Railroad – This alternative could improve the existing highway from SH 53 to just south of Silverwood. From that point it would construct 5 miles of new highway around the west side of Silverwood and through Athol adjacent to the railroad connecting back with the existing highway north of Athol. This alternative could utilize the right-of-way of the old highway through Athol.

B2/Athol Granite East – This alternative alignment would construct 9 miles of new highway to circumvent the Silverwood/Athol/Granite area to the east from south of Silverwood to near Carewood. It would pass through developing areas of farms and low density residential. The existing highway could become a business route or turned over to the Highway District for local access.

E1/Hoodoo Valley – This alternative did not meet the Purpose and Need and overall project goals. And could result in an increased potential for growth in rural areas and greater environmental effects.

Tom Nigh made a motion to forward the list of US 95 Garwood to Sagle recommendations to the KMPO Policy Board. The motion was seconded by John Pankratz, which passed unanimously.

Utility Mapping Project

Joe Wuest reported the Kootenai County Utility Council has agreed to contribute \$1,000.00 toward the creation of a countywide project map. Wuest said most of the jurisdictions and utilities had responded but a few cities still have not sent lists of anticipated projects. He would like to receive the list of projects as soon as possible. Glenn Miles stated any contribution from the KMPO would be funded through Work Program funding as public information and education.

Tom Nigh made a motion to move forward with the utility mapping project and recommend the KMPO Policy Board contribute to the funding. The motion was seconded by Kelly Brownsberger, which passed unanimously.

2005 Rural Highway Investment Program

Joe Wuest said application for the Rural Highway Investment Program (\$100,000 maximum) are due in Boise on May 14. Lakes, Post Falls, and Worley Highway Districts will be making application. The highway districts would like the KCATT to recommend letters of support be sent from the KMPO to LHTAC.

Gordon Dobler made a motion to recommend the KMPO write letters in support of the project applications from Lakes, Post Falls, and Worley Highway Districts. The motion was seconded by Rob Paulas, which passed unanimously.

Other Business:

Sean Hoisington reported the National Tribal Safety Conference would be held in Worley May 11-13. Hoisington also informed the members the open house for the Post Falls /I-90 Access project was scheduled for May 13 from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm at the Prairie View Elementary school in Post Falls.

Scott Stokes stated the Idaho Transportation Board tour of District One will take place in August and KMPO representative(s) will be part of the touring group.

Glenn Miles reported a group of 37 representing the Regional Chambers traveled to Washington D.C. and met with congressional delegations from Washington and Idaho. Among the topics discussed were the Rathdrum Aquifer Study, Fairchild Air Force Base and Bridging The Valley rail consolidation project. Miles also reported the reauthorization of the transportation bill is still under debate and if agreement was not reached by June it would likely push a conclusion to February of 2005.

Joe Wuest reviewed and gave an update of vehicle registration fees as an optional funding source. Wuest suggested KCATT move forward in preparing a detailed outline for the KMPO board. This would involve a purpose and need statement, a detailed outline of a recommended process, a list of the projects that are in accord with the KCATT Transportation Plan, and a comprehensive campaign approach to reach the public. Glenn Miles presented a spreadsheet illustrating the number of vehicle registrations in Kootenai County and a graphic illustrating Idaho's Highway Distribution and Sources account. Data was gathered from the Idaho Department of Transportation's Economic and Research Section and indicates there are approximately 125,000 motorized vehicles registered and 14,000 trailers. Based on a \$15.00 fee the revenue generated would exceed \$2.5M. Miles suggested a committee of three (3) or four (4) KCATT members meet to prepare a draft outline of proposal.

Dick Edinger said the LHTAC would meet with the ITD board on June 18. Also Edinger spoke of the issues regarding city annexation practices. Discussion ensued.

Glenn Miles gave the members an update on the public transit study. Nelson/Nygaard is in the process of doing a telephone survey of 400 homes and should have the results by mid May.

Joe Wuest reminded the members there would be a billing of the local match for the KCATT Transportation Update, Key 9025.

Dan Redline reported the CMAQ technical review committee met last week and reviewed 41 applications. The technical committee will forward their recommendations to the ITD board.

Next meeting – May 25, 2004

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

TANNA DOLE
Recording Secretary