

MEETING MINUTES

Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Board Meeting
February 3, 2005
Idaho Transportation Department District One Headquarters
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Board Members in Attendance:

Mark Soderling	Lakes Highway District
Dick Edinger	East Side Highway District
Anson Gable	City of Hayden
Vic Holmes	City of Rathdrum
Lynn Humphreys	Post Falls Highway District
Gus Johnson	Kootenai County Commissioner
Clay Larkin	City of Post Falls
Dixie Reid, Chair	City of Coeur d'Alene
James Mangan	Worley Highway District
Scott Stokes	ITD District One Engineer

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 1:30 pm.

Dick Edinger requested all in attendance stand for a moment of silent to recognize the passing away of Tom St. John. Tom was one of the primary supporters of organizing an MPO and worked relentlessly throughout the formation and designation of the KMPO. Tom St. John was dedicated to community service and will be greatly missed.

2. Approval of January Meeting Minutes.

Lynn Humphreys made a motion to approve the January 3, 2005 meeting minutes. Dick Edinger seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

3. Director/Public Comments

Glenn Miles reported the list of 2005 applications to be submitted by KMPO.
(See Attached)

4. Administrative Matters.

a) Approval of November/December Vouchers

Mark Soderling made a motion to approve the payments of the December 2004 voucher list in the amount of \$42,670.08 and the expenses (November and December 2004) for the Transportation Plan Update, Key No. 9025 in the amount of \$3,907.83. Gus Johnson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

4. KCATT Recommendations

Glenn Miles reported KCATT reaffirmed the recommendation to adopt the Public Transportation Plan.

5. Idaho Urban Committee

Glenn Miles said there would be a committee meeting in March. Miles also stated it will be time to assess project status in order to rebalance program dollars for the coming year.

6. Public Transportation Report -

Commissioner Gus Johnson announced that earlier in the day Kootenai County Board of Commissioners signed an agreement with the Coeur d' Alene Tribe to partner public transportation services from the southern portion of Kootenai County to Coeur 'd Alene and Post Falls. The agreement is the first of its kind in the state and Johnson expressed his thanks for the cooperation from the Coeur d' Alene Tribe. The Coeur d' Alene Tribe appointed Frances SiJohn to sit on the KMPO policy board. SiJohn conveyed his appreciation for the opportunity to be on the policy board and the opportunity for the Tribe to partner in providing public transit services. Glenn Miles said he had spoken with Rick Krachlais who is the regional administrator for the Federal Transit Administration. Miles said Krachlais was quite pleased and was looking forward to seeing the partnership implemented.

7. Other Business

a. Adoption of the Public Transportation Study

Tom Brennan from Nelson/Nygaard presented the final Public Transportation Study documents to the board. Brennan reviewed the process over the past year to prepare the study. Brennan said the documents have included the comments received during the final comment period from December 2, 2004 through January 11, 2005. Brennan stated the documents reflect community input from stakeholder and citizen groups as well as the transit experience of Nelson/Nygaard. **Dick Edinger made a motion to adopt the Public Transportation Study. Lynn Humphreys seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

James Mangan asked to clarify the Public Transportation Study is providing options available for public transportation in the Kootenai Metropolitan Area and not a plan of action. Dixie Reid concurred.

b. GARVEE (Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle) Bonding -

David Ekern, Director of the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD), and Charles Winder, Chairman of the ITD Executive Board gave an informational presentation explaining the vision of "Connecting Idaho" and the use of GARVEE bonds as a tool to accomplish the vision. Winder described a list of highway projects that would be part of furthering the vision of "Connecting Idaho". David Ekern explained GARVEE is an acronym for Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle and is a federal program that allows states to issue bonds to build highway projects and pay off the bonds using its future federal highway payments. Ekern continued by explaining in depth the economic benefits and financial analysis. Clay Larkin said he recently returned from the AIC legislative session and the AIC supported the use of GARVEE bonding. Dick Edinger asked how this would effect the LHTAC. Ekern responded by stating the LHTAC federal funding is built in as the foundational piece and will continue to grow with each increase in federal aid. Dixie Reid thanked Ekern and Winder and suggested the issue of GARVEE bonding be taken to the respective jurisdictions for approval. **Dick Edinger made a motion for KMPO to write a letter in support of the "concept" of GARVEE Bonding. Gus Johnson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

c. SRTC Contract Renewal –

Dixie Reid said the SRTC has done an excellent job. Reid asked if the members wanted to enter into a new agreement with SRTC. **James Mangan made a motion to renew the contract with SRTC for another two years. Dick Edinger seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

d. State Highway 97 -

Glenn Miles said because of the interest in developing property on SH 97 south of Interstate 90 there is a need to assess the route. Miles explained that according to the 2000 US Census there were 1600 housing units and 400 more homes have been built since 2000. Several developments are currently proposed which will result in an increase of 1000+ housing units. Miles said the traffic count for the intersection at I-90 and SH 97 is approximately 1400 vehicles daily. Miles said that adding 1000+ housing units would more than double vehicle trips. SH97 is a Scenic By-Way, which increases summer traffic volumes including larger, slow moving recreational vehicles. Also, SH 97 is a narrow and curved roadway with geographic limitations for road improvements. Miles stated that looking at the vacant parcels and determining how many more homes can be built with the current parcels would provide a guide for comparing the current capacity on SH 97 versus further build out.

7. Board Member Items

Vic Holmes introduced Chet Anderson as the new public works director for the City of Rathdrum.

Dick Edinger welcomed Frances SiJohn, representing the Coeur d' Alene Tribe, as the new KMPO board member. Scott Stokes added that ITD has had a long successful history working with the Coeur d' Alene Tribe and SiJohn will bring a great contribution to the KMPO board.

8. Adjournment.

There being no further business before the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

TANNA DOLE
Recording Secretary