

MEETING MINUTES

Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Board Meeting
May 1, 2008
Idaho Transportation Department District 1 Headquarters
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Board Members in Attendance:

Lynn Humphreys, Chair	Post Falls Highway District
Clay Larkin, Vice Chair	City of Post Falls
Al Hassell	City of Coeur d'Alene
Jimmie Dorsey	East Side Highway District
Marv Lekstrum	Lakes Highway District
Damon Allen	Idaho Transportation Department
James Mangan	Worley Highway District
Vic Holmes	City of Rathdrum

Board Members Absent:

Anson Gable	City of Hayden
Rick Currie	Kootenai County
Norma Peone	Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Staff Present:

Glenn Miles, Executive Director
Carole Richardson, Transp. Planning Engineer
Jennifer Wash, Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board was called to order by Chair, Lynn Humphreys at 1:30 pm.

2. a. Approval of April Meeting Minutes.

Mr. James Mangan made a motion to approve the April 3, 2008 meeting minutes. Mr. Clay Larkin seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

b. Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. James Mangan made a motion to approve the April 17, 2008 Special Board meeting minutes. Mr. Vic Holmes seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

3. Public Comments – No comments at this time.

4. Administrative Matters – Glenn Miles

Vouchers 4a – 4c

Mr. Clay Larkin made a motion to approve the payments:

- a) KMPO Vouchers for March 2008 in the amount of \$13,517.33.**
- b) KCATT Transportation Plan – Key 9025 – March 2008 in the amount of \$720.86.**
- c) Huetter Corridor Study – Key 9170 – March 2008 in the amount of \$1,806.15.**

The motion was seconded by Mr. Vic Holmes and unanimously approved.

a) Status Report on Citylink Service

Mr. Rod Mitchell, Citylink Transportation Assistant Manager, passed out the monthly Citylink report to the Board and stated that Citylink has set another record for ridership for the month of April with a little over 31,500.

Mr. Clay Larkin made a comment stating it is nice to see more riders on the bus and less on the roads. He also asked if the representatives from Silverwood had been in contact with Citylink regarding transporting employees to Silverwood this summer. Mr. Mitchell responded that Mr. Eirls had more information on this and would update the Board at the next meeting.

Mr. Humphreys asked Mr. Mitchell about how the parking facilities, provided by the Post Falls Highway District, were working out for Citylink. Mr. Mitchell responded that the facility was working out great for Citylink and they are very appreciative.

b) Status Report on KATS Service

Mr. John Austin handed out the Kats-link report and gave an update of ridership in their area. He mentioned that he would like to make more efforts to reach the riders in Rathdrum.

Mr. Austin clarified the reason for the additional \$6,000 cash match requested from the Cities and fielded questions about the age and service life of the Citylink buses. The Board asked for a written Executive Summary regarding replacement costs and potential costs for the upcoming budget.

Mr. Clay Larkin made a motion to have staff write an Executive Summary on replacement costs and potential costs for the upcoming budget. Mr. Marv Lekstrum seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

6. Director's Report

Mr. Glenn Miles reported that KMPO recently had a meeting of the Highway 97 Steering Committee at the Boy Scout Camp. KMPO has presented them with the proposed safety solutions along Highway 97 from I-90 to Highway 3. He stated he also presented ideas of what could be done on the corridor to get their views and feedback on whether or not it looked like a realistic set of solutions. Public meetings will be held and a report will be brought back to the Board in June.

Mr. Miles stated that David Evans and Associates has been chosen as the consultant to work on the US95 Access study and the study is underway.

Mr. Miles reported that he and a group called the Regional Chamber Alliance made up of Chamber of Commerce's in Spokane County and Northern Idaho traveled to Washington, D.C. last week. This group goes to the D.C. once a year with a unified agenda of what's important for transportation needs in this area, such as continued work on US95, Bridging the Valley, widening of I-90 as well as the Inland Pacific Hub. Mr. Miles and the group met with various senators and representatives as well as different departments and listened to a gentleman that was the Chair of the Commission which Congress put together to look at the next re-authorization bill for transportation, give his thoughts and insights on their charter. Mr. Miles shared this man's interesting perspectives on how to finance and change our infrastructure.

An Urban balancing meeting will be coming up in the next couple of weeks in Boise that Mr. Miles will attend. He will be looking at Lancaster and the funds available and seeing if there is any other spare money around to deal with some of the other transportation projects.

Mr. Miles stated that KMPO Staff is putting together some information, based on the discussion KMPO had with the Department of Environmental Quality, on how this discussion affects Kootenai County. This information will be brought back to the Board next month.

Mr. Miles gave a status report on Bridging the Valley. One of the programs, that he had talked to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) about while in D.C., was called the Federal Rail Relocation Capital Investment Program which was authorized in SAFETEA-LU. In 2008 Congress appropriated \$23 million into that account, but had to have final rules published in order to be able to accept applications for these funds. After meeting with FRA staff, Mr. Miles learned that these rules have been completed, finalized and have been sitting on the Office of Secretary of Transportation's desk for about 2 months. A letter has been drafted to send to the Secretary of Transportation asking her to sign this document so that the final rules can be published and KMPO can apply for these funds.

Mr. Miles and the group also had a nice conversation, with the assistance of Senator Murray's staff, meeting with both Union Pacific and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad to make sure that there continued participation with this project stayed that

way. Mr. Miles believes that there will be some renewed interest on the part of the railroads to make this happen.

7. KCATT Recommendations – No recommendations at this time.

8. Other Business

a) Charter Adoption for Public Transportation Advisory Panel

Mr. Miles stated that KMPO has been working on the creation of the Public Transportation Roundtable for the purpose of acquiring feedback from different groups that help fund, ride and receive services from the system. The proposed Charter would need the Boards seal of approval to continue and to choose a Chair in July.

Mr. Al Hassell made a motion to adopt the Charter for the Public Transportation Advisory Panel. Mr. Jimmie Dorsey seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

9. Board Member Items

Mr. James Mangan passed out a motion and read aloud the proposed motion to the Board based on information given to them by DEQ at the April 17 meeting.

Mr. James Mangan made the following motions:

1. That KMPO formally request that DEQ not begin air quality measurement in Kootenai County, as required by recently passed House Bill 586, until measurement sites are established that will yield results valid for the entire County.
2. That KMPO formally request that DEQ provide guidance on what actions may be required of Kootenai County regarding pollution that originates in cities, counties, states, and reservations over which Kootenai County has no control.

Mr. Marv Lekstrum seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Mr. Clay Larkin agreed with the motion and that there are not enough answers from DEQ about this issue.

10. Adjournment.

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

Jennifer Wash

Recording Secretary