

## MEETING MINUTES

Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Policy Board Meeting  
July 3, 2008  
Idaho Transportation Department District 1 Headquarters  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

### Board Members in Attendance:

Lynn Humphreys, Chair	Post Falls Highway District
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
Rick Currie	Kootenai County

### Board Members Absent:

Clay Larkin, Vice Chair	City of Post Falls
Anson Gable	City of Hayden
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. Approval of June Meeting Minutes.**

**Mr. James Mangan made a motion to approve the June 5, 2008 meeting minutes. Mr. Jimmie Dorsey seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

**3. Public Comments** – Mr. Don Davis made an announcement that the STIP Update was sent out on CD to all the jurisdictions. Public comments started today for 30 days. Comment sheets are available and they can be mailed, emailed, or faxed to ITD.

### **4. Administrative Matters – Glenn Miles**

**Vouchers 4a – 4c**

**Mr. James Mangan made a motion to approve the payments:**

- a) KMPO Vouchers for May 2008 in the amount of \$32,999.64.**
- b) Huetter Corridor Study – Key 9170 – May 2008 in the amount of \$6,376.92.**
- c) US 97 Study – Key 9770 – May 2008 in the amount of \$28,526.88**

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

## **5. Public Transportation**

### **a) Status Report on Citylink Service**

Mr. Alan Eirls, Citylink Transportation Manager, handed out the Citylink report and updated the Board on ridership for the month of June. He reported on various maintenance issues as well the affects of the Ironman, Coeur d'Alene and Hayden Days and the Post Falls Parade to their buses and routes, but all in all there was still an increase in ridership except in the rural areas.

Mr. Currie asked about existing buses; how much mileage is on them currently, what is the life expectancy of the buses and are there replacements in line? Mr. Eirls stated there is about 260,000 miles on the buses and they have exceeded their life expectancy already. He also stated they have one on the way and will have to put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) for another bus with a longer life expectancy.

### **b) Status Report on KATS Service**

Ms. Helen Stephens handed out the KATS-Link report and gave an update of ridership for the month of June. She reported that ridership was down, but with the high gas prices she hopes ridership will increase.

Mr. John Austin introduced Toby Ruhs from Kootenai Medical Center who runs a bus system free of charge as well.

## **6. Director's Report**

Mr. Glenn Miles stated that at the last Urban Balancing meeting KMPO was able to get money for some additional funds for Post Falls' Mullan Avenue Widening Project and also for preliminary engineering and right of way on the City of Coeur d'Alene's Government Way Project from Dalton to Hanley. ITD and Federal Highways asked we do a 30-day public comment and do a formal amendment into the STIP for this year. It will be in the paper this Sunday and will be presented to the Board for approval at the August meeting.

Last month the Board discussed whether or not there could be available local match for the Huetter Corridor if funds were set aside to acquire and protect the Right of Way. Mr.

Miles and Ms. Richardson subsequently had a conversation with Jim Coleman and Damon Allen about this issue and there is some precedence in the State where the State has provided local match for protecting corridors for future long term projects.

Mr. Miles reported also that he and Ms. Richardson met with the North Idaho Centennial Trail Foundation about trail planning. They are very interested in seeing how they can move the concept of a non-motorized plan for Kootenai County and may contact some of the Board members to put in our work program the development of a non-motorized plan.

KMPO had a Highway 97 public meeting at Kootenai Elementary school. There were about 50 people in attendance with 70 display boards for people to view the proposed improvements at each section. Mr. Miles stated there was some positive comment about the ferry proposal, and at the next meeting the following night in Harrison about 30 people attended with more interest in the ferry option.

With respect to the public meeting KMPO has asked Ruen-Yeager to start working on developing the final report and be presented back to the Board in September.

Mr. Miles also reported that Governor Otter's Transportation meetings are coming up July 16<sup>th</sup>.

## **7. KCATT Recommendations**

KCATT Vice-Chair Kevin Howard recommended that KMPO assign staff to head up legal work and public outreach efforts pertaining to the Local Option Vehicle Registration Fee ballot measure.

Mr. Miles clarified that KCATT is asking for Board direction in that staff has been working with each of the jurisdictions on this item at KCATT's request. He felt that if the Board wants KMPO to continue to provide staff support toward this effort, Board authorization is needed, so that KMPO staff is not doing things without the Board's explicit consent.

After an extensive discussion and clarification of staff participation, which is strictly researching and providing factual information for this measure, a motion was made.

**Mr. James Mangan made a motion to continue to allow staff to support the effort of the Local Option Fee ballot measure. Mr. Jimmie Dorsey seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.**

## **8. Other Business**

Chair Lynn Humphreys asked Mr. Mark Boyle to speak to the Board first due to another engagement Mr. Boyle needs to attend after his update.

## **b) Air Quality Update – Mark Boyle**

Mr. Mark Boyle from DEQ updated the Board concerning air quality in Kootenai County. DEQ is in negotiation with Washington State University (WSU) to get two weeks of monitoring out on the Rathdrum Prairie area. They are going to do some analysis on where to do the monitoring to give us the best readings. The second item in progress is the emissions inventory item. The DEQ emissions coordinator will come up to speak with staff and start negotiating on what to do to work together and come up with a plan. Mr. Boyle mentioned they are also finding that it takes time to set up I & M stations and that if emissions testing is needed in Kootenai County it could possibly be another 3 years before they start anything.

## **a) Priority Corridors Discussion**

Ms. Carole Richardson stated the first chapter of KMPO's long range transportation plan addresses key policies. One of these policy matters refers to priority corridors for system expansion. Before publishing this chapter of the long range plan for public comment, Ms. Richardson wanted to be certain the Board is in agreement with the priority corridors shown. She presented a map to the board that showed I90, SH53, Pleasantview, Greensferry, SH41, Huetter Bypass, Ramsey and Government Way as priority corridors. US95 was shown north of SH53, but not south.

Ms. Richardson stated that some discussion had occurred at KCATT about whether existing US95 through Coeur d'Alene and Hayden, and SH54 between Spirit Lake and Athol should be added to the priority corridors map. Ms. Richardson explained that funding will be limited in the future, so it is recommended that the priority corridors represent what can realistically be funded instead of diluting funding between too many routes. Mr. Miles clarified that the map will help focus federal funding.

Ms. Richardson asked the board for feedback on the routes shown.

Mr. Dorsey suggested showing where corridor investments have already been made, and developing supplemental maps to show changes.

Mr. Al Hassell thought that perhaps Highway 54 may need widening in 20 years, but not in 10 years.

Mr. Marv Lekstrum feels the map is fine the way it is.

Mr. Vic Holmes added that Highway 41 between Rathdrum and Spirit Lake would need attention before Highway 54 does. He also stated that existing US95 through Coeur d'Alene and Hayden should not be a priority corridor because he feels it will not ever be an eight lane freeway. There was further discussion about the segment of US95 between Lancaster and SH53 which needs to be widened to four lanes, and several Board members felt this piece of the existing highway should be identified as a priority.

Mr. Currie mentioned that he could see Lancaster expanded to the East, and wondered about Prairie from Government Way east and Greensferry from I-90 South.

Ms. Richardson thanked the Board for their feedback.

**c) PT Roundtable – Citizen at Large members**

Mr. Glenn Miles stated KMPO is in the process of advertising for citizens to participate in the Public Transportation Roundtable. The ad stops July 25<sup>th</sup> and by the next Board meeting KMPO will submit a list of interesting citizens which then the Board can identify who they would like on the Roundtable as a citizen.

**9. Board Member Items**

Mr. Damon Allen announced that next week, July 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, the Idaho Transportation Board will be at ITD to tour as well as have their Board meeting.

The following week on July 16<sup>th</sup> the Governors Transportation Conference will be held at the Best Western Coeur d'Alene Inn.

Al Hassell, Marv Lekstrum and Vic Holmes let the Board know that Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Athol and Rathdrum approved the draft of the Streets and Roads Resolution of 2008.

**10. Adjournment.**

There being no further business before the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.

---

Jennifer Wash  
Recording Secretary