MEETING MINUTES

Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Board Meeting
March 1, 2007
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
Dixie Reid	City of Coeur d'Alene
Jimmie Dorsey	East Side Highway District
Mark Soderling	Lakes Highway District
James Mangan	Worley Highway District
Andrea Storjohann	Idaho Transportation Department
Brian Steele	City of Rathdrum
Rick Currie	Kootenai County
Anson Gable	City of Hayden

Board Members Absent:

Norma Peone	Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Staff Present:
Glenn Miles, Executive Director
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 February Meeting Minutes.

Mr. James Mangan made a motion to approve the February 1, 2007 meeting minutes. Mr. Jimmie Dorsey seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

3. Public Comments – There were no public comments.

4. Administrative Matters – Glenn Miles

a) KMPO Vouchers – January 2007

Mr. Rick Currie made a motion to approve the payment of the January 2007 KMPO Vouchers in the amount of $6,153.78. The motion was seconded by Mr. James Mangan and unanimously approved.

b) KCATT Transportation Plan Update Key 9025 Vouchers

There were no KCATT Vouchers presented at this time.

c) Huetter Corridor Vouchers – December 2006

Mr. Rick Currie made a motion to approve payment of the January 2007 Huetter Corridor Study Key 9170 Vouchers in the amount of $9,352. The motion was seconded by Mr. James Mangan and unanimously approved.

5. Public Transportation Report.

a) Status Report on Citylink Service

Mr. Alan Eirls passed out the Citylink report to the Board for their review and reported on ridership for the month of February. The ridership is 3000 riders higher than February 2006. He also distributed new Citylink bus schedules, which will go into effect March 23rd. These schedules are already posted inside the buses to give customers an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the times. Mr. Bill Spencer mentioned the main emphasis at this time is on Phase I. Once this has been implemented the rural routes will be addressed and then Phase II with implementation in the Fall. He also stated that have asked Citylink's attorney is working with a Kootenai County Commissioners attorney to draft a letter of agreement asking for a three-year extension that was approved by the KMPO Board last month.

b) Status Report on KATS Service

Mr. John Austin introduced Ms. Helen Stephens, Director of N.I.C.E. which serves Post Falls, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden and Rathdrum with on-demand bus-type service. Ms. Stephens presented a KATS-LINK report that reported their ridership and routes for the month of February comparing the growth to last year's numbers. Mr. Austin said he met with the senior center and the Chamber in Rathdrum regarding ridership.

Mr. Austin reported PAC will have a new grant year beginning April 1st. Citylink's costs have increased and PAC has agreed to match 100% of those additional costs. He distributed a proposed Kootenai County Public Transportation FTA 5307 Budget (2007-08). Discussion followed regarding the budget.

Mr. Miles provided a follow-up on the TESH grant. ITD in Boise informed him that the grant for 2007 is not available but they will hold over the application for the 2008 grant cycle.

Mr. Currie applauded PAC for celebrating its 35th year in existence.

6. Director's Report

Mr. Glenn Miles, KMPO Executive Director, reported that KMPO staff is working on a construction map. It is anticipated a proof copy will be available at the next KCATT meeting. Staff has been working with utilities; all their projects will be included on the map. The jurisdictions have submitted their information. Printing should be April 17th.

Mr. Miles indicated there has been discussion regarding STAR financing (sales tax anticipation revenue bill) which would provide future anticipated sales tax to pay off infrastructure investments. House Bill 250 has now been approved. It passed unanimously out of committee so will be going to the House later this week.

At their last meeting the ITD Board passed a resolution on the Beck Road Interchange. The Beck Road Interchange is part of the long-range Transportation Plan for Kootenai County. This ITD Board item would add I-90 Beck Road Interchange to the 2007 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) once KMPO concurs in this action. Therefore, a KMPO Board motion is needed in order to agree with ITD that this item should be put into the STIP. Mr. Miles indicated the KMPO Board agreed by Resolution in November 2006 that so long as the finances used to support the construction of the interchange did not supplant or delay any other projects that the KMPO supported it. The ITD Board resolution that was passed recently indicates that they have approved putting the Beck Road Interchange into the STIP contingent on STAR financing being approved by the State Legislature and a 30-day comment period is required.

Mr. Clary Larkin made a motion approving putting the Beck Road Interchange into the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) contingent on STAR financing being approved by the State Legislature, which would make it a financially constrained project, and after the publishing of a 30-day comment period. Mr. Jimmy Dorsey seconded the motion. which was approved by all present with the exception of Mr. Rick Currie who voted nay.

Mr. Miles gave an update to the presentation given to the KMPO Board several months ago regarding the Inland Pacific Hub. He said KMPO was moving forward with seeking $250,000 from the State of Idaho, $250,000 from Washington State, and match that with a $500,000 request from Congress. When Mr. Miles was in Boise he spoke with the original sponsors of the Intermodal Commerce Authority (who created that piece of legislation in the state law). They indicated if such an authority was created in Kootenai County that the $250,000 could be accessed from that $5 million account set up by Congress. An Intermodal Commerce Authority has been formed in Minedoka County and they have provided Mr. Miles with their packet of information in that regard. It is

anticipated this area may have access to the $250,000 before the end of this legislative session.

Mr. Miles provided the Board with information received from Boise related to the fact that the Committee on Revenue did pass out of committee the printing of a bill for local options sales tax for public transportation. A hearing will be held next week in Boise where the full committee will be looking at the merits of the bill. They are hoping they can get some sponsors from Northern Idaho to support this legislation.

7. KCATT Recommendations

No KCATT recommendations were made at this time.

8. Other Business

a) S.H. 97 Corridor Study Update

The first Strategic Advisory Committee meeting was held at Camp Easton with great attendance. They had good discussions and went through the scope of the project. It was agreed that a survey would be conducted. Every property owner on the east side or the travel shed will receive a copy of the survey. This could be as many as 4,500 mailings.

9. Board Member Items.

Mr. Clay Larkin stated there are some legislative issues that the Board needs to be aware of.

1. Senate Concurrent Resolution #111 – Creating interim committee to study ITD and see how they are spending their money. An equal number from both Senate and House are on the committee. In part it states that the co-chairs can appoint non-voting, non-legislative members to that Board. Mr. Larkin spoke to Senator Hammond at a Town Hall meeting and said it might be appropriate to include one Board member from all the MPO's to that Board. He thought it was a good idea and has spoken to the Senate Transportation Committee who agrees also. There is a chance that a KMPO Board member may be a non-voting member on that committee.

2. Senate Bill #1038 – A while back this bill added several routes in Southern Idaho giving haulers permission to go up to 144,000 with 7 axles. Now they are looking at Senate Bill #1080 which is a trailer bill to #1038. Mr. Larkin feels this problem of overweight trucks is a problem for everyone and it may be too late for KMPO to act on this bill.

Mr. Clay Larkin also mentioned the House Bill 250 – STAR Bill – is supposed to be heard by the Revenue Tax Committee tomorrow. He indicated this bill has become a State Bill, which will make it easier to get through.

Mr. Mark Soderling introduced Mr. Gary Sylte, the new Commissioner for the Lakes Highway District. He is replacing Mr. Chris Hanson.

11. Adjournment.

There being no further business before the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm.

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Jennifer Wash
Recording Secretary