

COWLITZ-WAHKIAKUM COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Regular Board Meeting

Virtual ~ Via Zoom

Thursday, January 27, 2022 ~ 12:00 p.m.

MINUTES

General/Special Representatives/Alternates

Paul Helenberg, City of Castle Rock, Chair
Dennis Weber, Cowlitz County
Lee Tischer, Wahkiakum County
Mike Reuter, City of Kalama
Adam Smee, City of Kalama
Mike Karnofski, City of Kelso
MaryAlice Wallis, City of Longview
Will Finn, City of Woodland
David Olson, Town of Cathlamet
Jeanne Hendrickson, Town of Cathlamet

Troy Stariha, Port of Kalama
Doug Averett, Port of Longview
Scott Anderson, Port of Wahkiakum Dist. #1
Jennifer Wray-Keene, Port of Woodland
Bill Hallanger, Cowlitz 2 Fire and Rescue
Bob Kofstad, Cowlitz County Fire Dist. #1
Gene Healy, Wahkiakum PUD
Michael Green, Woodland School District
Patti Bowen, Longview School District

Associate/Affiliate Representatives/Alternates

Ilona Kerby, Lower Columbia CAP
Wendy Hall, Lower Columbia Community College

Teresa Stedman, City of Washougal
Debbie Stanley, Three Rivers Regional Wastewater

Guests

None

Staff

Bill Fashing
Anisa Kisamore
Ken PEARROW
Robert Stevens

Brandon Robinson
Keshia Owens
Rachelle Nugent
Marcella Smith

1. Call to Order & Introduction

The regular monthly meeting of the CWCOG Board of Directors was held on Thursday January 27, 2022, through a virtual Zoom conference. Chair, Paul Helenberg, called the meeting to order at 12:00pm.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Consent Agenda

Minutes from the December 16, 2021, regular Board of Directors meeting and agency expenditures for December 2021 and January 2022 were presented in the agenda packet.

Motion: David Olson moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with expenditures totaling \$101,789.95. Motion adopted.

4. **Action Items**

A. **Elections: 2022 Officers and Special Committee Members**

Bill Fashing presented the recommendations of the Nominating Committee for the 2022 Board of Directors' Officers and Special Committee nominations. The Nominating Committee convened twice during the review period to evaluate potential candidates.

Vice-Chair David Olson, Nominating Committee chairman, recommended the officers and members as follows:

Board of Directors:

Chair Paul Helenberg, City of Castle Rock
Vice-Chair David Olson, Town of Cathlamet

Executive Committee:

Chair Paul Helenberg, City of Castle Rock
Vice-Chair David Olson, Town of Cathlamet
Past-Chair Dennis Weber, Cowlitz County
At-Large Members Troy Stariha, Port of Kalama
Mike Karnofski, City of Kelso
MaryAlice Wallis, City of Longview
Will Finn, City of Woodland

Finance Committee:

At-Large Members Bill Hallanger, Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue
Scott Westlund, Kelso School District
Patti Bowen, Longview School District

Motion: David Olson moved that the Nominating Committee recommendations be accepted and appointed. Motion adopted.

B. **Resolution 22-01: Safety Performance Measures**

An overview of the proposed 2022 Safety Performance Measures was presented to the Board by Ken Pearrow. The Board was informed that the Longview-Kelso-Rainier Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is proposing to accept the same safety performance measures as were adopted by the Department of Transportation in both Oregon (ODOT) and Washington (WSDOT).

Motion: MaryAlice Wallis moved to approve Resolution 20-01: Safety Performance Measures as presented. Motion adopted.

C. **Resolution 22-02: Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Call for Projects**

An overview of the Surface Transportation Block Grant was presented by Robert Stevens. A call for projects is being proposed for the estimated \$3,149,338 available in current funding for fiscal years 2024 and 2025. Funding allocations are divided into approximately \$1,676,626 for urban areas, \$956,572 for rural areas, and \$516,140 for either urban or rural. Grant application submission is proposed to start on January 31, 2022 and end on February 18, 2022.

Motion: After further discussion Dennis Weber moved to approve Resolution 22-02: Surface Transportation Block Grant Call for Projects as presented. Motion adopted.

D. Resolution 22-03: Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (M/TIP) Amendment

An overview of the proposed M/TIP amendment was presented by Robert Stevens. This amendment is seeking board approval of \$16,000,000 in federal funds that were recently awarded for the Port of Longview's Industrial Rail Corridor Expansion (IRCE) Project. It is also seeking board approval on a 34.5% (\$157,737) increase to the total project cost of WSDOT's Southwest Region (SWR) Breakaway Cable Terminal Replacement Project. The cost for the project was originally projected at \$456,667 but has increased to \$614,404.

Motion: Mike Karnofski moved to approve Resolution 22-03: Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program Amendment as presented. Motion adopted.

E. Resolution 22-04: National Highway Regional Freight Program (NHFP) Priority List for Metropolitan Planning Area

An overview of the NHFP Priority Project List process was presented by Robert Stevens. The Port of Longview's Industrial Rail Corridor Expansion (IRCE) for \$2,000,000 and the City of Kelso's Talley Way and Colorado Street Improvement plan for \$22,734,000 were recommended as the items to be presented to WSDOT for NHFP funding approval.

Motion: Mike Karnofski moved to approve Resolution 22-04: National Highway Regional Freight Priority List as presented. Motion adopted.

F. Letter of Support: Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group (LCFEG)

Bill Fashing and Dennis Weber presented to the Board of Directors for their approval a letter written to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and the Washington Department of Ecology supporting a grant application for the first phase of construction in the LCFEG's South Fork Toutle Headwaters Design (STHD) project.

Motion: After further discussion Mike Karnofski moved to approve the Letter of Support for the Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group as presented. Motion adopted.

G. Letter of Support: Hoffstadt Hills State Land Acquisition

Bill Fashing and Dennis Weber presented to the Board of Directors for their approval a letter written to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and the Washington Department of Ecology supporting the purchase of 4,100 acres in Cowlitz County by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The proposed land acquisition is being considered for a wildlife area, to enhance watershed function, and to promote outdoor recreation.

Motion: After further discussion Adam Smee moved to approve the Letter of Support for the Hoffstadt Hills State Land Acquisition Project as presented. Motion adopted.

H. Travel Authorization: Keshia Owen / Bill Fashing

Upcoming out-of-state training requests were presented by Bill Fashing. Keshia Owens requested to travel to San Diego, CA for the American Planning Association National Planning Conference in April/May of 2022. Bill Fashing requested to travel to Houston, TX for the Broadband Communities Summit in May of 2022.

Motion: After further discussion David Olson moved to approve Travel Authorization as presented. Motion adopted.

5. Information Items

A. Revolving Loan Fund Defederalization Update

Bill Fashing updated the Board of Directors on the receipt of the US Department of Commerce / Economic Development Administration's (EDA) January 2022 letter confirming the defederalization of the City of Longview's Revolving Loan Fund.

B. Establishment of a Rails to Trails Committee

With approval from Chair Helenberg a Rails to Trails Committee is being established to assist in the transfer of property donated by Patriot Rail to be utilized as bike and pedestrian trails. Invitations were sent out to individuals to join the committee with membership growth anticipated in the upcoming months. The first meeting of this committee is scheduled for January 28, 2022.

6. Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director's report was tabled due to time constraints.

7. Executive Committee Report


The Executive Committee had no report for January 2022.

8. Other Business

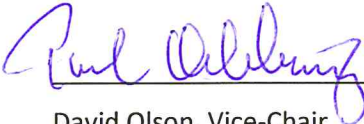
Mike Karnofski asked for increased mention of the Lower Columbia Investment Network within the CWCOG Weekly Reader.

9. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.



William A. Fashing, Executive Director



David Olson, Vice-Chair



Marcella Smith, Planning Assistant