



COWLITZ-WAHKIAKUM COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Regular Board Meeting / Hybrid

Virtual ~ Via Zoom

In person: CWCOG Conference Room

207 4th Ave N, Kelso WA 98626

Thursday ~July 28, 2022 ~ 12:00 p.m.

MINUTES

General/Special Representatives/Alternates

Lee Tischer, Wahkiakum County

Paul Helenberg, City of Castle Rock, Chair

Mike Karnofski, City of Kelso

MaryAlice Wallis, City of Longview

Will Finn, City of Woodland

David Olson, Town of Cathlamet

Troy Stariha, Port of Kalama

Mark Wilson, Port of Kalama

Doug Averett, Port of Longview

Scott Anderson, Wahkiakum Port Dist 1

Todd Souvenir, Wahkiakum Port Dist 1

Jennifer Wray-Keene, Port of Woodland

Bill Hallanger, Cowlitz 2 Fire and Rescue

Sammy Brown, Cowlitz Fire District 5

Steve Taylor, Cowlitz PUD

Eugene Healy, Wahkiakum PUD

Michael Green, Woodland School District

Associate/Affiliate Representatives/Alternates

Jim Seeks, Cowlitz Transit Authority

Monica Budd, Wahkiakum Chamber

Debbie Stanley, Three Rivers Regional Wastewater Authority

Guests

Laurie Lebowsky, Washington State Department of Transportation

Staff

Bill Fashing

Anisa Kisamore

Rachelle Nugent

Robert Stevens

Marcella Smith

Monica Seidl

1. Call to Order & Introduction

The regular monthly meeting of the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments (CWCOG) Board of Directors was held on Thursday, May 26, 2022, through video conferencing. In-person space was made available in the CWCOG’s conference room. Chair Paul Helenberg, called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

2. Public Comment

No public comments were received.

3. Consent Agenda

Minutes from the May 26, 2022, regular Board of Directors meeting and agency expenditures for May 2022 and June 2022 were presented in the agenda packet.

Motion: Mike Karnofski moved to approve the consent agenda as presented with expenditures totaling \$104,279.57 for May and \$84,615.87 for June. Motion adopted.

4. Action Items

A. Resolution 22-11 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Amendments

Robert Stevens asked for Board approval of the following two amendments as presented.

- The SR 432 / SR 433 Intersection Improvements Project (also known as Industrial Way / Oregon Way [IWOW]) received a legislative funding amount of \$13,420,000 to add to the current

\$85,000,000 of Connecting Washington funds. The new total funding available is \$98,420,000. Since the additional funding is over the \$3,000,000 threshold, it requires board approval.

- The OR 47 / OR 8 / US 30 Curb Ramps projects had an increase in the total budget cost of \$439,194. When added to the current amount of \$1,012,848, the increased cost is 43.3% which is over the 30% threshold and requires board approval.

Motion: MaryAlice Wallis moved to approve the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Amendments as presented. Motion adopted.

B. Letter of Support for Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) Budget Request for the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) Program

Bill Fashing presented a letter to the Board of Directors in support of WSDOT's budget request to increase funding for the RTPO program. This letter would be sent to WSDOT to be presented as part of the statewide RTPO budget request.

Motion: Mike Karnofski moved to approve the Letter of Support for WSDOT's budget request to increase the funding for the RTPO Program as presented. Motion adopted.

5. **Information Items**

A. Letter of Support for the Regional Mobility Grant – Wahkiakum on the Move

Bill Fashing presented a letter written in support of a grant to obtain new busses for Wahkiakum on the Move.

6. **Executive Director's Report**

Bill Fashing spoke briefly about each of the following: New hire - Monica Seidl; the community outreach work that is being done on the Coordinated Transit Program – Human Services Transportation Plan; the Spirit Lake Toutle-Cowlitz River System Collaborative; the Regional Transportation Plan public participation element; and the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) three-year planning grant award of \$210,000.

7. **Executive Committee Report**

The Executive Committee met in June to approve the expenses for May 2022. Bill Fashing reported that the Executive Committee will discuss the possibility of expanding the Metropolitan Planning Area to include all of Cowlitz County and the urbanized area of Rainier, Oregon. More information will be forthcoming.

8. **Other Business**

None

9. **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

William A. Fashing, Executive Director

Dennis Weber, Past Chair

Marcella Smith, Planning Assistant