



**COWLITZ-WAHKIAKUM COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**Regular Board Meeting / Hybrid**  
 Cowlitz Event Center ~ 1900 7th Ave, Longview WA 98632  
 Virtually ~ Via Zoom video conferencing  
 Thursday ~ August 25, 2022 ~ 12:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**General/Special Representatives/Alternates**

Dennis Weber, Cowlitz County, Past Chair	Troy Stariha, Port of Kalama
Lee Tischer, Wahkiakum County	Doug Averett, Port of Longview
MaryAlice Wallis, City of Longview	Scott Anderson, Wahkiakum Port Dist 1
Hillary Strobel, City of Longview	Todd Souvenir, Wahkiakum Port Dist 1
Adam Smee, City of Kalama	Jennifer Wray-Keene, Port of Woodland
Will Finn, City of Woodland	Bill Hallanger, Cowlitz 2 Fire and Rescue
David Olson, Town of Cathlamet, Vice-Chair	Eugene Healy, Wahkiakum PUD

**Associate/Affiliate Representatives/Alternates**

Chris Bailey, Lower Columbia College	Jim Seeks, Cowlitz Transit Authority
Ilona Kerby, Lower Columbia CAP	

**Guests**

None

**Staff**

Bill Fashing	Marcella Smith
Anisa Kisamore	Monica Seidl
Rachelle Nugent	Lauren Read
Robert Stevens	Brandon Robinson

**1. Call to Order & Introduction**

The regular monthly meeting of the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments (CWCOG) Board of Directors was held on Thursday, August 25, 2022, at the Cowlitz Event Center located in Longview, WA and through video conferencing. Past-Chair Dennis Weber, called the meeting to order at 12:14 pm and took attendance of those attending in-person and virtually.

**2. Public Comment**

No public comments were received.

**3. Consent Agenda**

- A. July 28, 2022 Minutes
- B. July Expenditures

Minutes from the July 28, 2022, regular Board of Directors' meeting and agency expenditures for July 2022 were presented in the agenda packet.

**Motion:** Bill Hallanger moved to approve the consent agenda as presented with expenditures totaling \$73,246.67 for July. Motion adopted.

**4. Action Items**

**A. Letter of Support Consideration for Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Grant**

Bill Fashing and Dennis Weber presented a letter in support of a Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience (THRCR) Grant application submitted by the Fish Enhancement Group in the amount of \$5 million to help fish enhancement efforts for the Toutle/Cowlitz River corridor. Questions were received and answered.

**Motion:** MaryAlice Wallis moved to approve the Letter of Support for the Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Grant Application as presented. Motion adopted.

**5. Information Items**

**A. Letter to Rob Santos, US Census Bureau**

Bill Fashing presented a letter written to the director of the US Census Bureau as drafted by the State Data Center and signed by the CWCOG. The letter asks the Census Bureau to reconsider how they are approaching confidentiality. The current methodology for data privacy protocols skews the data for small communities and makes it unusable for some purposes. Questions were received and answered.

**B. Grays Bay Flooding Letter of Support**

Bill Fashing and Lee Tischer presented a letter addressed to the Army Corps of Engineers in support of Wahkiakum County's Section 7001 proposal to study and develop options for addressing the flooding issues impacting Wahkiakum County in the Grays Bay area.

**C. IWOW Project Update**

Bill Fashing presented an update on the Industrial Way/Oregon Way (IWOW) project. The current funding of \$100 million is not enough to fully finance the entirety of the project so the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is working to streamline the design. Additional funds will be sought. Local meetings have been held to address concerns and work with local businesses.

**D. 2nd Quarter 2022 Financial Report**

Bill Fashing presented an overview of the CWCOG's Financial Report for the second quarter of 2022's fiscal period. There were only two comments in reference to revenue accounts that reflected more than 100% of their budget. Explanations were given as follows:

- Direct Federal revenues received \$47,000 in January of 2022 that reflected reimbursement for expenditures incurred in the previous fiscal year.
- Interest and Other Earnings received \$4,000 from an unanticipated partnership with members to purchase GIS information from WATech Imagery Consortium.

**6. Executive Director's Report**

Bill Fashing spoke briefly about each of the following: the Weekly Reader transitioning to a monthly format; upcoming state rules relating to Complete Street Requirements for state transportation projects; Lower Columbia Investment Network (LCIN) is hosting an upcoming event on September 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm; the Spirit Lake Toutle-Cowlitz River Collaborative; and the Coordinated Public Transportation – Human Services Transportation Planning process.

**7. Executive Committee Report**

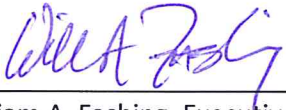
The Executive Committee met and discussed the possibility of expanding the Metropolitan Planning Area to include all of Cowlitz County and the urbanized areas of Rainier, Oregon.

**8. Other Business**

None

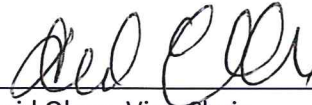
**9. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 12:44 p.m.



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William A. Fashing, Executive Director



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David Olson, Vice-Chair



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Marcella Smith, Planning Assistant

