

COWLITZ-WAHKIAKUM COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Planning Organization
Regular Meeting
207 4th Ave North, Kelso WA
Virtual ~ Via Zoom
Wednesday, July 12, 2023 ~ 10:00AM

MINUTES

Voting Members

Cowlitz County

Dennis Weber, Cowlitz County
Mike Karnofski, City of Kelso
Tracy Coleman, City of Woodland
Troy Stariha, Port of Kalama
Jennifer Wray-Keene, Port of Woodland
Dean Reynolds, Cowlitz Tribe
Eric Yakovich, Port of Kalama
Andrew Hamilton, City of Kelso

Grays Harbor County

Brian Shay, City of Hoquiam
Troy Meyers, City of Westport
Kayla Dunlap, Port of Grays Harbor

Non-Voting Members

Chelsey Martin, SW Region
Ryan Clemens – WSDOT
Jim Seeks, RiverCities Transit
Ken Mehin, Grays Harbor Transit
Jean Braaten, Grays Harbor Transit
Eric Yakovich, Port of Kalama

Lewis County

Tony Ketchum Sr., City of Chehalis
Sean O’Neil, City of Napavine

Pacific County

Julie Struck, City of South Bend
Mike Cassinelli, City of Ilwaco

Wahkiakum County

Lee Tischer, Chair, Wahkiakum County
David Olson, Town of Cathlamet

WSDOT

Ashley Carle, Olympic Region

David Johnson, Pacific Transit
Kelly Wagoner, Lower Columbia CAP
Gerina Hatch, Wahkiakum on the Move
Amanda Lomasney, Cowlitz Tribe Trans.
Jim Walsh, Representative 19th District

Guests

No guests in attendance

Staff

Bill Fashing, CWCOG	Sean Nugent, CWCOG
Robert Stevens, CWCOG	Vicki Cummings, GHCOG
Lauren Read, CWCOG	Mike Kroll, Lewis County Public Works
Rachelle Nugent, CWCOG	

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Chair, Lee Tischer, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and roll call was conducted.

2. Public Comment

No public comments were received.

3. Action Items

A. Minutes from January 18, 2023, regular Board of Directors meeting were presented in the agenda packet.

Motion: Dennis Weber moved to approve January 18, 2023; minutes as presented. Motion adopted.

- B. Minutes from May 10, 2023, regular Board of Directors meeting were presented in the agenda packet. There was not a quorum for the May meeting, minutes were developed to document the discussion.

Motion: Dennis Weber moved to approve May 10, 2023, minutes with changes. Motion adopted.

C. Resolution 23-09: Regional Transportation Plan Project List Priorities

Robert Stevens provided a recap of all listed projects for all counties. Robert advised the board that even though Cowlitz County projects were in this packet, it was included for info only. Action was taken on the Cowlitz County projects at the CWCOG Board Meeting. The SWTRPO Board will act on the other four counties.

Robert also stated that the WSDOT Investment Strategy that is under development, may require completion of project prioritizations in the future by the RTPs/MPOs so it would be good for the SWRTPO to have an established process.

Motion: Mike Karnofski moved to approve Resolution 23-09: Adopting the Regional Transportation Plan Project List Priorities as presented. Motion passed.

D. Resolution 23-10: Regional Transportation Plan Policies and Long-Range Strategies

Robert Stevens provided an overview of proposed revisions to the existing policies and long-range strategies for inclusion in the Moving Forward 2050 Regional Transportation Plan. The changes are a result of active transportation following advisory committee discussions and input from a Public Transportation Priority Survey. Existing and long-range policies for public transportation were also updated based on discussions with the Public Transportation stakeholders. All proposed changes were reviewed by the advisory committees in each county.

Motion: Mike Karnofski moved to approve Resolution 23-10: Adopting the Regional Transportation Plan Policies and Long-Range Strategies as presented. Motion passed.

E. Resolution 23-15: Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects

Robert Stevens discussed the request for a "Call for Projects." The last was completed in 2021 and since that time there has been a significant increase in funding and some new requirements.

Motion: Dennis Weber moved to approve Resolution 23-15: Adopting the Transportation Alternatives Guidance and directing staff to implement the call for projects as presented. Motion passed.

F. Letter regarding comments on CPT-HSTP Grant Process

Bill Fashing discussed the Human Services Transportation Plan that was submitted and situations that arose due to WSDOT's process. A letter was written to WSDOT requesting they re-evaluate and assess if there is a better process as it relates to Human Services Transportation Planning timeline.

Motion: Brian Shay moved to approve the letter to WSDOT as presented. Motion passed.

4. Information Items

A. Mobility Management Program

Lauren Read gave an update on the Mobility Management Program outreach and marketing efforts that have been completed. The program provided three rural transit agencies with reflective slap bands for flag stop safety. In conjunction with RiverCities Transit and Kelso-Longview Television (KLTV) three of eight "How to Ride Videos" were finalized, the remaining videos will be finished in the second half of 2023. Outreach has been made to other transit agencies to determine their interest in creating videos specific to their needs and discussions will continue on this possibility. With approval of Intercity Transit, the program created a Youth Activity Book based on the Intercity Transit book titled *Walk n Roll* and has started to distribute to the transit agencies and at events directed at youth in our region. The Mobility Management website has been updated to provide better service, more information, and resources to transit riders.

Lauren also reported that the CWCOG has been awarded a four-year grant for the Mobility Management Program for July 2023 to June 2027.

B. Regional Trails Planning

Robert Stevens gave an update on the Regional Trails kickoff meeting that took place on July 11, 2023. Efforts for this program are just getting started and are currently in the information gathering process.

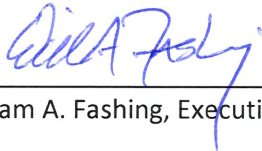
5. Other Business

A. WSDOT

Chelsey Martin gave regional updates for both the Southwest and Olympic Region.

6. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 11:07 am.



William A. Fashing, Executive Director



Lee Tischer, Chair

