



COWLITZ-WAHKIAKUM COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Planning Organization (SWRTPO)
Special Meeting / Hybrid
River Street Building ~ 25 River Street / Suite D, Cathlamet, WA
Video Conferencing ~ Zoom
Wednesday, November 06, 2024 ~ 10:00AM

MINUTES

Attendance:

Voting Members

Cowlitz County

Mike Karnofski, City of Kelso
Eric Yakovich, Port of Kalama
Evan Jones, Port of Longview
Jennifer Wray-Keene, Port of Woodland

Grays Harbor County

Linda Springer, City of Cosmopolis
Mike Olden, City of Montesano
Troy Meyers, City of Westport
Kris Koski, Port of Grays Harbor

Lewis County

Cherie Devore, City of Toledo
Peter Lahmann, Port of Centralia
Tony Ketchum Sr., City of Chehalis

Tribes

Dean Reynolds, Cowlitz Tribe

Wahkiakum County

Lee Tischer, Wahkiakum County
David Olson, Town of Cathlamet
Todd Souvenir, Port of Wahkiakum Dist1

Pacific County

Holly Beller, City of Ilwaco
Sue Svendsen, City of Long Beach
Dee Roberts, City of Raymond
Julie Struck, City of South Bend
James Sayce, Port of Willapa Harbor

WSDOT

Laurie Lebowsky-Young, SW Region
George Mazur, Olympic Region

Non-Voting Members

Bill Bauman, WSDOT
Tony Russell, Coastal CAP
Amanda Lomasney, Cowlitz Tribe Transportation
Jeananne Edwards, Community in Motion
Gerina Hatch, Community in Motion
Kelly Wagoner, Lower Columbia CAP
Doreen Daggett, RiverCities Transit
Maleah Kuzminsky, Lewis County Transit
Camile Goldsmith, Wahkiakum on the Move

Staff

Bill Fashing, CWCOG
Robert Stevens, CWCOG
Gabriel Reese, CWCOG
Rachelle Nugent, CWCOG
Megan Wirtz, CWCOG
Stacey Lane, CWCOG

Guests

None

1. Call to Order

Lee Tischer called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Roll Call

A quorum was present.

4. Action Items

A. September 11, 2024 Minutes

The September 11, 2024, minutes were reviewed for approval by the SWRTPO Board.

Motion: Mike Karnofski moved to approve the September 11, 2024, minutes as revised. Motion was seconded and approved.

B. Consolidated Grant Ranking Committee Appointments

Robert Stevens provided a brief overview of the Consolidated Grant Ranking process and provided a list of individuals who are recommended to serve on the committee.

The suggested committee included Tabitha Hayden from the City of Longview, Vicki Cummings from Grays Harbor Council of Governments, Kyle Sanchez from Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area on Aging, Holly Beller from City of Ilwaco, Adam Vogt from Wahkiakum County GIS, and Becky Morton from the Cowlitz Tribe.

The Board was reminded that any members of the committee who represent an agency that has submitted a project will recuse themselves from ranking that project.

Motion: Jennifer Wray-Keene moved to appoint the committee as presented. Motion was seconded and approved.

5. Information Items

A. WSDOT Updates

Laurie Lebowsky-Young provided an update on the SR 105 Corridor Management Program. She shared the tasks, timeline, and project team members. Contact information was given for the project manager.

B. Scenic Byway Update

Bill Fashing reported on the ongoing efforts to provide activities and secure funding for scenic byways in the state. It was noted that the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments (CWCOG) is applying for funding to create a corridor management plan for SR 4.

C. Target Zero Update

Haley Falley shared the recent activities in the Target Zero Region 2 (Grays Harbor, Mason, and Pacific counties) including the conclusion of their high visibility enforcement for the fiscal year and the breakdown of infractions captured.

Rachelle Nugent shared updates from Target Zero Region 3 (Cowlitz, Wahkiakum and Lewis counties) including the number of various infractions captured during fiscal year 2024. She noted that roundtable meetings will be scheduled in each county within the next few months.

D. Regional Trails Update

Robert Stevens updated the board on progress with the Regional Trails project started in 2023. A major component of that work is scoping reports to jumpstart implementation. Those reports have

been completed and the steering committee will be meeting on November 12 to review the draft plan and begin the final stakeholder and public review period. The final Regional Trails Plan will most likely be brought to the Board for consideration at their next meeting.

E. State Funding Ask Update

Bill Fashing reminded the Board that at the last meeting they approved a resolution to support an ask to the state for additional funding to Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs). Letters have been sent to all transportation committee chairs, the Governor's Office, and the Office of Financial Management.

F. Policy Forum Meeting Updates

Robert Stevens noted that this was the first year that Policy Forums were held in the four non-MPO counties. A bridge replacement activity was done at the most recent meeting to aid in compiling a bridge replacement priority list. The finalized list will be presented to the Board when completed.

G. 2025 Officers Nomination Process

Bill Fashing reminded the Board that at its January meeting, a Chair and Vice Chair will be selected. Officers typically serve two-year terms, and the current Chair and Vice Chair have reached the end of their term. Board members were instructed to reach out to Bill Fashing if they are interested in serving as Chair or Vice Chair.

H. Letters of Support

1. Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging – Mobility Management Project
2. Wahkiakum Ferry – Celebration Event

Bill Fashing reminded the Board that letters of support are routinely sent to agencies in support of transportation projects within the SWRTPO region. Both letters listed above were provided in the agenda packet.

6. Other Business

Washington State Transportation Commission Meeting – November 13 and 14, Aberdeen WA
Registration and Agenda - <https://wstc.wa.gov/agendas/2024/09/12/meeting-agenda-october-15-16-2024/>

7. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

William A. Fashing, Executive Director


Evan Jones, Chair