

Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments
Regular Board Meeting
Cowlitz Public Utility District Building (PUD), PUD Auditorium
Thursday, February 25, 2016 ~ 12:00 pm

Minutes

Representatives and Alternates:

Scott Vydra, City of Longview
Rick Roberson, City of Kelso
Susan Humbyrd, City of Woodland
Bill Hallanger, Cowlitz 2 Fire/Rescue
Jeff Wilson, Port of Longview
Dan Zorn, Longview School District
Michael Green, Woodland School District
Eric Nerison, Kalama School District
Mike Backman, Wahkiakum County
Adam Smee, City of Kalama
Troy Stariha, Port of Kalama

Al Swindell, City of Woodland
David Vorse, City of Castle Rock
Ray Johnson, Cowlitz PUD
Dick Swart, Town of Cathlamet
Dale Boon, Port of Woodland
Dell Hillger, Beacon Hill Water & Sewer
Scott Westlund, Kelso School District
Scot Walstra, Cowlitz EDC
Dennis Weber, Cowlitz County
Dan Ulrich, Cowlitz Fire District #5

Guests: Dena Horton, Senator Cantwell's Office; Mike Karnofski, Cowlitz County Commissioner

Staff: Bill Fashing, Judith Donovan, Anisa Kisamore, Rachele Nugent

Chairperson Michael Green called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone; everyone introduced themselves.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments.

Approval of Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Scott Vydra and seconded by Susan Humbyrd to approve the consent agenda as presented, which consists of the January 21, 2016 meeting minutes, and the January 2016 Expenditures in the amount of \$66,747.49. Motion carried.

Action Items

- A. Resolution 16-02 Amendment to the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP): Judith Donovan provided information on two projects that are being incorporated into the RTIP and stated that the construction phase of the SR 432/Washington Way signal replacement project has been delayed until 2020; therefore, this project is being reduced by 30% or more and needs to be removed from the current RTIP which runs from 2016-2019. Following a short Q&A session, a motion was made by Dick Swart and seconded by Adam Smee to approve Resolution 16-02 as presented. Motion carried.
- B. Resolution 16-03: Surface Transportation Program (STP) Funding Allocation: Judith also provided information on the two cities that have requested additional funds be allocated to their projects. A motion was made by Dennis Weber and seconded by Scott Vydra to approve Resolution 16-03 as presented. Motion carried.

Information Item

- A. 40 for 2020 Overview: Cowlitz County Commissioner, Mike Karnofski, gave an overview of the "40 for 2020" activity that took place on January 28. Eight topics were selected for discussion on how to improve them. Eight discussion groups were formed to discuss one of the eight topics and were instructed to come up with three to five recommendations of improving that activity. 40 for 2020 is the result of 8 topics with 5 recommendations (8x5=40), and the improvements to hopefully be in place by 2020. A summary will come out on February 26th. The committees will continue to meet over the next several months with another general meeting with all groups to take place in six to eight months. Dena Horton from Senator Cantwell's office indicated that letters of support can be provided for any of these improvement activities where funding through grants is being considered.

- B. 2015 4th Quarter Financial Report: Director Bill Fashing reviewed with the Board the 4th quarter financial report from 2015.

Executive Director's Report

- A. National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) Conference Report: Director Bill Fashing gave a report on his trip to Washington, DC, where he participated in the NARC conference. The word for the year is "resilience." Expect to hear this word over the next several years in your planning activities. Congress is also planning to move more transportation funds to the local level. Conversations are under way to make a pitch to various state parties from 33% local funding to 50% which would be great for local transportation planning.
- B. Southwest Washington Economic Development District (SWEDD) Meeting Report: Director Fashing also gave a quick review of the SWEDD meeting and the current status of the interlocal agreement between Cowlitz, Lewis, and Wahkiakum Counties. Lewis County is holding fast to their opinions, and so Bill and the SWEDD Chair, Mike Karnofski, will be working to come up with a solution to their issues.

Executive Committee Report

Chair Michael Green pointed out the December 2015 meeting minutes were included in the packet of materials received.

Other Business

Scot Walstra talked about the Innovation and Manufacturing Plan of the Future Conference on March 3rd at the Expo Center from 7:00-10:00 am. It's a full breakfast for \$25. Flyers with additional information were made available to everyone.

Dena Horton gave a report on the key freight priorities and other projects that Senator Cantwell has been involved in.

Dick Swart called everyone's attention to the last page in the packet which is a flyer about the bike/ pedestrian workshop being held tomorrow.

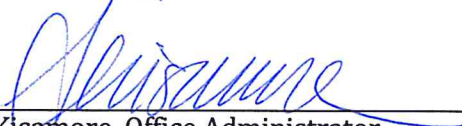
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.



William A. Fashing, Executive Director



Michael Green, Chairperson



Anisa Kisamore, Office Administrator