

# Wenatchee Valley Transportation Council

Columbia Station, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room

300 South Columbia, Wenatchee

January 14, 2010 – 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

## MEETING MINUTES

---

### ATTENDEES:

Russell Clark, City of Rock Island

Dennis Johnson, City of Wenatchee

Dan Sarles, WSDOT

Ken Stanton, Douglas County

Richard DeRock, Link Transit

Mark Spurgeon, Port of Douglas

Steve Lacy, City of East Wenatchee

Keith Goehner, Chelan County

Mike Mackey, Port of Chelan County

Elmira Forner, WA Transp. Commission

### STAFF:

Jeff Wilkens, Executive Director

Kathy Bruno, Administrative Specialist/Clerk of the Board

Nick Manzano, Transportation Planner

### GUESTS:

Gordon Irle, City of Cashmere

Brandon Mauseth, City of East Wenatchee

Paul Mahre, WSDOT

Dave Honsinger, WSDOT

Doug Bramlette, Douglas County

Dale Snyder, Douglas County

Mike Ward, Erlandsen Inc.

Steve Hair, KOHO/KOZI

Patrick Walker, Chelan/Douglas Land Trust

### 1) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Spurgeon at 9:00 a.m.

## **2) INTRODUCTIONS AND AGENDA REVIEW**

Introductions were made around the room. Two additional agenda items were added; Item 5(f) Letter of Support for Link Transit Grant Application and item 5(g) Discussion of proposed consolidating the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB), County Road Administration Board (CRAB) and Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB) under WSDOT.

## **3) CONSENT AGENDA**

The consent agenda including the December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 minutes, check numbers 223333-223350 in the amount of \$25,292.54 for January, and payroll in the amount of \$21,137.19 for December was approved on a motion by Richard DeRock.

## **4) OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

## **5) BUSINESS ITEMS AND REPORTS**

### **5(a) Director's Report**

Jeff Wilkens reported on the following:

- Passed around the upcoming Open House flyer for the North Wenatchee Avenue study that will be held February 25, 2010 at the Confluence Technology Center.
- Former Senator Jim Horn has asked to give a presentation at the February WVTC and NCRTPO meetings to explain his opposition to the conversion of the I-90 Lake Washington bridge express lanes to light rail for Sound Transit.
- Senator Murray and Senator Cantwell will be accepting requests for 2011 appropriations. After much discussion it was decided on a motion by Richard DeRock to support WSDOT's request of \$2 million for the Cascade Interchange. Dan Sarles abstained.

### **5(b) Member Roundtable**

Russell Clark reported that the City of Rock Island has accepted bids for construction of the sewer collection system, and it should get started in the next couple of months.

Richard DeRock stated that Link Transit is proposing some minor service and fare revisions. He would like to see the fare collection simplified, or to use an electronic collection system.

Ken Stanton with Douglas County reported that 35<sup>th</sup> and 38<sup>th</sup> streets are completed and will open in the spring. The county has put the 31<sup>st</sup> street project out to bid, because the work on this street needs to be finished before the irrigation canal opens next spring. He also stated that there has been positive movement on the property needed for the Eastmont extension project that is now in bankruptcy court.

Mike Mackey with the Port of Chelan County stated that the Port has had several recent inquiries from companies wanting to relocate to the valley. He also stated that the Port is working with the City of Cashmere on the Sunset Highway project, and there is new interest at the Peshastin Mill Site.

Dan Sarles passed around a sheet of upcoming WSDOT projects that are planned for 2010, and explained each project.

#### **5(c) Options for Hiring/Contracting Additional Planning Assistance**

Jeff Wilkens explained his preference to hire staff for 28 months rather than to hire a consultant. The primary responsibilities will be the Human Services Plan update and a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, along with some RTPO duties. The revenue supporting a new hire will include the Human Services grant of \$40,000 and estimated STP Regional funding of \$134,000, which would require \$21,000 match using state funds. The position will be advertised as only being 28 months, with an understanding that if additional funding can be found it could lead to a permanent position. There was a motion by Steve Lacy to authorize the new hire. The motion was then amended to specify hiring the position for only 28 months. The motion passed.

#### **5(d) Resolution #1-2010: Agreement with WSDOT to expend STP Regional Funding**

Resolution #1-2010 was authorized on a motion by Steve Lacy.

#### **5(e) Preparation for 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of Economic Stimulus Funding**

Jeff Wilkens explained that the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of Economic Stimulus funding has been delayed, but WVTC should update the list of projects and be prepared to submit them. The Technical Advisory Committee will be working on this issue at their next meeting, and then the board will need to rank and prioritize the projects. There may have to be a Special Meeting to meet the stimulus deadline.

Ken Stanton raised a point of concern regarding attendance and participation at the Technical Advisory Committee. It was decided to have Jeff give a report of who participated in TAC recommendations whenever giving a report to the board.

**5(f) Letter of Support for Link Transit Grant**

Richard DeRock explained that Link Transit will be applying for a grant for a joint development with a private developer to build a parking garage and transit center at the Wenatchee Valley Mall. Link Transit will be asking for \$5 million. The due date for the grant is February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 and requires the endorsement of the Metropolitan Planning Organization. Richard requested approval of an amendment to the Regional Transportation Improvement Program and a letter of support. There was a motion by Ken Stanton to approve the letter of support. After more explanation by Richard, there was an amendment to the motion to specify that the garage and transit center be maintained in separate ownership from the Mall. Richard will draft the letter and send it to Jeff for revisions, and then Jeff will forward it to the board for approval via e-mail.

**5(g) Discussion of Consolidating Transportation Improvement Board (TIB), County Road Administration Board (CRAB) and Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB) under WSDOT**

Ken Stanton and Dennis Johnson stated that they do not want this consolidation to happen because not only would they lose some of the funding, but would also lose the ability to appoint members to the boards. Dale Snyder with Douglas County stated that the Secretary of WSDOT would gain control of the board appointees rather than the cities and counties. Keith Goehner suggested that WVTC should take a strong stance against the consolidation. WVTC took the position of being strongly against this issue on approval of a motion by Steve Lacy. Dan Sarles abstained. Jeff will write a letter to our 12<sup>th</sup> district legislators and was given the authority to do what is needed in presenting the board's opposition of the consolidation when necessary.

**6) New Business**

Dave Honsinger announced that he had new brochures for the Cascade Interchange.

**7) ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m. on a motion by Russell Clark.

APPROVED ON February 11, 2010.

ATTEST:

---

Mark Spurgeon, Chairman

**(Signatures on file)**

---

Jeff Wilkens

Executive Director

