



SUMMARY MINUTES

Middle Rogue Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee

February 19, 2015

The following attended:

NAME	REPRESENTING	PHONE
<u>MPO Policy Committee</u>		
Aaron Cubic for Darin Fowler	Grants Pass	660-3696
Colleen Roberts	Jackson County	646-2878
Dan De Young	Grants Pass	
Terry Haugen	Grants Pass	476-6168
Mike Baker	ODOT	957-3658
Pam Van Arsdale, Vice Chairman	Rogue River	660-4414
Robert Brandes	Josephine County	474-5460
Simon Hare	Josephine County	474-5221

Others Present

Ian Horlacher	ODOT
John Vial	Jackson County
Scott Chancey	JCT

RVCOG Staff

Dan Moore	RVCOG	423-1361
Bunny Lincoln	RVCOG	944-2446
Andrea Napoli	RVCOG	423-1369

1. Call to Order / Introductions/ Review Agenda

Vice Chairman Van Arsdale called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m. The meeting began with Committee introductions.

2. Review / Approve Minutes

The Vice Chair asked if there were any changes or additions to the previous meeting minutes.

Terry Haugen asked that the January 15, 2015 (Item #6) minutes reference to Redwood Ave. – Phase #3 be amended to read that the bidding was hoped for in Fall, 2015.

On a motion by Mike Baker, seconded by Colleen Roberts, the minutes were approved as amended.

Action Items:

3. Elections – Chair & Vice Chair

On a motion by Pam Van Arsdale, seconded by Rob Brandes, the Committee unanimously elected Darin Fowler, Chairman. Unanimous voice vote.

On a motion by Dan De Young and seconded by Mike Baker the committee unanimously elected Pam Van Arsdale, Vice Chair for the coming year.

4. Confirm Rogue Valley Area Commission on Transportation (RVACT) Members

Dan Moore gave an overview of the current membership. There was a brief discussion among the members regarding previous representation as related to Grants Pass temporarily pulling out of RVACT, the Policy Committee designating new representatives and confusion associated with MPO membership.

On a motion by Dan De Young, seconded by Simon Hare, the Committee unanimously confirmed Rob Brandes as MRMPO representative to the RVACT. Unanimous voice vote.

On a motion by Simon Hare, seconded by Mike Baker, the Committee unanimously confirmed Gus Wolf as MRMPO alternative representative to the RVACT. Unanimous voice vote.

5. 2015-16 MRMPO Dues Recommendations ad Work Program/Tasks Review

Dan Moore reviewed the February 12th memo, and shared that the TAC had recommended approval of the proposed dues schedule.

The memo tables included:

Table 1. Population and Proposed Dues (total = \$8145) by Jurisdiction

- Certified population estimates, per capita dues rates, proposed dues rates @ \$.16, revenue changes from 2015 to 2016

Table 2. Proposed Dues Uses.

- Travel (local and statewide) (\$6295), Staffing (\$1250), memberships/ and conferences (\$600).

He noted that a dues reserve exists from last year.

On a motion by Simon Hare, seconded by Dan De Young, the Committee unanimously approved the 2015-16 dues.

FY 2016 Budget Memo Table 3. The Statewide MPO funding group is meeting to discuss MPO budgeting. It is anticipated that the MRMPO funds will increase by approximately \$10,000. The budget will be adjusted for review/approval in April.

Planning Funds by Source & Activity:

- Program Management
- Short Range Planning

- Long Range Planning
- Data development
- Transit – JOCO (Grants Pass to Medford - Commuter service passenger survey) \$15,000 FTA funds

Table 4. - Proposed Activities for 2014 and 2015 FY includes:

- Program Management – UPWP, Agency Coordination, Grant Writing
- Short Range Planning - TIP, Air Quality Conformity
- Long Range Planning - RTP Development
- Data Development/Maintenance
- Transit Survey (Grants Pass-Medford Commuter Passenger)

Moore stated that RTP development will be the primary work focus for next fiscal year, and the RTP is scheduled to be adopted by March, 2016.

No action was required by the Committee on this matter.

6. Annual Listing of Obligated Projects – 2014

Andrea Napoli presented the required federal funding Project List for FY 2014 in order to provide transparency for the process and to show the relationship between the project funding obligations and the year they were programmed.

The official listing covers the following:

- Federal Funding Sources (STP, CMAQ, National Highways, IM, MPO and FTA)
Most federal grants require matching funding at the local level.
- Funding Distribution by Jurisdictions, Agencies, and Project Types (roadway, transit, planning and alternative modes. Graphs were included to depict distribution of funds obligated last year by jurisdiction and type.
- Project Delivery, Phasing (planning, preliminary engineering, right-of-way, construction, environmental)
- List/Map of Obligated Projects by jurisdiction/agency)
- Appendix A – Federal Regulations

The List was reviewed by TAC and recommended to the Policy Committee for approval.

On a motion by Simon Hare, seconded by Colleen Roberts, the Committee unanimously approved the Obligated Projects Report. Unanimous voice vote.

7. Proposed Oregon MPO Consortium (OMPOC) Legislative Priorities

Dan Moore presented information about the Oregon Transportation Forum and their legislative package. OMPOC hopes that the local MPO Policy Committees will endorse the package and present it to OMPOC in April. Mr. Moore went over a matrix showing Road Funding and Non-Road Funding options for the Fix-It and Enhance Programs, as well as Policy “direction” and “recommendation” activities.

The Albany MPO Policy Committee was not interested in getting into policy issues at this time, and chose not to endorse the Package.

After an extended Committee discussion on the philosophy of supporting transportation funding principles, while being at odds with the overall funding package details, including the offering, and subsequent withdrawal of several motions...

On a motion by Terry Haugen, seconded by Simon Hare, the Committee chose not to support the OTF Transportation Funding and Policy Package as presented. The motion passed, by voice, with five (5) yes votes, two (2) no votes and one (1) abstention.

On a motion by Rob Brandes, seconded by Terry Haugen, the Committee authorized COG Staff to draft a letter affirming support of the five (5) transportation funding principles.

After additional discussion on how support for the principles, but not the funding, without listing specifics, might be construed as being lukewarm or a “cop out” stance on the part of the MPO, the motion was subsequently withdrawn by Rob Brandes.

Dan Moore said that Albany stated that they did not choose to lobby the state for funding at this time, and he will email Albany’s statement to Policy Committee members.

Discussion Items:

8. Enhance and Fix-it Proposal Coordination

The Enhance-It Program is starting up for new applications. Jurisdictions could coordinate on projects. August 3, 2015 is the application deadline. Staff will bring information to the TAC next month. Proposals need to be coordinated with ODOT soon.

9. Rogue Valley Commuter Line Service Update

Scott Chancey gave an overview and led a discussion on the JCT Commuter Service Program. Information presented included:

- Bus sizes/condition
- CMAQ 3 year funding, local match through non-emergency Medicare transportation funding,
- Revenues & Expenses
- Average Daily Passengers
- Total Boardings (also by specific location)
- Passenger survey in May, 2015 (all JTC services)
- Local funding needs and options
- Potential fare increases
- Future funding needs
- Current/future interaction with RVTD

10. OMPOC Staffing Proposal Update

Pam VanArsdale shared that OMPOC wants MPOs to help pay for OMPOC staffing. ODOT would provide matching funds, and costs would be proportionate to MPO sizes. She supports having a paid OMPOC staff. \$75,000 would come off the top of total Statewide planning funds, with ODOT contributing matching funds.

11. MRMPO Planning Update

- Staff is working with the TAC to bring the RTP Project List to the Policy Committee in March. The full RTP will be presented in sections over a few months.
- Jonathan David is planning to return to part time work in March.

12. Public Comment

None received.

13. Other Business / Local Business

14. Agenda Build for Next Meeting

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.