# Okanogan County of Governments (OCOG) Executive Meeting (Phone Conference) – Tuesday, February 20, 2018

Present:

Soo Ing-Moody, Twisp Mayor Carlene Anders, Pateros Mayor Josh Thomson, County Engineer

Melanie Carroll, OCTA Clerk of the Board Kelly Scalf, OCTA General Manager

#### Call to Order

OCOG Chair Soo Ing-Moody called the meeting to order at 12:31pm

## How we would like to plan our next several meetings.

Soo gave a background of logistics planning. She stated that she has noticed OCOG has had inconsistent quorum participation and timeliness of documents getting back to everyone, causing us to not have actionable items on the agenda. She explained that there is a shift of focus from being an RTPO and we are close to fulfilling all of the requirements. She asked for thoughts on how we can make sure that we keep RTPO and OCOG being relevant organizations. She stated that our upcoming meeting is March 12, 2018, and we will have Doug Cox, from DOT, presenting on RTPO components and what it means to us as an organization and our role and opportunities as an RTPO. Soo also stated that we will be discussing the revised versions of the OCOG Interlocal Agreement and Bylaws. Scott has been on vacation and will review the Bylaws when he returns. We should have them back by our next meeting, and if possible, have them sent out to the rest of the Council in advance.

Soo stated that our focus for the conference call is how to improve future meetings, beginning with the April Meeting. Kelly informed everyone that Don Chartok, with WSDOT, has approved the \$60,000.00 for our Human Services Transportation Plan. She explained that this is a critical element we need done by August for jurisdictions to apply for funds. Kelly stated that she had let him know that she can send the contract via email to the Secretary of OCOG and we will forward it on to everyone. Soo stated that we would need to include in the upcoming agenda an action for the Council to approve putting the HSTP work out to bid. Soo asked that Melanie Carroll add this to the agenda as an action item for the March meeting.

Josh Thomson stated that there does seem to be an issue with the timing for getting documents back. He would like to see an email sent out to the Council with bullet points, including the projected timeline and documents to be reviewed – somewhat like a summary of action items a few days after a OCOG meeting, as well prior to the next scheduled meeting. He stated that he normally has already planned other meetings when the OCOG meeting reminder is sent only a week in advance and suggested that a reminder be sent out earlier just to hold the spot.

Carlene stated that she would like the OCOG meetings to happen every single month. If there is nothing to take action on, it would be an opportunity to discuss and share information. She would like to do this even just for thirty minutes and then have time to socialize. Kelly agreed that every month on the same day and time would be best.

Regarding documents taking so long to get back to everyone, Soo explained the challenge lately as there had been different versions of the interlocal and the timing for members' respective councils in providing comment and then revisions by Scott. However, since changes to the interlocal agreement do not typically happen often, everything has now been taken to Attorney Scott DeTro for revisions and when we get all documents back this time, the challenges as of late should be behind us as approval should hopefully take place at the March meeting.

Soo stated that additional constraints have been due to the fact that we have not been eligible to receive funding for some of the work we are currently doing until we get our paperwork sent in to WSDOT. Formerly under RTPO, and according to our own UPWP, members who drive over a certain mileage to attend meetings can be reimbursed for their mileage. She explained that we have not been doing this due to the fact that we have not yet received funding. She stated that Josh had mentioned that WSDOT had questioned us using the funding for the RTPO. Kelly believes that as an RTPO we have put together a unified work plan, she explained that if it is in the UPWP it is allowable. Kelly stated that WSDOT will be at the meeting she is attending today in Olympia for GPAC. She will ask Don Chartok. Soo would like Kelly to ask how they administer it and if there is a flat amount or a calculation typically used since the Chelan/Douglas/Okanogan RTPO also used to reimburse.

# How we would like to plan our next several meetings

Soo stated that we are OCOG doing work for RTPO but we are also *just* OCOG. She explained that we can talk about things that are not directly related to transportation, ie. the communications topic with Sheriff's office dispatch, Mike Worden. Soo believes that the County has been looking to OCOG for discussions that they are wanting us to take on. She asked where the threshold is since there are definitely important county-wide topics of importance to all members, while at the same time, the OCOG table is not the place if these topics are not of a general regional importance.

Kelly agreed that there are some things not in our purview while there does seem to be a real nexus between economic development and transportation for example. Kelly agrees that some city and town issues and projects are not necessarily for OCOG, but it does not make sense to plan out economic development throughout. She believes that those are OCOG topics. Soo stated that she agrees that these are relevant. Kelly stated that she sees it as a way for OCOG to discuss economic and infrastructural development (i.e., roads) needs and issues.

Carlene stated that she worries about having enough time at meetings for information exchange. She likes to know what everyone is doing and thinks that knowledge and info exchange in a controlled way is a good thing. Kelly asked if we should give the County Commissioners a ten minute time slot for an update at meetings since they are the overarching jurisdiction. Soo agreed that a five to ten minute update would be appropriate. Soo explained that this item could follow the Treasurer's report or Secretary report on implementation of things that have happened from the last meeting.

Soo would like to have a quarterly or twice a year Executive Committee meeting to discuss any relevant concerns. Kelly asked Soo if she felt it would be helpful in setting the agenda and if so to hold a half hour Executive meeting two weeks prior to every meeting. Soo said she did not think that was necessary.

Josh stated that he thinks having roundtable updates at the end of the meeting from the cities, towns and commissioners is a benefit.

Soo asked when the next Executive Meetings should be held. Carlene suggested quarterly, as needed. This would tentatively set meetings for December, March, June and September). Soo explained that she considers this meeting to be the March 2018 Executive Meeting. All agreed that the next Executive Meeting will be held in June 2018.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Soo at 1:03pm.

Approved:

Soo Ing-Moody, OCOG Chair