

**Okanogan Council of Governments/
Regional Transportation Planning Organization
December 14, 2020 – Meeting Minutes**

Present: Soo Ing-Moody, Town of Twisp, Mayor – OCOG Chairperson
Carlene Anders, City of Pateros, Mayor – OCOG Vice-Chairperson
Josh Thomson, Okanogan County Engineer – OCOG Treasurer
Kelly Scaff, TranGO CEO/General Manager - OCOG Secretary
Jackie Gleason, TranGO, Clerk of the Board
Chris Branch, Okanogan County Commissioner
Sally Ranzau, Town of Winthrop, Mayor
Barry Freel, City of Omak, Council Member
Jon Neal, City of Oroville, Mayo
Shawn Davisson, City of Okanogan, Public Works Director
Maurice Goodall, Okanogan County Department of Emergency Management

Director
Laurie Jones, Okanogan County Public Health Director
Kate Tollefson, Regional Liaison
George Mazur, WSDOT, Senior Planner
Maxwell Nelson, WSDOT, Transportation Planning Specialist

Call to Order

Chairman Ing-Moody called the meeting to order at 4:33 pm.

Welcome/Role Call

Chairman Ing-Moody welcomed everyone to the meeting; Role call was taken.

Approval of the Agenda

Additions: None

Deletions: None

Correction: Treasurer Thomson requested that the agenda item related to a Request for Additional TAP Funds be changed from an Action Item to a Discussion Item.

Approval of Minutes

Motion:

Council Member Branch moved to approve the August 10, 2020, September 14, 2020, October 12, 2020, and November 9, 2020 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ranzau and passed unanimously.

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Update: Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Thomson reported that SCJ Alliance had invoiced OCOG in the approximate amount of \$2,700 and that we are tracking well with the timeline that was provided from SCJ to WSDOT for spending required funds through June 30, 2021.

Update: Secretary Report

Secretary Scalf reported that at the next meeting OCOG would need to do a ranking for WSDOT's Consolidated Grant Program. Scalf stated that the process should be easy since there was only one project submitted. Chairperson Ing-Moody asked that this item be placed on the January 11, 2021 agenda.

Update: Okanogan County Report

Commissioner/Council Member Branch reported on the following:

- The County budget process and status
- Covid-19 – The County offices are open to the public and each department has developed procedures according to the mandates for the safety of their staff and members of the public
- Okanogan County Prosecutor Arian Noma announced his resignation effective **12/15/2020 stating he was resigning for budgetary reasons
- **Commissioner Branch later corrected himself and stated that the official effective date of Prosecutor Noma is 01/15/2021; Clerk Gleason sent that correction out 12/15/2020 to all in attendance of the meeting

Update: Washington State Department of Transportation

WSDOT Planner Mazur reported that the Safe Routes to School grant applications were rated and the East Omak Project placed #14. Mazur shared that this rating is very favorable to be funded.

Council Member Ranzau asked Planner Mazur if there are currently any grants available for electric charging stations. Ranzau told the Council that the demand in Winthrop for electric charging stations continues to grow; Level 3 fast charging units to be specific. Planner Mazur will check into this request and report back to the entire council with his findings. Planner Nelson stated he is just waiting for the State budget to be finalized.

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Coronavirus/COVID 19 Updates

Emergency Management Director Goodall reported on the following:

- His department has plenty of masks and gloves for distribution
- He introduced his new assistant Lori Caswell
- The 2021 budget will be reviewed by the Okanogan County Emergency Service Organization at a meeting held on January 12th
- A Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) application was submitted on November 30th related to the Cold Springs Fire
- There is concern of flooding on both Highway 97 and Highway 17 in burn areas because of the lack of vegetation

Laurie Jones, Okanogan County Public Health Director reported on the following:

- COVID-19 testing was conducted in Coulee Dam recently and there were very few tests that came back positive
- COVID-19 testing will be done in Oroville and Tonasket soon
- There will be 975 vaccines arriving soon to Public Health for Okanogan County Health Care personnel and First Responders
- Dr. John McCarthy, the Health Officer for Okanogan County Public Health announced his resignation. Director Jones announced that she will be developing a video to thank him for his contributions to Okanogan County; anyone wanting to prepare a video is welcome to contact Ms. Jones
- Dr. James Wallace has been hired as the new Okanogan County Health Officer and will start in that position as of January 1, 2021.

Action: Okanogan County Emergency Communications/Dispatch – Support Letter

Chairperson Ing-Moody discussed the draft letter of support for the Okanogan County Emergency Communications Department request for \$800,000 in funding to commission an engineering firm's ready-to-build design of a public safety two-way radio communication system and fire harden the Tunk Mountain communications site by installing a fire durable concrete shelter to replace the present fire vulnerable log-cabin communications shelter.

Motion:

Vice-Chairperson Anders moved to approve the draft support letter as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Neal and passed unanimously.

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Discussion: Town of Winthrop – Request of Additional TAP Funds

Treasurer Thomson discussed a request from the Town of Winthrop for an additional \$50,000 from the TAP fund to complete the Susie Stephens Trail. Thomson reported that the Okanogan County Transportation Committee (OCTC) has agreed the funding is available.

Treasurer Thomson reported the call for project applications for the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) will come out in January or February of 2021 for projects in the years of 2022-2024.

Action: Resolution 2020-01 – A Resolution of the Okanogan Council of Governments Adopting the Budget for the Fiscal Year and Calendar Year of 2021

Motion:

Council Member Branch moved to approve Resolution 2020-01 as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ranzau and passed unanimously.

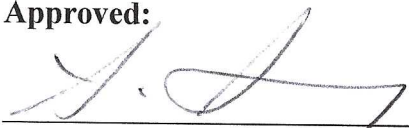
Roundtable Updates

Each agency represented is given a few moments, if they wish, to report to the group on important issues going on in their jurisdictions.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Ing-Moody adjourned the meeting at 5:30 pm.

Approved:



Soo Ing-Moody, Chairman

Attested:



Jackie Gleason, TranGO Clerk of the Board