

**Okanogan Council of Governments/Regional Transportation Planning Organization
June 12, 2023 – Regular Meeting Minutes - 5:00 p.m.
303 S. Second Ave., Suite A, Okanogan, WA**

(253) 215 8782; Meeting ID 929 2149 7263; Passcode: 716493; or link:

<https://zoom.us/j/92921497263?pwd=TU1wZktBZHl4SOY2UHVuMTFIRjY3UT09>

Present: *Jon Neal, Okanogan County, Commissioner – OCOG Chairman
Josh Thomson, Okanogan County, Engineer – OCOG Treasurer
*Brent Timm, TranGO, General Manager – OCOG Secretary
Paula Brantner-Thomas, TranGO, Clerk of the Board
Shawn Davisson, City of Okanogan, Public Works Director
Alan Caswell, Town of Twisp, Council Member
Kelly Hook, City of Pateros, Mayor
Bobby Watkins, OCTN, Operations Director
Chris Scott, Town of Conconully, Council Member
Maurice Goodall, Okanogan County Emergency Management, Director
Shaun Darveshi, WSDOT, North Central Region Planning Manager
Misty Ruiz, City of Brewster, Finance Director
Barry Freel, City of Omak, Council Member
Teagan Levine, City of Tonasket, Council Member
Ed Naillon, City of Oroville, Mayor (joined at 5:13 p.m.)

*These participants attended in person

Call to Order/Welcome

Chairman/Commissioner Jon Neal called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion:

Secretary Brent Timm moved to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Treasurer/County Engineer Josh Thomson.

- Agenda
- Minutes from May 8, 2023, Regular Meeting

Chairman/Commissioner Neal called for the vote; the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment at this time.

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Update: Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer/County Engineer Thomson reported after all expenses have been paid there is currently \$3,750 left in the budget. This does take into account all bills and insurance. The WA State Auditor report has been submitted.

Update: Secretary Report

Secretary Timm had nothing to report at this time.

Update: Okanogan County Report

Treasurer/County Engineer Thomson reported on the following:

- Flooding problems have cleared up.
- Paving will take place on Old Hwy 97, south of Malott, from Wednesday through Monday.
- The Twisp River Road contractor has started paving. Also, next month there will be a bridge rehab project on Twisp River Road and there will be one lane traffic control for approximately one month.

Update: Washington State Department of Transportation

WSDOT North Central Region Planning Manager, Shaun Darveshi, reported the following:

- Regarding the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), the region applied for a Connecting Community grant which has been approved. They are now awaiting an award letter. The grant will focus on the City of Okanogan, and he will reach out to those needed within a month or two.

County-Wide Emergency Updates/Discussion

Okanogan County Emergency Management Director, Maurice Goodall, reported on following:

- There is a fire meeting this Wednesday, June 14th, at 11 a.m. at the County Fairgrounds.

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- A burn restriction will be imposed from June 15, 2023, through October 15, 2023. There will be no burning allowed for unincorporated areas in the county. There also may be a burn ban put in place during part of that time.
- Flooding has slowed down but there may be some flash flooding due to intense rains.
- On Tuesday, June 13, 2023, there will be another wind event with possible 40-50 mph gusts. The last windstorm on June 8th took the roof off an airplane hangar at the Okanogan Airport hit a power line and caused a fire off Hwy 97, above the old Okanogan Armory.

Action: Approval of 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for the Okanogan Region

Secretary Timm reminded Council the current 2040 RTP needed to be reviewed and discussed every two years and updated only when warranted. If Council agreed the current plan still aligned with OCOG's goals, then a letter addressed to WSDOT needs to be drafted stating such. There were no objections or needed changes mentioned by Council.

Motion:

Secretary Timm moved to approve the Chairman sign a letter stating the RTP has been reviewed and aligns with the plans for the county. The motion was seconded by Treasurer/County Engineer Thomson.

Chairman/Commissioner Neal called for the vote; the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion: Okanogan County Board of Health Open Position No. 7

Chairman/Commissioner Neal reminded Council a notice was sent out a few weeks ago regarding this open position. He wondered if anyone had shown any interest in their communities. Council Member Kelly Hook stated he was interested but hadn't yet had the time to submit a letter of interest. Chairman Neal stated the next Health Board meeting is Tuesday, June 13th, so if Council Member Hook was interested, he requested he draft a letter and submit as soon as possible.

Council Member Chris Scott stated if her schedule allowed, she may be interested in future openings.

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Discussion: OCOG Purchasing & Contracting Policy Draft

Treasurer/County Engineer Thomson reported he was notified during the last audit that OCOG needs a purchasing policy. A copy of a draft policy was presented to Council along with proposed changes. He also pointed out there were some items in the draft which didn't pertain to OCOG and highlighted items he wanted to draw attention to. He requested Council Member's thoughts.

Chairman Neal stated he reviewed the draft and had a few suggestions to change, but overall, it looked good. Secretary Timm stated he agreed that amounts mentioned were appropriate.

Treasurer/County Engineer Thomson stated he will bring a Resolution and final draft to Council at the next meeting.

Discussion: RTPO Administrative Support Position

Treasurer/County Engineer Thomson reported things are moving along with this position and one last hurdle will be to modify the position description to make this a union position. He hopes the position will be open for advertising later this month.

Discussion/Action: Brewster Jail Fees

Chairman Neal stated this is an ongoing issue and wants to keep the topic on the agenda, so it isn't forgotten.

Brewster Finance Director, Misty Ruiz, stated there were no updates at this time. A draft was sent out a few months ago and asked if Council Members could review it and provided feedback as she would like to move forward.

Roundtable Updates

Each agency represented was given a few moments, if they wished, to report to the group on important issues going on in their jurisdiction.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Neal adjourned the meeting at 5:33 p.m.

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Approved:



Jon Neal, Chairman

Attested:



Paula Brantner-Thomas, TranGO, Clerk of the Board