

**Okanogan Council of Governments/
Regional Transportation Planning Organization
September 13, 2021 – Meeting Minutes - 5:00 pm**

Present: Soo Ing-Moody, Town of Twisp, Mayor – OCOG Chairperson
Chris Branch, Okanogan County Commissioner – OCOG Vice-Chairperson
Josh Thomson, Okanogan County Engineer – OCOG Treasurer
Brent Timm, TranGO Acting General Manager - OCOG Secretary
Jackie Gleason, TranGO, Clerk of the Board
Marylou Kriner, City of Tonasket, Mayor
Barry Freel, City of Omak, Council Member
Shawn Davisson, City of Okanogan, Public Works Director
Tim Rieb, City of Brewster, Council Member
Carlene Anders, City of Pateros, Mayor
Jon Neal, City of Oroville, Mayor
Sally Ranzau, Town of Winthrop, Mayor
Maurice Goodall, Okanogan County Dept of Emergency Management Director
Tony Hawley, Okanogan County Sheriff's Department, Sheriff
Kate Tollefson, Regional Liaison
George Mazur, WSDOT, Senior Planner
Maxwell Nelson, WSDOT, Transportation Planning Specialist
Gabe Phillips, WSDOT

Guests:

Call to Order

Chairperson Ing-Moody called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

Welcome/Role Call

Chairperson Ing-Moody welcomed everyone to the meeting; roll call was taken.

Approval of the Agenda

Additions: None

Deletions: None

Update: Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Thomson reported there hadn't been any expenditures made from the 2021-2023 biennium budget. Thomson stated that he would be working on the annual report later in the week.

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Update: Secretary Report

Chairperson Ing-Moody welcomed Brent Timm to OCOG in his capacity as Acting General Manager for OCTA/TranGO.

Update: Okanogan County Report

Commissioner/Vice Chairperson Branch reported on the following:

- The Okanogan County Fairgrounds well went dry
- He mentioned that the Okanogan Court had been using the Agri-Plex building for court trials because of the Covid distancing requirements. He shared that the County has been discussing the purchase of the former Forest Service building next to the public works building.

Update: Washington State Department of Transportation

WSDOT Representative reported on the following:

- Kate Tollefson reported that someone on the OCOG Board would need to sign up for their Grant Management System to manage the grant; Treasurer Thomson will sign up.
- Gabe Phillips stated that he was present to listen and answer any questions
- George Mazur reported that their 2022-2023 preservation project will begin soon.
- Because of the vaccine mandate, WSDOT offices will be short staffed beginning 10/18/21
- There is a plan to fix the track near Oroville beginning 09/27/21

Update: Back Roads Study

Treasurer Thomson reported that there is nothing new regarding the Back Roads Study at this time, but Hans Shepherd of SCJ is still available for questions.

County-Wide Emergency Updates/Discussion

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

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- He updated the group on the status of the fire situations. The crews are mostly in mop up mode. Some crews were hit with Covid and quarantined during fire season
- Covid is still prevalent, he urged everyone to take precautions.
- Vaccines are still being given at the Fairgrounds on Fridays, between 8 – 10 a.m.; no pre-registering needed
- PPE supplies are still available through the Emergency Management office

Tony Hawley, Okanogan County Sheriff, reported on the following:

- All entities both in and out of the county worked well together on the fires and emergency management issues
- There is a large focus on the new legislation effecting Law Enforcement. He encouraged everyone to call in and let dispatch make the decision about what they may or may not be able to do in a situation
- They are working with Okanogan County Behavioral Health on “people in crisis” issues

Action: Approval of the 2022-2027 OCOG Regional Transportation Improvement Plan

Treasurer Thomson presented for approval the 2022-2027 OCOG Regional Transportation Improvement Plan. Thomson reported that WSDOT had reviewed and approved the proposed plan.

Motion:

Vice-Chair Branch moved to approve the OCOG Regional Transportation Improvement Plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member Neal and passed unanimously.

Discussion: Hiring a Transportation Administrative Position

Chairperson Ing-Moody revisited the need to explore hiring a person to serve as a Transportation Administrator to preserve continuity for the OCOG/RTPO as Council Members come and go. The committee slated to meet to discuss moving forward were unable to meet due to fires and conflicts in schedules during this emergency period. Ing-Moody confirmed that the members on the committee are the Executive Board Members, along with Board Members Anders, Kriner or Levine.

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Discussion: American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

The County Commissioners are still discussing and developing an internal process regarding gathering information related to the ARPA.

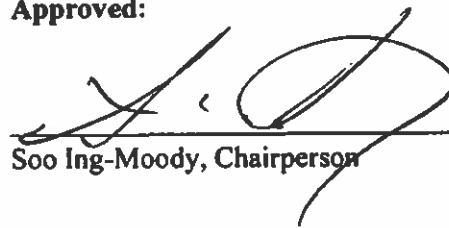
Roundtable Updates

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

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairperson Ing-Moody adjourned the meeting at 6:09 pm.

Approved:



Soo Ing-Moody, Chairperson

Attested:



Jackie Gleason, TranGO Clerk of the Board