

WHATCOM COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD MINUTES
OCTOBER 13, 2021

IN ATTENDANCE (IN PERSON OR VIA ZOOM):

MEMBERS VOTING: **Bellingham:** Seth Fleetwood, Michael Lilliquist; **Blaine:** Bonnie Onyon; **Ferndale:** Greg Hansen (Secretary-Treasurer); **Lynden:** Scott Korthuis (Chairman); **Nooksack:** Tom Jones; **Port of Bellingham:** Ken Bell; **Whatcom County:** Satpal Sidhu, Carol Frazey, Tyler Byrd *EX-OFFICIO:* Les Reardanz, WTA

GUESTS Reps. Alex Ramel and Sharon Shewmake; Chris Comeau, City of Bellingham; Chris Damitio, WSDOT; Jon Hutchings, Jim Karcher, Whatcom County; Terry Terry, CTAG; Tom McBride, Intisar Surur, McBride Public Affairs

STAFF Bob Wilson, Ron Cubellis, Hugh Conroy, Melissa Fanucci, Lethal Coe

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Korthuis called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m., and Secretary Wilson verified that a quorum was present.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present, either in the conference room or online.

C. AGENDA APPROVAL

APPROVED AS PRESENTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

D. CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda included the minutes of the meeting of January 20, 2021, and the list of claims from July 1 through September 30, 2020, in the amount of \$381,866.88, which was emailed to the representatives on October 7, 2021, and which was audited and certified by the Executive Director, acting as the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.090.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

E. BUDGET REPORT

Mr. Cubellis presented the budget report for January through September 2021.

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F. PUBLIC HEARING

WCOG Public Participation Plan

Mr. Wilson explained that the draft Public Participation Plan was released for a 45-day public review and comment period on July 26th, and that no comments had been received from members of the public. As he indicated in his memo in the meeting packet, he reminded the members that WCOG did receive inter-agency comments from the Federal Highway Administration that he had addressed, and which were indicated in the final draft contained in the packet. He also informed the Board that no members of the public had signed up to speak during the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT 3:20 P.M.

No members of the public were present either in the conference room or online. Mr. Wilson informed the Board that a Notice of Public Hearing had been published in *The Bellingham Herald* on September 26, 2021, which provided detailed instructions on how to submit comments or register to speak.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 3:20 P.M. BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

MOTION: Mr. Lilliquist moved, Mr. Bell seconded, to adopt the WCOG Public Participation Plan, incorporating the revisions indicated in the document included in the meeting packet.

MOTION PASSED

G. OLD BUSINESS

None

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Amend the Bylaws of the Whatcom Transportation Policy Board

Mr. Conroy explained that the proposed bylaws amendments merely remove references to CTAG that are now covered in the Public Participation Plan. Mr. Lilliquist suggested changing the wording in the first sentence of Section 3.0, Subsection C from "... also be made available ..." to "... be provided ..."

MOTION: Mr. Bell moved, Mr. Lilliquist seconded, to amend the *Bylaws and Procedures of the Whatcom Metropolitan Planning Area Transportation Planning Process*, with the aforementioned revision, but otherwise as presented.

MOTION PASSED

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2. Presentation of the Draft 2022 WCOG Budget

Messrs. Wilson and Cubellis presented the first draft of the 2022 Budget and answered questions from the Board.

3. Adopt 2022 Transportation Priorities of Whatcom County

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Council Board would adopt the proposed *Transportation Priorities of Whatcom County, 2022*, as presented, but would prioritize the list at its meeting on December 8, 2021.

MOTION: Mr. Lilliquist moved, Mr. Byrd seconded, to adopt the *Transportation Priorities of Whatcom County, 2022*, as presented.

MOTION PASSED

I. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

In the interest of time, Mr. Wilson declined to make a report.

J. CORRESPONDENCE


No correspondence was included in the packet or distributed at the meeting.

K. BOARD OPEN FORUM

Mr. Bell informed the Board that the Port of Bellingham had recently been designated a part of the Marine Highway System.

L. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

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Scott Korthuis
Chairman

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Robert H. Wilson, AICP
Executive Director