

WHATCOM COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD MINUTES
DECEMBER 12, 2018

IN ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS VOTING: Jon Mutchler (Chairman), Ferndale; Tom Jones (Vice Chairman), Nooksack; Jack Louws (Secretary-Treasurer), Whatcom County; Kelli Linville, Terry Bornemann and Michael Lilliquist, Bellingham; Bonnie Onyon, Blaine; John Perry, Everson; Fredrick Lane (for Jay Julius), Lummi Nation; Scott Korthuis, Lynden; Bobby Briscoe, Port of Bellingham; Satpal Sidhu, Whatcom County; NON-VOTING: Patrick Alesse, Birch Bay W&SD; Pete Stark, WTA

GUESTS Todd Carlson and Jay Drye, WSDOT; Kaylee Galloway, Office of Rep. Suzan Del Bene; Guy Occhiogrosso, Bellingham Regional Chamber of Commerce; Terry Terry, CTAG; Kirk Vinish, Lummi Nation; Luanne Van Werven, 42nd District State Representative

STAFF Bob Wilson, Ron Cubellis, Hugh Conroy

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mutchler called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. with a quorum present.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

C. AGENDA APPROVAL

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Mutchler asked if there were any objections to approving the consent agenda as presented, which included the minutes of the Council Board meeting of October 10, 2018, and a list of claims from October 1 through November 30, 2018, inclusive, in the amount of \$380,699.64, which was contained in the meeting packet sent to the representatives on December 6, 2018, and which was audited and certified by the Executive Director, acting as the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.090. No objections were made.

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

E. BUDGET REPORT

Mr. Cubellis presented the budget report as of November 30, 2018.

F. OLD BUSINESS

None

G. NEW BUSINESS

G.1 Adoption of 2019 WCOG Meeting Schedule

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved, Mr. Korthuis seconded, to approve the 2019 schedule of meetings for the Council Board, Executive Committee and Whatcom Transportation Policy Board, as presented.

MOTION PASSED

G.2 Adoption of the 2019 WCOG Budget

Messrs. Cubellis and Wilson presented the final draft of the proposed 2019 budget and answered questions posed by several Board members. Mr. Wilson informed the representatives that the Executive Committee passed a motion earlier that day recommending that the Council Board approve the budget.

MOTION: Mr. Louws moved, Mr. Bornemann seconded, to adopt the 2019 WCOG Budget, as presented.

MOTION PASSED

G.3 Amendments to WCOG Bylaws

Mr. Wilson summarized the amendments to the Bylaws that he was proposing. After discussion, there was consensus to revise Mr. Wilson's suggested amendment to Section 8 (Voting), Subsection A, as follows: Require that there be a majority of the full voting membership to approve and amend the annual budget; establish member dues assessments; amend the Bylaws or Interlocal Agreement, and; hire or terminate the employment of the Executive Director.

MOTION: Mr. Louws moved, Mr. Sidhu seconded, to approve the proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the Whatcom Council of Governments as recommended in Mr. Wilson's memo of December 5, 2018, with the aforementioned revision to Section 8.

MOTION PASSED

G.4 2019 Unfunded Transportation Needs of Whatcom County

Mr. Wilson summarized the funding requests that he had received following his e-mail to the members in early November, and which were included in the meeting packet. Only the City of Blaine and the Whatcom Transportation Authority submitted

requests. Mr. Louws stated Whatcom County's request to add the "West Horton Road Multi-modal Corridor Extension, Phase 2" project to the list, in the amount of \$16-million, which, Mr. Wilson reminded the Board, was on the 2018 list. There was consensus to grant the County's request.

Mr. Wilson then informed the Board that he had received three letters that morning – from the Ferndale Chamber of Commerce, Phillips 66 and Whatcom County Fire District No. 7 – to add a request for funding to raise the level of Slater Road to prevent the persistent flooding it experiences. A lengthy discussion on this request ensued. Mr. Vinish expressed the support of the Lummi Nation for including this request, as did Mr. Lane. Mr. Louws stated Whatcom County's objection to including this request on the list, since the County itself does not currently deem it to be a high-priority need. He also stated that he and his staff are interested in working with the Lummi Nation to develop a suitable administrative arrangement that would facilitate submitting an application to the U.S. Economic Development Administration or other federal or state agencies to fund a flood-mitigation project for Slater Road. There was consensus to not include this request at this time, with the understanding that it could be added later at the discretion of the Board.

MOTION: Mr. Louws moved, Ms. Linville seconded, to include the following funding requests on the list of "2019 Unfunded Transportation Needs of Whatcom County":

- Grade Separation Rail-Traffic Solution at State Route 548 (Blaine) - \$24-million
- West Horton Road Multi-modal Corridor Extension, Phase 2 (Whatcom County) - \$16-million
- Operating Support for Regional Transit Service (WTA) – Amount to be determined by the Legislature
- Lincoln Creek Transportation Center Improvements (Western Washington University, Bellingham and WTA) – \$9.87-million
- Bellingham Station Expansion (WTA) – \$4-million
- Support for Transit Electrification (WTA) – Capital support in an amount to be determined by the Legislature

MOTION PASSED

H. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

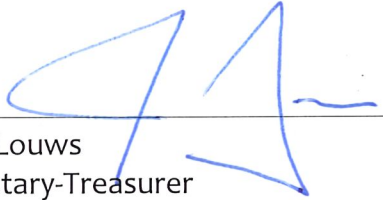
Mr. Wilson thanked the Board and staff for the kindness and support they have shown him since the death of his wife in March.

I. BOARD OPEN FORUM


Mr. Lane extended an invitation to the other jurisdictions in the region to attend the Lummi Nation's "Paddle to Lummi" celebration in July.

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.



Jack Louws
Secretary-Treasurer



Robert H. Wilson, AICP
Executive Director

Approved January 16, 2019