

BOUNDARY AREA TRANSPORTATION TEAM

MEETING NOTES/MINUTES

January 23, 2019

Voting Members in Attendance: Clint Kimball-Boundary County; John Youngwirth-City of Bonners Ferry; David Sims-SPOT; Don Davis-Kootenai Tribe of Idaho.

Non-Voting Members in Attendance: Walt Kirby, Chairman; Renee Nelson, Secretary; Brian Scrimsher-Avista; Serena Carlson-BNSF.

Others in Attendance: Susan Kiebert-LHTAC; David Suhr-DEA; Stephen Howlett; Matt Hall-HMH; Bill Irwin, BCSD101; Wally Cossairt-Boundary County Commissioner.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kirby at 1:30 pm at the Bonners Ferry Visitor Center.

Chairman Kirby asked for introductions and all present did so. Chairman Kirby proceeded with the meeting.

1. **(MSU Nelson/Youngwirth)** The proposed Minutes from November 28, 2018 meeting were approved as distributed.
2. **New Business**

Susan Kiebert-LHTAC –updated members regarding the Local Strategic Initiatives Program application results. Boundary County's Tobe Way-Plato Drive ranked 17. The Legislative JFAC (Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee) Committee had approved appropriations and should be on the floor of the House soon.

Scott Stokes, Deputy Director of ITD and Laila Kral, Deputy Director of LHTAC continue to seek funding for transportation. She reminded members that these dollars require no match, they are pure State funds. Senator Woodward expressed to her that hopefully within the next week or two there should be funding.

- Regarding other Transportation Funding applications, such as LRHIP, LHSIP, these should be awarded in March 2019.
- The call for proposals for FLAP projects, Federal Lands Access Program, is now open. City of Bonners Ferry is applying again for their Riverside Road Improvements to meet where the County's Riverside Improvement project begins.
- ITD Board Member, Jim Coleman's term is up. Governor Little is looking into applicants.

Bill Roberson-ITD was unable to attend today. Don Davis provided an update from the BCATT (Bonner County Area Transportation Team) meeting this morning. The Legislative JFAC Committee is looking into the Strategic Initiatives funding. Their remains dollars from last year, but funding for next year is the question. The 60/40 percentage split will be affected by the Medicaid changes. Strategic Initiatives funding is dedicated until May 19, 2019 but after that is the question all are concerned with.

Renee Nelson, BATT Secretary informed members that the 2019 BATT Designee Forms had been sent out. Boundary County has designated Clint Kimball with Randy Morris as an alternate. Kootenai Tribe of Idaho has designated Don Davis with Gary Aitken, Jr. as alternate. Members will be returning their designees prior to the next BATT Meeting, February 27, 2019. Secretary Nelson discussed with members if there were any other jurisdictions that they might want to include a voting member from or an addition of a non-voting member. Discussion followed regarding when and for what members voted on or ranked projects. Boundary County School District Transportation Supervisor Bill Irwin was discussed as being added as a voting member. Secretary Nelson said she would get this into a preliminary amendment for the By-Laws for members to review prior to the next meeting.

3. **Construction Information** – Brian Scrimsher, Avista updated members regarding the utility work Avista will be doing for the construction on US 95 to El Paso Phase of the US 95 project. Hoping to start February/March. Discuss followed between Mr. Scrimsher and David Suhr, DEA, regarding plans for the project and layout for the relocation of the utilities. Avista is hoping to get the relocation completed before construction begins. Mr. Suhr said weather permitting, crews are tentatively hoping to start in April.

4. **Jurisdictional Updates**

Boundary County-Clint Kimball updated members that ITD Bridge inspectors had found that 5 bridges in the county were deficient and needed immediate attention.

- He has engineering started regarding the Ruby Creek Bridge #1.
- Ruby Creek Bridge #2 is in final design by DEA for replacement, however, due to the inspection results may have to have emergency repairs done prior to the construction of the new bridge.
- Ruby Creek Bridge #3 needs emergency repairs.
- Ruby Creek Bridge #4 will need the deck replaced and will require a temporary bridge to be placed while repairs are done.
- DEA performed a secondary inspection on the Myrtle Creek Bridge. He followed with a description of the deficiency issues along with issues of inspection reports and possible funding options.
- Parker Creek Bridge on the Westside Rd has had weight limits posted.
- Skin Creek Bridge on Deer Creek Road near the Perkins Lake Rd intersection has an issue. Waiting for results. He mentioned this bridge provides access for USFS and KTOI also.
- Kootenai Trail-Atkins Canyon is now passable for traffic. Project will be finished including paving and guardrail in the spring when weather permits.
- The Naples Bridge was discussed by members with Mr. Kimball. He informed members that the discussion with ITD Bridge engineers estimated the cost as being \$15-\$20 million to replace.

- He provided those present with a short description of The Tobe Way-Plato Dr Local Strategic Initiatives project including the benefits of this being an all weather road.

City of Bonners Ferry-John Youngwirth informed members his crew was snow plowing and slushing.

KTOI-Don Davis did not have any new updates, however, he would like to set up a meeting with Mr. Kimball regarding the bridges on the Westside Road-Myrtle Creek and Parker Creek to gain the information and data to be able to present to the Tribe.

SPOT-David Sims updated members there is a new bus for Boundary County coming in April. Start service to Schweitzer in February. Service from Bonner to Boundary County- 2 days a week.

BCSD101-Bill Irwin updated members regarding his participation in Region 1 & 2 Transportation Committee. Discussion followed regarding transportation funding.

BNSF-Serena Carlson gave a brief update on BNSF progress and railroad growth not slowing down. BNSF 2nd Bridge across Pend Oreille is in environmental assessment stage. BNSF is providing an air boat for local Fire Department Ice Training Feb. 12-14, 2019. Reminded those present that BNSF has spill response sources available for use even if a train is not involved in the incident.

No further updates from jurisdictions were presented.

5. **Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

With no other business the meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm. (Youngwirth/Kimball).

Respectfully Submitted,

S/Renee Nelson

Renee Nelson, BATT Secretary