

BOUNDARY AREA TRANSPORTATION TEAM

MEETING NOTES/MINUTES

April 26, 2017

Voting Members in Attendance: John Youngwirth-City of Bonners Ferry; Don Davis-Kootenai Tribe of Idaho; William Roberson-ITD.

Non-Voting Members in Attendance: Commissioner Walt Kirby, Chair; Renee Nelson, Secretary; Dianna Ellis, Kootenai NWR; Dennis Weed, BEDC.

Others in Attendance: Susan Kiebert-LHTAC; Ken Blockhan, Jr.-BC Public Library Trustee; Stephen Howlett; George Eskridge-Former Legislature; David Sims-City of Bonners Ferry; Marty Martinez; Jen Lanaville, NLI.

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

1. **New Business**

Bill Roberson-ITD informed members that the 129,000K subcommittee approved US2/95 and SH 1 in Boundary County for 129K routes and will go before the Board next month. Echo Dr MP 515 project has been set back to FY18. Round Prairie MP 526-536 will be a milling/overlay project with replacement of bridge at Round Prairie Creek. Railroad Safety Improvement Projects for Boundary County are District Two Road R/R crossing programmed for FY19 and Schoolhouse Road R/R crossing is FY20. Mc Arthur Lake Project is programmed for FY22. As a result of the public hearing on the 129K proposal in Moyie Springs, a traffic study will be completed at the mill. An acceleration lane off of Roosevelt and signage and beacons for west of the jct are being studied.

Susan Kiebert-LHTAC explained to members that funding resulting from Bill 1141 will be through an application process that will be starting soon.

Susan Kiebert-Railroad Report informed members that BNSF railroad will be scheduling visits to Boundary County tentatively the second week of May. UP Railroad will be having a public meeting on Tuesday, May 2, 2017 from 4-6 pm at the Visitor Center regarding the Meadow Creek Siding Project. They will have engineers present and displays about the siding. She also mentioned UP is giving grants to the Boundary County 4H and Boundary Volunteer Ambulance.

SPOT Intercity Update-Marion Johnson, Susan Kiebert filled in for Marion. ITD performed a site visit on the intercity route and it was commented on as being a model public transportation system.

George Eskridge presented a legislative update to members. New GARVEE bonding calls for \$300 million in bonding. Projects in Canyon County and 2 North Idaho projects are being considered. The North Idaho areas are US 95 from Granite Hill continuing north and a new interchange at the intersection of Hwy 53/US 95. Discussion followed on what GARVEE projects have already been completed and the benefits received. Tiger Funding was discussed and the possibility of it being discontinued. Letters of support are being presented to the Congressional Delegation in support of continuing funding. Chairman Kirby asked if BATT members would be interested in sending a letter supporting continued Tiger Funding. Motion was made/seconded. (MSU Youngwirth/Davis) Unanimous support from all members present.

2. **Construction Information** – Jen Lanaville with Northern Lights Inc. was present. She updated members that NLI will be working on a project from 3 Mile to the Moyie Bridge to replace existing electric to 3 Phase.

3. **Jurisdictional Updates**

City of Bonners Ferry – John Youngwirth stated the City was working on cleaning roads.

USFWS – Dianna Ellis said they had also been dealing with slides and water issues. People are starting to come out and visit the Refuge. The Friends of the KNWR Group is having a meet and greet on Thursday, April 27, 2017 from 4-7 pm at Mugsy's. Discussion followed regarding the waiting for funding to be extended for Federal departments and possible future funding that may become available.

4. **Public Comment**

Ken Blockhan, Jr. commented on emergency access routes needing to be improved. He had questions for ITD regarding the slide at MP 498 and possibility of pipes to drain the water. Bill Roberson, ITD, answered this concern with explanations on soil saturation and methods that have been tried at other locations. A solution is still being determined.

With no other business the meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm. (MSU Youngwirth/Davis)

Respectfully Submitted,

S/Renee Nelson

Renee Nelson, BATT Secretary