

BOUNDARY AREA TRANSPORTATION TEAM

MEETINGS NOTES/MINUTES

April 27, 2016

Voting Members In Attendance: Clint Kimball-Boundary County, John Nelson-City of Moyie Springs, John Youngwirth-City of Bonners Ferry, Marion Johnson-SPOT, Damon Allen-ITD.

Non-Voting Members in Attendance: Commissioner Walt Kirby- Chair, Renee Nelson- Secretary.

Others in Attendance: Susan Kiebert-LHTAC, Don Davis-KTOI, Christopher DeLorto-HDR, Ken Blockhan, Jr.-BC Public Library Trustee, George Shutes-ITD, David Sims-City of Bonners Ferry, Mike Brown-Blue Sky Radio, Serena Carlson-Carlson Strategic Comm.

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

1. (MSU Nelson/Youngwirth) The Proposed Minutes from March 23, 2016 were approved as distributed.
2. New Business

Damon Allen-ITD: Presented an update on the proposed US-95 McArthur Lake Project. The project criteria is 100% data driven and due to the crash data is way down on the list, number 279. From 2010-14 there were 16 accidents and ½ were wildlife related. He presented BATT Secretary Nelson with a report showing this information. He mentioned that the local ITD Maintenance Department would do more brushing in the area, however, at this time there are no plans for realignment. Explanations regarding three factors that are studied for projects-safety, mobility and economic expansion was outlined. Discussion by members followed regarding previous studies on the project area and different scenarios regarding proposed solutions.

Damon Allen-ITD: Presented updated information that there were funds ITD would be spending to pave additional sections on Hwy 95 in phases. Phase 1 would be Alderson Lane to Madison St including the intersection (2018). Phase 2 would include from Labrosse Hill St to Alderson Lane (2020), and then Phase 3 would complete the paving from Kootenai St north to the City Limits. Mr. Allen then deferred to George Shutes-ITD, to give an update on the previously discussed turn bay to Division St off of Hwy 2 in Moyie Springs. Mr. Shutes said it is slated to be paved this summer. All in attendance expressed appreciation for this accomplishment.

Susan Kiebert-LHTAC: Presented information regarding the TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program) funding opportunity that is available for local jurisdictions. She explained that the Augusta Street project the City of Bonners Ferry was awarded was this type of project. There is a 7.34% cash match required and applications are due June 1, 2016. Discussion followed regarding various types of projects that have been applied for in other counties.

Damon Allen-ITD: ITD Railroad Safety Improvement Fund applications for railroad crossings were discussed. Boundary County has turned in a nomination for the District Two railroad crossing to have signals and arms placed at this crossing due to the location and skew of the crossing to the county road and impaired sight distance. Ms. Nelson expressed concern that some of the information regarding the funding opportunity was not answered by ITD and Boundary County still had some questions they would like answered. Mr. Allen asked Ms. Nelson to email him this information and he would get those questions answered. Ms. Kiebert also mentioned that there is a new "Quiet Zone" application from USDOT (United States Department of Transportation and FHWA (Federal Highway Administration) that is coming up and will be available for shortly. She will send the information to the various jurisdictions.

3. Construction Information

There were no utilities present.

4. Jurisdictional Updates

ITD (Idaho Transportation Department) –George Shutes explained ITD is doing spring cleaning along Hwy 2, and will be building the turn bay at Division Street, east bound, this summer.

LHTAC (Local Highway Technical Assistance Council) – Susan Kiebert informed members that Laila Kral had been named Deputy Director of LHATC (Local Highway Technical assistance Counsel). She also noted that Ms. Kral will be in northern Idaho, May 10-12, 2016.

SPOT –Marion Johnson informed members that SPOT is in the process of reinventing itself-it will be going from a (MOU) Memorandum of Understanding to a Joint Powers Agreement. Ms. Johnson described the existing board and the proposed board makeup. Then, SPOT will move forward with agreements with the City of Moyie Springs, City of Bonners Ferry and Boundary County. SPOT will have its own EIN (Employer Identification Number) number and will be a standalone entity. SPOT will be at the Community Health Fair in Boundary County on Saturday, May 14, 2016. SPOT received a national award from Federal Transit Authority (FTA) for the Rural Transit Authority System of the Year.

5. Public Comment

Ken Blockhan, Jr. presented an overview on the Bonners Ferry Comprehensive Plan Workshop that he attended. Citizens addressed concerns on land use; transportation; community

design; public services, facilities and utilities; economic development and recreation; natural resources and special sites or areas; and housing/agriculture/schools and other. David Sims added that Idaho Smart Growth has been contracted for help, and noted that they are helping Dover also. Ken Blockhan, Jr. also mentioned that he would like to ask the county to be aware of watching for possible projects applications that would become available for recreation improvements to Boundary County, such as, an equestrian trail with a bridge crossing north of Bonners Ferry that would connect the east part of the county to access the west side of the Kootenai River, and any possible bike trails, horse trails, etc. BATT Secretary Nelson noted this and will watch for future applications.

With no other business the meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm. (MSU Youngwirth/Nelson)

Respectfully Submitted,



Renee Nelson, BATT Secretary