

Tribal Transportation Planning Organization

Makah Tribe, Marina Conference Room - Neah Bay, WA

October 5, 2011

Minutes

I. Introductions

Kirk Vinish, TTPO President, welcomed everyone to the TTPO and made introductions. Greig Arnold of the Makah Tribe also welcomed everyone and asked the invocation.

Mike Lawrence, Vice Chair of the Makah Tribe, gave a presentation on "The People of the Cape."

II. TTPO Bylaws

Motion by Casey Stevens to adopt the July 20, 2011 minutes as presented. Second by Keri Shepherd. Motion carries.

The by-laws as edited by the law firm of Miller Nash were distributed electronically to the TTPO membership in advance of today's meeting. The changes were discussed and one minor revision was proposed.

Motion by Debbie Bray to change Section 2.2 of the proposed bylaws (Directors – Number of) by striking "Board" and inserting "Voting Members". Second by Andrew Strobel. Motion carries.

Motion by Debbie Bray to adopt the bylaws and articles of incorporation as amended in previous motion. Second by Andrew Strobel. Motion carries with 15 for, 0 against and 5 abstentions.

The need for administrative policies and procedures was discussed. The following procedures will be developed by the TTPO Officers :

- Electronic signature process
- Dues structure
- Compensation policy
- Budget process
- Officers' position descriptions

- Resolution process.

Recess Quarterly Membership and convene the Annual Board Meeting.

Election of Officers

Board of Directors

There were 17 recognized tribes in attendance, and nine were interested in serving on the Board of Directors. It was determined that terms for the Board would be staggered beginning January, 2012.

For the purposes of conducting this initial board of directors' appointment it was proposed that the Section 1.2 of the bylaws (Members – Annual Membership Meeting) be suspended to allow the Board to be established.

Motion by Jonathon Ciesla to suspend Section 1.2 of the bylaws and waive any requirements thereof for the purpose of conducting Board appointments. Second by Dena Moses. Motion carries.

- A. 1 year terms (2012 - 2013): Jonathan Ciesla – Quinault, Al Pinkham – Yakama, Annette Nesse - Jamestown
- B. 2 year terms (2012 - 2014): Casey Stevens - Stillaguamish, Keri Shepherd - Nooksack, Dena Moses – Spokane
- C. 3 year terms (2012 – 2015): Debbie Bray - Tulalip, Jim Longley – Nisqually, Kirk Vinish - Lummi

These terms were approved without objection. Kirk Vinish was appointed by the Board to serve as the Chairman.

A quorum of the Board of Directors was established and the Board proceeded with appointing Officers.

Officers

President – Nominations – Jim Longley and Casey Stevens. Casey declined the nomination. Jim appointed President.

Vice President – Nominations – Casey Stevens and Annette Nesse. Annette declined the nomination. Casey appointed Vice President.

Treasurer – Annette Nesse nominated and appointed as Treasurer.

Secretary – Debbie Bray and Keri Shepherd. Debbie declined the nomination. Keri appointed Secretary pending Nooksack Tribal Council approval. Annette agreed to serve as Secretary for the present.

Annual Dues

Motion made by Debbie Bray to adopt the proposed dues schedule (see attached email dated September 21, 2011). The Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Tribal Technical Assistance Program, and the Washington State Department of Transportation, as founding members of the TTPO, are to be recognized as ex officio members (non-voting). Second by Dena Moses.

A friendly amendment was proposed establishing classes of membership effective 1/1/2012 with review of dues scheduled at each annual meeting. Motion carries.

Happy Longfellow, Parametrix, suggested that the dues for Organizations (non-voting members) was too low and could be increased.

Establish Classes of Membership

Motion by Kirk Vinish to task the Board of Directors with developing a list of membership types for recommendation back to the membership at the next quarterly meeting. Second by Dena Moses. Motion carries.

The intent of Section 2.9 of the bylaws regarding who will preside at Board and Membership meetings was discussed. The group decided that the Board Chair, or the Board Chair's designee, could preside at, and set the agenda for, all meetings of the Board or the Members.

Motion by Jonathan Ciesla to propose this amendment to Section 2.9 of the bylaws to the general membership meeting. Second by Keri Shepherd. Motion carries.

Motion by Jonathon Ciesla to adjourn the Board meeting. Second by Jim Longley. Motion carries.

Reconvene Quarterly Membership Meeting

Motion by Debbie Bray to amend Section 2.9 of the bylaws to state "The Board Chair, or the Board Chair's designee, will preside at, and set the agenda for, all meetings of the Board or the Members. Second by Keri Shepherd. Motion carries.

III. Makah Tribal Transportation Project

Meredith Parker, Makah General Manager, welcomed the TTPO to Neah Bay. Jeff Barrett, Makah's Tribal Transit Manager, gave an overview of the Makah Transit service. He presented the following transit statistics:

- 2495 Enrolled
- 1341 Reside on reservation
- 300 Non-tribal
- 350 Homes in Town

Makah's transit service began in August 1999 with an annual ridership of 514. In 2000, there were 2200 riders using the fixed route service. Additionally, there were 10-12 paratransit trips daily and three Clallam transit connections daily. The program receives some WSDOT operations assistance. The website is Makah.com/transit.

Greig Arnold, Makah Tribal Planner, then introduced Sue Wolf, Tribal Planning Director. Sue spoke about plans for marina upgrades. The effort to upgrade the marina is an attempt to sustain existing jobs and create new opportunities. The existing marina was built during the Clinton administration with timber initiative funding. Recently the Tribe applied for a Tiger II grant to build a new dock and upgrade the existing dock for the marina. It was almost funded, but a comprehensive waterfront plan was missing. The work on this plan has begun by an interdepartmental workgroup which is taking a "grass roots" approach to getting the plan approved. They will be submitting a new and improved Tiger III grant application for funding.

IV. RTPO/MPO/Tribal Survey

The survey was presented by Judy Lorenzo as a work task item from the State/Tribal Conference. This purpose of the survey is to understand how Transit can interact more effectively with MPO's (Federal Law) and RTPO's (state law). An MPO requires Transit to consult policy. An RTPO strongly suggests Transit consult policy.

To-date, 13 of the 29 tribes completed the survey and 9 of the 14 MPO's/RTPO's. In an effort to get a 100% response, WSDOT will re-open the survey for input between 10/10-10/21. Judy, Terri Hotsko and Megan Cotton will be making follow-up phone calls to clarify some answers.

The results of the survey are expected by December and will be shared with TTPO at the January meeting.

The following questions will be emailed out to the TTPO membership:

1. Are there other questions that need to be asked?
2. How would we like to move forward with any of the suggestions offered?
3. How best to share the information?

Kirk stated that there was no point in Tribes attending MPO and/or RTPO meetings unless “decision makers” (FHWA, FTA, WSDOT) in attendance. WSDOT is currently the lead planning staff for the Peninsula RTPO because no other “staff” is available. But some other agency or tribal rep could step up and accept administrative responsibility. WSDOT has set aside funds that can cover that expense.

Would a letter from T.C. to WSDOT re issues with MPO/RTPO’s be helpful? Judy would prefer to complete the survey process to get a comprehensive view of these relationships.

V. Tribal Transportation Guidebook , 2nd Version - Update

Megan Nicodemus will email the TTPO membership with updated information re: the guidebook.

VI. Federal Programs Update

- Cost to Construct (CTC) Review – BIADOT has rejected our data. Kirk Vinish and Edward Koltonawlski will follow up. Anyone with documented project costs can provide that data to Edward to prove support of new CTC. Is there a summary of this effort and the lack of BIA response so that Tribal leaders can take this information back to DC to share with elected officials? Yes, it will be posted on the TTPO site.
- BIA Question 10 – No update
- Reauthorization – In addition to the ATNI position paper, an official position paper from NCAI is necessary.
- Traffic Counters – Solar powered radar traffic counters are being used by Lummi. The supplier will offer a significant discount for large orders.

VII. Announcements

Gas Tax Challenge: A recent Seattle Times article detailed the gas tax challenge between the State and AUTO.

Washington Indian Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (WITPAC) – The next meeting will be in Olympia at WSDOT headquarters on November 9, 2011

VIII. **Next Meeting** – January 31, 2012 at PSRC.

Meeting adjourned.