Tribal Transportation Planning Organization

Quinault Beach Resort, Ocean Shores, WA

February 21, 2013

Minutes

I. Introductions

Michael Cardwell (Quinault Tribe) welcomed everyone and invited folks to come back during Paddle to Quinault the summer.

II. Roll Call

Three Tribes were represented by more than one person, Stillaguamish Tribe voting member - Casey Stevens, Skokomish Tribe - Lennea Wolf, and Kevin Freibott- Kalispell Tribe.

III. Host Tribe Project Profile

Michael Cardwell discussed the McBride Bill and the 15 year backlog of tsunami evacuation routes on the Quinault lands. The Tribe has started looking into fuel/coal exporting and is currently rebuilding a camp ground at the old coast guard station.

Gordon Nielson (Skokomish Tribe) stated that the Olympic Peninsula is upgrading all its airports to be prepared for “day after events” (re: Emergency Management).

Megan Nicodemus (WSDOT) asked if the Olympic Tribes are going to coordinate when events happen to seek funding for a disaster (under the amended Stafford Act).

Kirk Vinish (Lummi Nation) stated that northwestern US grocers are making arrangements with CA and Canadian grocers to assist with supplying the NW during an event. Currently WA grocers have a three day supply of goods in the event of a disaster.

Megan Cotton (WSDOT) stated that there is an Emergency Management Conference coming up and that it would be very helpful for anyone wanting additional information.

IV. New TTPO Agenda Format

Casey Stevens distributes the new TTPO agenda. He thanks the officers and Megan Nicodemus for helping with the template.

Megan Nicodemus requests a bottom up approach. If Tribes have topics, they need to bring them forward.
Lennea Wolf thanked Casey and asked how this agenda reflects how the TTPO works.

Richard Rolland (NWTTAP) Stated that the TTPO Mission Statement should be at the beginning, why we are here, and it is missing a new business section.

Judy Lorenzo (WSDOT) asked how/when is the work plan updated? The new agenda needs to address the minutes.

Annette Nesse (Jamestown S’Klallam) requested that a bullet be added for the treasures report.

Michael Cardwell stated that capacity building is a need. Also we need to address how to encourage and receive more funding and we need to educate on how other Tribes can get federal and state funds to their Tribes. He would like to see people share what their Tribe’s needs are, not just what they have.

Gordon Nelson requests the addition of a mission statement at the top and treasurer’s report and minutes.

Keri Shepherd (Nooksack Tribe) will add changes and email around to membership.

Casey Stevens motioned to adopt new format with the recommended changes, Michael Cardwell seconds

Approved 17 to 0

V. Project Funding

Jason Oberle (NWRO BIA) gave an update on MAP-21 and the potential impacts of Sequestration to the BIA. There is a 50/50 chance it will impact salaries at the BIA and there is no new information on MAP-21. DOT will solely do safety (discretionary part) and they may deal with planning and bridges but it is still TBD.

Kirk Vinish stated that TRB requested implementation of MAP-21 still work in progress

Jason Oberle stated he doesn’t know and it is still out for public comment.

Kirk Vinish asked if the BIA would update the TTPO on where they are at with MAP-21.

Richard Rolland stated that with the Sequestration and budget, there will be a big difference between state funds and allocated funds in regards to how they are impacted. TRB also discussed federal lands access program. The funds can’t be used to access tribal trust property to another trust parcel. Other TA Program are hot topics, TRB said TTPO should ask how Tribes can access these funds that are distributed via WSDOT. TTPO should get a briefing on how state TA funds work. The officers will look into this.
Jason Oberle stated that asset management is a requirement now and Tribes need to look at funds to do this work under Title 23 and should request federal direction. Kirk Vinish requests that ANTI should follow up with a Northwest position.

VI. Tribal Transit TBD

Kirk Vinish introduces the transit purchasing consortium. The web site is up; FTA has tentatively approved the buying agreement, but waiting written response. Lummi Nation hired Mark Quinlan to do the work on this project for $9.19 per hour. He set up direct purchase with the manufactures. FTA requested board membership. This board reviews regional needs of all tribes at a national level. It gives a longer list of options which is needed for national purchases (not just for one region). There will be an FTA funded and Non-FTA funded contract available. Tribes should be able to buy within the next month and they need to be a member to purchase off these contracts. Membership is currently free. The Federal Bid process is covered under these contracts. The savings to Tribes under the consortium will be in the accessory prices not the strip down bare min bus cost (manufactures make most of their money in accessories).

VII. Tribal Transportation Planner Capacity

Richard Rolland distributed draft agenda for the 20th Annual Tribal Transportation Symposium. He gave a brief history of it and the TTPO. The TTPO should function and receive funding just like the other RTPO/MPOs in the state. The new FTA funding hurts most Northwest Tribes. The formula actually decreased existing service funding and Tribes should be carrying these issues to the coordinating committee. Richard requests to add to the minutes/agenda a regular report of the coordinating committee. National Tribal Transportation Conference is Minnesota this year (Mystic Lake) and FTA needs to identify what venue to discuss these funding issues. He requested comments for the April Conference (who presents, topics (experts), identify issues and set up work groups at the end of the symposium).

Gordon Nelson suggests a freight track issue Tribes need to be at the table with the freight issue. The feds will be addressing freight and why are Tribes not on the WSDOT freight plan as major players? Transit is viewed same way at WSDOT. Colleen Jollie (Womer and Associates) brought up that issue at ATNI in the economic development subcommittee. They requested Paula Hammond speak at ATNI on the freight plan Kim Stube (Cowlitz Indian Tribe) stated that the State Coordinated Human Services Plan focuses on I5 and nothing rural.

Richard Rolland stated that the environmental justice policies outlined in _______ are focused on protecting rural areas and on Tribes.

Megan Nicodemus said that in the past the TTPO function was research and TTPO should request data/study to look at Freight and Tribal Issues. Richard Rolland states that only ATNI chats about the coal issue. Gordon Nelson states that WSDOT still consulting is too late and after the fact.

Richard Rolland said we can request special research issues to TRB and then that could help Tribes. He will email out a report to the group and survey what types of research we want to see.
Kirk Vinish asked Richard Rolland to compile a good example of problem statements to forward to the group to help push freight research at TRB with Tribes.

Casey Stevens asked about TRB and wetland mitigation banking research. How Tribes can access mitigation banked lands that they don’t own and aren’t connected to tribally owned properties.

TTPO raffled the blanket donated by Red Plains Professional Services. Proceeds went towards the Native American College fund. Annette Nesse won the blanket.

VIII. Interagency Participation

Judy Lorenzo distributed a handout on CFR and introduced WSDOT staff, Terry Bobby, Bill Binon, and Mathew Kunic (the new Judy Roswell). She stated you can go to the website to figure out how Tribal representatives were selected for committees. She gave a briefing on the CFR 23 and 170 handouts distributed and distributed a regulations paper on Airway Heights. Kathy ______________ and Terry Bobby gave a brief overview of the rail plan and distributed a handout dated 1-29-13. WITPAC is a place to address these policy issues, but also WSDOT will continue to contact individually with each Tribe. Gordon Nelson requested WSDOT to update contacts. WSDOT requested Tribal representation on the rail plan, the next meeting (Mar7th) is in Spokane.

Judy Lorenzo briefed on Washington State Transportation Plan (WTP) and the public transit plan. WSDOT wants coordination of the plans. WITPAC is a good forum consultation and development formal procedure on how to consult with Tribes. Paul Parker will present on this at the next TTPO meeting, according to Megan Nicodemus. Judy Lorenzo requested that the TTPO update its work plan.

Kirk Vinish stated a key issue is the significant decrease in bus funding; there is a need for states to step up with the funding cuts for WA Tribes. He requested that WSDOT find out how Tribes can incorporate their LRTPs and GMA compliance that are required under the RTPO /MPO Process. Kalispell requested training on how to coordinate with Tribes and MPO/RTPO planning documents like the LRTP. Megan Cotton requested copies of LRTPs and maps of roads from all Tribes.

Richard Rolland said a new draft on the Commerce Plan integration with GMA is online. The TTPO is to follow up with the commerce plan. Megan Cotton will report back if the BIA GIS is ok to use for the maps at the next TTPO.

IX. Announcements/Good of the Order

Kirk Vinish presented on the ATNI Transportation Subcommittee actions. Lennea Wolf requested reporting at every meeting on MPO/RTPO Coordinating Committee and WITPAC updates. Megan Cotton will send out a WITPAC update soon.

MJ Haught (Washington Traffic Safety Commission) announced the next Target Zero update meeting is March 8, 2013, at Great Wolf Lodge and requested participation from Tribes. She would really like to get Tribal Law Enforcement involved.

Michael Cardwell acknowledged WSDOT hard work and requested that the TTPO draft a letter to Paula Hammond and thank her for all her hard work. Keri Shepherd to draft said letter.
Meeting adjourned

TTPO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AND ELECTION

Jim Longley requested Board Elections be moved to the full membership. Casey Stevens seconds
Approved 6 to 0

Board Elections

4 positions are open; Al Pinkham Jr. (Yakima Nation) was nominated to continue for another three years
Approved 15 to 0,

Annette Nesse Nominated to serve another three year term
Approved 15 to 0

Dez Hayes (Spokane Tribe) nominated to replace Dena Moses for the remainder of her term (1 year)
Approved 15 to 0

Michael Cardwell and Andrew Strobel (Puyallup Tribe) nominated to replace Jonathan Ciesla term (3 years)
10 for Andrew, 5 for Michael.

Chairman Election

Jim Longley nominated by Andrew Strobel, Kirk Vinish nominated by Casey Stevens
5 for Jim, 2 for Kirk,

President Election

Kirk Vinish nominated by Kim Stube
Approved, 2 obtained

Vice President Election

Casey Stevens nominated by ____________
Approved

Secretary Election

Keri Shepherd nominated by__________________
Approved

Treasurer Election

Annette Nesse nominated by ______________________
Approved
Jim Longley motioned to adopt the November 2012 Minutes with the only change being Kaltran (spelling), Keri Shepherd seconded

Approved ___ to 0

Annette Nesse motion to adopt the treasures report, _____________ seconded

Approved__ to 0

Red Plains to present a website design proposal.

Richard Rolland requested information on how to donate to the TTPO (nonmembers) to be shared at the next TTPO meeting.

Board approved forwarding the working procedures on to the full membership. Officers will gather any comments, changes requested and present at next meeting.

Adjourned