

Tribal Transportation Planning Organization
Kalispel Tribe, Northern Quest Casino, Airway Heights, WA
June 3rd, 2014

Minutes

1. Introductions

Michael Cardwell (Quinault Nation) opened the meeting. Julia Seyler (Kalispel Tribe) provided invocation. Sev Stevens (Kalispel Tribe) welcomed the group on behalf of the Tribe.

Two tribes had more than 1 voting member present, Stillaguamish Tribe and Kalispel Tribe. Casey Stevens will vote for Stillaguamish Tribe and Julia Seyler will vote for Kalispel Tribe.

Minutes were tabled until the next TTPO meeting.

2. Recognition Presentation

Sev Stevens and Julia Seyler presented on Kalispel Travel Center and Rest Area and the new Kalispel Elders Facility. They chose these projects to help demonstrate the relationships between transportation and other projects. The Elder's Center was paid for using ICDBG funds and tribal hard dollars (450K). It is located close to the cultural and community building which is centrally located on the reservation. It is a place only for the elders, and is tied to other services. There are multi-modal connections to the facility including KALTRAN.

The Visitor Center provides a safe, high quality, culturally appropriate rest area along the international Selkirk Look Scenic Byway. It was funded by FHWA grant (750K). There are six covered vending spaces outside, a café, and culturally appropriate educational materials. Some of the things considered in choosing the location and design were as follows:

- Only Rest area North of Newport before IONE
- Walking distance to KALTRAN
- Pedestrian Trails
- Recreational Traffic Bikes, Hikers, skiing, ATV.
- Sense of Place/Activities

The architect that did the design was Wolf based out of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Judy Lorenzo (WSDOT) suggested making a connection to Tiger Junction on Scenic Byway as well and they could cross promote it with WSDOT. Jim Longley (Nisqually Tribe) asked if there would be craftsman at the site. Sev stated yes but it is a new concept so it is taking a bit of time to get the word out.

3. Tribal Project Advocacy

Casey Stevens (Stillaguamish Tribe) presented on the Oso Mudslide closure of SR530 that occurred on March 22, 2014. It was the single biggest event since Mt St. Helens slides. There were historically multiple villages along the river and at the site. The Tribe needed access for fishery and other natural resource services. SR 530 was added the IRR inventory last year. Under MAP-21, the event was eligible for FHWA Emergency Funds (transit, debris removal, and repair). It was completed within 180 days. There was no lead agency in the recovery effort,

everybody was involved. Snohomish CO and FEMA were primary POC stated Megan Cotton (WSDOT), but Darrington and other communities were heavily involved as well. There were many challenges with access roads and determining ownership. In the beginning there was some confusion as to who was really in charge. WADOT was on opening the road, but owners were worried about clearing their properties. Additionally there was concern with access to logging operations, commercial traffic, residential, and transit. People really wanted their cars. Stillaguamish Tribe was asked if they could help with the recovery efforts and then Casey researched funding sources. HPP program was researched and he contacted the lead to Mary Pavel staff (Director of US Senate Committee) about these funds. Then he went to ERFO Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads program and spoke with Dave Hillgendorf and Kyle Kitchel. It was determined that because SR530 is on the IRR Inventory, ER will pay for 100% of the ER funded portion of the rebuilding project. Judy Lorenzo asked if SR 530 be turned from gravel to pavement by the fall. Casey stated that the project is under design but the rebuilding has not been put into contract yet so there is no firm date of completion established at this time.

John Jeffreys, Federal Aid Planning Manager with WSDOT, stated that regarding FHWA Emergency Response, Transportation Facilities (TTF) funds, and the agency looks at state routes in the TTF inventory and then they become eligible for 100% ER funding. They need a copy of official Inventory and Strip Map for these funds.

4. Tribal Transit

Julia Seyler presented the TTPO transit subcommittee report. There was a discussion about training needs and she requested suggestions from the full group.

The Tribal Transit Map with all Tribal Transit routes is in process and a WSDOT Intern is going to help with assembly.

The MAP-21 Position Paper was presented at ATNI, and will be going to ITA in Polson, MT. Keri Shepherd (Nooksack Indian Tribe) recommended a motion to adopt the position paper be brought forward and then it could be put on TTPO letterhead as the official position, seconded by Casey Stevens.

Approved ** to 0

The paper will be shared with ITA and the Alaskan Tribes.

Julia would like to see NTD training at the state conference in November, specifically how revenue miles get counted and trickle into funding formula.

Coey Gilleland and Julia Seyler are looking at rolling stock, and there was some discussion about doing a joint application that can be shared among the stock. There needs to be a lead agency, how will it be administer, preventive maintenance records kept, would it qualify for WSDOT funds, are two pools needed. Keri Shepherd will send out a survey to determine these issues. Don Chartock (WSDOT) stated there are lots of examples across the state of this and it is not unusual. Coordination Projects rank well on the grant application.

5. Training Opportunities

6. Safety

7. Interagency Coordination

Kyle Kitchell (FHWA/FHLP) stated that adding Tribal Projects to MPO and RTPO TIPS would help with funding. He recently held a work session to gather input from Tribal Planners for FLHP preparation to survey and research the process to develop a final "state of the practice" report. This report studied how FHWA through division offices and MPOs are coordinating/consulting with tribes. Its focus areas were Maine, Oklahoma, and Washington State. Participants were Division Office, DOT, MPOs and some tribes. The plan will be ready for review between July and November of this year. If you want more consultations or have any questions for the Review Team please let him know. Improved tribal consultation will be part of the recommendations for improvements, but as an internal document. Tribal Consultation will use sec. 134 and 135 and will be an internal document. He requested using the TTPO to help select two tribes to interview and do site visits. He would like suggestions for Tribes that work with State/RTPO and MPOs. It was suggested that he should articulate the request to TTPO who would then send invitations out to all tribes and ask for volunteers. The TTPO can make recommendations to Kyle/team after that. Kyle stated the main purpose is to look at how are the Division(s), WSDOT/MPOs consulting with Tribes. Casey Stevens also stated that he needs to hear from tribes we never hear from, not just the 18 or so that participate well with TTPO. Mike Cardwell introduced Paul Parker (WTSC). Paul provided an overview of the update of the WTP 2035 Plan. Phil Parker (commissioner) passed away suddenly and Joe will probably now represent the commission at the TTPO.

Paul stated he brought the following topics forward at the last meeting;

- Tribal Transit and importance in statewide transportation. SEE HANDOUT
- MPO/RTPO relationships
- Safety and Target Zero is safety element of WTP but it needs more emphasis on Rural Roads.
- Role of WTP 2035 -- Needs to be meaningful and have purpose. What does the legislature do with the plan and where does it put its money.
- Alternative to fuel tax- WA will not be following Oregon model, going very slow and looking at many alternatives. Gas tax purchasing power declining and they are looking at lots of policy questions. It will be at least five years away from implementation.

Additionally WTSC held four stakeholder meetings. Some tribal participation occurred in Yakama and Spokane during these meetings and a summary is on the handout. Draft plan will probably be out by July, 2015. There continues to be planning meetings including one at the state Transit Conference.

Paul was asked to send alerts about VMT work and meetings that are coming up regarding reports. Additionally please post work is on the website. The PowerPoint presentation from January/February report to legislature is on the website.

Keri Shepherd is involved and has brought all comments from TTPO forward during the committee meetings.

Casey Stevens asked a question on how VMT work, what about catch 22 with people trying to get away from oil consumption, yet it is punitive to those with high mileage vehicles. There are LOTS of EQUITY questions whether current funding system or alternative funding systems are implemented.

WTSC is working on a high level Policy Plan, an initial document will look at Types of Projects, but not individual projects Paul stated.

Michele Siedenbug (NWTTAP) gave a briefing on the NWTTAP. Decreased Conference participation, There will be summer programs offered again at EWU. Please check out the website regularly as it is updated. There will be several notices about future webinars. There will be a tribal grant writing course offered in August, please check with her for specific dates in the future if you are interested.

Megan Cotton (WSDOT) gave an overview of happenings with WSDOT (see handout) and a status update on the conference planning.

Kurt Fredenberg (NWRO BIA) stated that currently the BIA is looking at the implications of MAP-21 and the Grow America Act. The TTP is a for sure thing for future funding however funding amounts are uncertain at this time. Currently only roads on the IRR as of 2012 or previous years can generate funding. The NHSTDA number will stay at 2012 levels as well. There will be trainings coming in the winter at the next BIA conference.

8. TTPO Business

Annette Nesse presented the treasurer report. As of April 30th, 2014, the balance was \$28,194.87, and an additional \$ 13,000.00 is forth coming. Bill Ramos will be issued payment of approximately \$ 5,000.00 for the position paper he helped create on MAP-21 TTP funds and the cost of co-sponsoring the lunch for this meeting will be paid as well. The board will look into the website more closely and email out additional information.

Chris Robideau (Red Plains Professionals) presented handouts on the standalone website he designed for the TTPO and requested any comments be sent to him. He requested volunteer pictures for tribes and needs permission to use their logos. Jim Longley asked the group to make a decision and either move forward with this or not. Casey Stevens recommended to move now on the website. Keri Shepherd requested everyone to get approval or not within a month.

Andrew Strobel asked Chris if there are any points we need to know or consider prior to going live. Are there any issues regarding linking the page to WSDOT website, will there be some duplication? Chris stated he will set up the website as www.ttpo.org. He needs the legacy data on WSDOT website. He will be primary contact information for Tribal Planners.

Call for Question made, motion passed unanimously to establish the website within one month (pending tribal governments' approvals).

9. Announcements/Good of the Order

There was a request for a formal policy to recognize retiring dignitaries at state conferences and there will be an email sent out for comment as it is developed.

Paul Parker thanked the Kalispel Tribe for hosting this meeting.

The next meeting will be at the Great Wolf Lodge during the State Tribal Transportation Conference November 12th -13th, 2014, in Grand Mound, WA.

Adjourned