

FREIGHT MOBILITY STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

January 24, 2014
Olympia, WA

Board members present: Mr. Dan Gatchet, Chair; Ms. Sheri Call; Ms. Robin Rettew; Mr. Larry Paulson; Mr. Tom Trulove; Mr. Brian Ziegler; Mr. John Creighton; Mr. Pat Hulcey; and Mr. Terry Finn.

WELCOME: Chair Dan Gatchet opened the meeting with introductions.

MINUTES: Chair Gatchet moved and Mr. Larry Paulson seconded the motion to adopt the December 6, 2013 minutes.

MOTION CARRIED

FMSIB BUDGET: Deputy Director Ashley Probart reviewed the operating and capital budgets. The operating budget is on target explaining that the budget amount is spread evening through the 24 months. Deputy Probart discussed the capital expenditures and stated that more billings should be coming in for those projects that have been completed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Director Karen Schmidt opened her report with an update on the WFAC progress and discussed the NFAC meeting in Chicago emphasizing the local industry people addressing the Committee. Director Schmidt announced the NFAC public hearing on February 6, 2014 webinar. The Director discussed the recommendations submitted by the Project Delivery and Operations Subcommittee to the full NFAC body. NFAC has accelerated the timeline to submit their recommendations to Congress.

Director Schmidt discussed meetings with the City of Marysville on grade separation closures and the plan to deal with closures. Another issue is the slow speed of the trains which BNSF explained the reason.

A meeting with the City of Seattle is scheduled to discuss potential projects. The Duwamish Truck Access Project #51 which is several small projects is targeted to be done by 2014.

Deputy Director Probart briefed the Board on the office relocation status and the differing opinions on the move and where.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:

Mr. Terry Finn discussed PSRC and his appointment as a non-voting member of the Transportation Policy Board.

PROJECT UPDATES: Director Schmidt discussed the spreadsheets outlining the funding for several FMSIB projects. The Director outlined recommendations on the 228th Street project in Kent; the SR 509/D Street ramps in Tacoma; the Port of Everett to I-5 improvements; South Park Bridge in South Seattle; and the SR 99 Puyallup River Bridge project.

Mr. Paulson moved and Mr. Finn and Mr. Ziegler seconded the motion to delay the Port of Everett project to the 2015-17 biennium recognizing that no funds are attached; and make the deferred 509 D St project funds available in the current 2013-15 biennium.

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Ziegler explained that if the Project is moved to the deferred list, it automatically moves the project, but leaves the funding in the current biennium. The spending authority stays in the current biennium when the project moves and those funds are available to reallocate to another project.

The Director reviewed the Deferred List process adopted by the Board.

Mr. Paulson moved and Mr. Ziegler seconded the motion to make the funds available from the Port of Everett project and the deferred 509 D Street project to accelerate other projects in 2013-15 biennium as recommended by staff.

MOTION CARRIED

The Director explained these funds will go to the FMSIB Placeholder account to be used as the Board directs.

Chair Gatchet directed the staff write the definitions for deferred, delayed, acceleration, appropriate, and allocation with regards to the new process of fund and project moves using the same terminology as the rest of the state to bring to the Board for its approval.

The Director explained the Piert Road project that originally came in at a total project cost of \$3.6M with \$459,000 FMSIB contribution which was reduced to \$368,000 FMSIB contribution. Upon completion the project was under budget and FMSIB received a letter from Benton County on the refund amount. With the total project cost of \$2.9M, the refund to FMSIB using the 12.7% calculates in the amount of \$72,666. The Director stated that the Board needs to approve acceptance of this amount. Mr. Paulson moved and Mr. Ziegler seconded acceptance of the refund from the Piert Road Project.

MOTION CARRIED

LEGISLATIVE: Mr. Paulson opened discussion on the Board participation on the Day on the Hill. Board members participating included Chair Gatchet, Mr. Paulson, Mr. Creighton, Mr. Finn, Mr. Hulcey, Mr. Trulove, and Mr. Ziegler. Overall meetings went well with 31 legislators scheduled to meet with Board members.

Introductions: Chair Gatchet asked for introductions from those people just joining the meeting.

WFAC: Chair Gatchet recapped the activities/meetings of the Washington Freight Advisory Committee. The Chair stated that as the freight inventory is available, the WFAC members will work on that portion of the report. Deputy Probart stated that he has started the draft report so when the inventory information is completed it can be included and won't lose more time developing the whole report. Director Schmidt indicated WFAC is still trying to bring in the environmental aspects. The Director stated that WFAC is working on setting up a webinar.

PRIMARY FREIGHT NETWORK: Deputy Director Probart reported that our letter and recommendations has been sent to USDOT by the initial January 17, 2014 deadline which has now been extended. Deputy Probart recapped the content of the letter.

CALL FOR PROJECTS: Mr. Brian Ziegler updated the Board on the distribution of information to the various groups; indicated the Committee is working on a webinar the second week in February.

Mr. Finn asked the Board if they had any objections if he mentioned membership in FMSIB. Mr. Paulson moved and Mr. Trulove seconded the motion to endorse the position by the Industrial Lands Advisory Committee to support protection of the industrial activities in the areas of SODO and authorizes representation by Mr. Terry Finn.

MOTION CARRIED

FUTURE MEETING: Chair Gatchet asked for a motion for the next meeting scheduled for March 21, 2014 in Kent, WA. Mr. Tom Trulove moved and Mr. Pat Hulcey seconded the motion for the next FMSIB meeting be held in Kent, WA on March 21, 2014.

MOTION CARRIED

FREIGHT STAKEHOLDER PRIORITIES: Larry Pursley, Washington Trucking Associations, discussed various issues important to the trucking industry: low carbon fuel standards, alternative fuel discussions, and transportation revenue package.

Mr. Eric Johnson, Washington Public Ports Association, discussed the transportation revenue package issue, the Executive effort to close tax loopholes, and the Supreme Court decision on educational funding. Two issues getting the most attention is the Department of Ecology decision to expend the SEPA review and not sure where this is headed; and second the transportation of petroleum by rail that has two bills introduced in the Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES: Senators Tracey Eide and Curtis King with Representatives Judy Clibborn and Ed Orcutt spoke to the Board about the 2014 session and issues dealing with transportation and freight in particular.

FREIGHT STAKEHOLDER PRIORITIES (continued)

Mr. Bill Stauffacher, lobbyist for the BNSF Railway, discussed potential legislation impacting the rail industry.

BOARD RECOGNITION: The Board acknowledged the service of Mr. Jim Albert during his tenure on FMSIB.

Chair Gatchet adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED



Dan Gatchet
Chair



Attest: Karen Schmidt
Executive Director