

MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council Board
Thursday, May 12, 2005
SRTC Office - Intermodal Center – Third Floor
Spokane, Washington

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Spokane Regional Transportation Council was called to order by Chair, Ms. Amy Jo Sooy, at 1:35 pm.

2. Roll Call/Record of Attendance

Board Members in Attendance:

Dennis Hession, City of Spokane Council Member
Jerry Lenzi, WSDOT - Eastern Region
Todd Mielke, Spokane County Commissioner
Mark Richard, Spokane County Commissioner
Mike DeVleming, City of Spokane Valley Council Member (Alternate)
Joe Shogan, City of Spokane Council Member
Amy Jo Sooy, Small Towns Representative (Chair)
Dale Stedman, Washington State Transportation Commission

Board Members Absent:

Gary Schimmels, City of Spokane Valley Council Member
Brenda Redell, Spokane Transit Authority Representative
Bill Brannon, Private Sector Representative (Alternate)
A. Michele Maher, Washington State Transportation Commission (Alternate)
Pat Dalton, Legal Counsel

Guests Present:

Bob Brueggeman, TTC
Neil Kersten, City of Spokane Valley
Tom Arnold, City of Spokane
John Mercer, City of Spokane
Bob Apple, City Council Member
Ross Kelley, Spokane County
Scott Egger, City of Spokane
Amy Cannata, Spokesman Review

Staff Present:

Glenn Miles, Transportation Manager
Judy Hazard, Administrative Assistant

3. Approval of March Meeting Minutes.

A correction was made to the minutes. On Page 2, 5b, line 4 the word "BNSF" should be changed to "HDR". The sentence will now read "HDR is requesting an increase in time until May 31, 2005 to complete this portion of the project."

Mr. Joe Shogan made a motion to approve the March 10, 2005 meeting minutes as corrected. Mr. Mike DeVleming seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

4. Committee Reports.

a) Citizens' Advisory Committee Report

No report was given at this time.

b) Transportation Technical Committee Report

Mr. Bob Brueggeman reported the TTC members gave their jurisdictions' construction status. A map entitled Spokane Regional Construction Map – 2005 has been prepared by Spokane County with the input from other jurisdictions and is available to the public. The TTC also discussed the same subjects that are on today's Board agenda.

5. Administrative Matters.

a) Approval of March Vouchers

Mr. Joe Shogan made a motion to approve the payment of the March, 2005 voucher list in the amount of \$112,317.03. Mr. Dale Stedman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

b) Approval of April Vouchers

Mr. Dale Stedman made a motion to approve the payment of the April, 2005 voucher list in the amount of \$194,783.13. Mr. Jerry Lenzi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

c) FY 2005 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment #2

SRTC is requesting approval of Amendment #2 to the 2005 Unified Planning Work Program. This amendment adjusts for a decrease in the Washington Transportation Plan funds, an addition of funds for the Active Community Environments Project, and a reallocation of funds based on actual usage and the expected workload during the remainder of the fiscal year.

Mr. Joe Shogan made a motion to approve the FY 2005 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment #2. Mr. Mike DeVleming seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

d) Approval of FY 2006-2007 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Every two years SRTC prepares a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The program provides a general outline to FHWA and FTA as to the transportation planning efforts that SRTC and the coordinating agencies will be undertaking in the Spokane metropolitan area.

FHWA and FTA reviewed a draft of the UPWP and their suggestions have been included in the UPWP given to the Board. When approved, the UPWP will be forwarded to WSDOT in Olympia as well as FHWA and FTA for approval. The UPWP will be effective from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2007.

Mr. Mark Richard made a motion to approve the FY 2006-2007 Unified Planning Work Program. Mr. Joe Shogan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

e) Public Involvement Policy Update

SRTC is reviewing its Public Involvement Policy for possible changes in the manner in which the public advises SRTC. SRTC is evaluating the possibility of creating strategic advising groups, which would be for specific studies and/or projects in place of the Citizens' Advisory Committee on Transportation, which is in place today. The Board concurred with the suggestion.

Mr. Dennis Hession arrived at 2:00 pm.

6. SRTC Board Member Comments.

Mr. Mike DeVleming initiated a discussion regarding SRTC's VISUM model. He indicated the City of Spokane Valley is having difficulties with the model and asked what the City can do to address these problems. After some discussion, it was agreed that this issue would be better addressed at the May 18th Transportation Technical Committee meeting.

Mr. Dale Stedman advised legislation has passed that changes the structure of the Washington Transportation Commission (WTC). As of July 1, the responsibilities held by the WTC will be transferred to the Governor. Different duties are being created for the Commission and Mr. Stedman will keep the Board apprised as he finds out what they are.

Mr. Jerry Lenzi indicated WSDOT will be transferring responsibility for Trent Avenue (Division to Hamilton) to the City of Spokane at the end of July. WSDOT will send all the records to the City.

7. Transportation Manager's Report.

Mr. Glenn Miles traveled to Washington DC a couple of weeks ago with a coalition of approximately 40 people from Spokane and Kootenai Counties with the purpose of educating congressional members on transportation and other issues affecting Spokane and Kootenai Counties.

8. Old Business.

a) Bridging the Valley

Mr. Miles said the final paperwork for the Havana Street crossing has been submitted to WSDOT. It is hoped HDR will be given the go-ahead on this project shortly. It is anticipated it will be completed in 18 months. HDR's monthly Progress Reports for March and April were distributed.

b) Spokane Downtown Streetcar Feasibility Study (Status Report)

No meeting was scheduled for May due to the changeover of presidents from Mike Edwards to Marty Dickinson at Downtown Spokane Partnership. Mr. Miles met with a member of the City of Spokane Park Board today and provided them with a presentation of the study to date. They should be meeting in June at which time the consultant, URS should have revised routes and operating data.

c) Home Interview Survey

Nustats Inc., the consultant hired to conduct the Home Interview Survey successfully completed the pilot program and cognitive interview tests for the survey. The survey travel days started May 3rd and will continue through June 10th. There will be several bulk mailings during the months of May. Nustats anticipates approximately 7,500 to 10,000 households to be contacted and recruited into the survey in Kootenai and Spokane Counties.

9. New Business.

a) Federal Functional Classification Change Requests

SRTC staff has been working with regional jurisdictions to make any and all functional classification change requests. At the April TTC meeting the members made a motion recommending the changes be forwarded on to the SRTC Board for approval after which they will be sent to WSDOT.

Mr. Dennis Hession made a motion to approve the Federal Functional Classification Change Requests. Mr. Joe Shogan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

10. Public Comments.

Mr. Ross Kelley, Spokane County, said construction on the Bigelow Gulch improvements will start on May 23rd. They will be having a groundbreaking this week.

11. Adjournment.

There being no further business before the Spokane Regional Transportation Council Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:37 pm.

JUDY HAZARD
Recording Secretary