

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of March 20, 2008

KERN COG CONFERENCE ROOM
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

MARCH 20, 2008
7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cheryl Wegman at approximately 7:00 p.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

II. ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Scrivner, Lessenevitch, Rosson, Morgan, Florez, Smith, Wegman, Rubio, Ehlert, Warren

Members Absent: Tarver, Ramirez, Mock, Thompson, McQuiston, Silver

Alternates: Michel

Others: Approximately 5

Staff: Brummett, Collins, Hildebrand, Phipps, Pacheco, Palomo, Heimer, Urata, Napier, Snoddy and Randolph

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS: This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons to address the Committee on any matter not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Committee. Committee members may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. They may ask a question for clarification, make a referral to staff for factual information or request staff to report back to the Committee at a later meeting. **SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD PRIOR TO MAKING A PRESENTATION.** None heard.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA/OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by Kern COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Committee or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Committee concerning the item before action is taken. **ROLL CALL VOTE.**

- A. Approval of Minutes – February 21, 2008
- B. Response to Public Comments (None)
- C. FY 2003-04, 2004-05. 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 TDA Public Transit Claims for the City of Shafter
- D. FY 2003-04, 2004-05. 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 TDA Streets and Roads Claims for the City of Shafter
- E. FY 2007-08 Revised TDA Public Transit Claim – Golden Empire Transit District (GET)
- F. FY 2007-08 TDA Public Transit Claim – City of McFarland
- G. FY 2007-08 TDA Streets and Roads Claim – City of Tehachapi
- H. City of Delano Transit Services Action Plan
- I. Designation of a Public Review Schedule for: 2009 Federal Air Quality Conformity Analysis; Administrative Modification to the 2007 Destination 2030 Regional Transportation Plan; and 2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program
- J. Project Status Report
- K. Greenride Contract Extension
- L. 99 & I-5 Truck Origins & Destinations Study
- M. City of Arvin General Plan Circulation Element Update and Transportation Impact Fee Study

***** END CONSENT CALENDAR*****

MOTION BY DIRECTOR SMITH, second by Director Lessenevitch, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

V. 2007 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – AMENDMENT NO. 8

Ms. Pacheco stated that Amendment No. 8 includes changes to the following programs: the State Highway Operations and Protection Program, there is a deletion of one State Route 178 Guard Rail Project, it is now complete and the addition of four projects that help with collision reduction. In the mandate record there has been a decrease in cost. Following we have the Highway Bridge Program which has delayed construction phases to fiscal years 2011-12 and beyond. Then we have the addition of new projects to the Rail Grade Crossing, the Hazard Elimination Safety Program, the Highway Safety Improvement Program and the Recreational Trails Program. Lastly we have two revisions, one is to the Regional Surface Transportation Program which advances a project in Arvin to fiscal year 2007-08 and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program deletes a McFarland project. The Transportation Technical Advisory Committee has reviewed this amendment and recommends approval. After the close of the public hearing, the staff ask that the Transportation Planning Policy Committee adopt by Resolution Amendment No. 8 to the 2007 Federal Transportation Improvement Program and authorize the Chair to sign Resolution No. 08-13.

Chair opened the public hearing, no comments heard, Chair closed the public hearing.

MOTION BY DIRECTOR MORGAN, second by Director Smith, TO ADOPT BY RESOLUTION AMENDMENT NO. 8 TO THE 2007 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZE CHAIR TO SIGN RESOLUTION NO. 08-13. Motion carried with a roll call vote.

VI. MEETING REPORTS: None

VII. CALTRANS' REPORT: (Report on Projects in Progress)

Ms. Ehlert clarified that when she does her report it is the projects that Caltrans is administering, she's aware that there are other regionally significant projects in the area that are in construction that she typically does not report on those. First of all on Kern I-5 we are doing a surface concrete replacement project this is in the Lebec area, so its from the Grapevine up to the separation of 99 and I-5, that project will begin starting next week. There is another project on I-5 similar, it is a replacement of concrete panels and it is in the Lost Hills area, that is also going to begin next week. What is happening is that our projects are coming out of winter suspension and are starting up a bunch of projects next week. Hopefully traffic will not suffer as a result of that. Project on Hwy. 58 at Heath Road, this is Rosedale Highway, there is a traffic signal project underway there. It is at about 70% completion, it may actually be farther along than that. The last one on the list is in Arvin on 223 and that is an asphalt/concrete overlay, and that one is also beginning starting next week. She knows that the City of Arvin is interested in that and has been waiting for that project to begin so they should see construction out there very soon.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Brummett stated that the Trade Corridor Improvement Fund Program was presented a week ago, and as of now he believes it will not be voted on until April. There are two projects from Kern on that list. We as a Valley submitted six projects, five on them are recommended for funding and two of those are in Kern. One is the double tracking of the Tehachapi Pass Railroad, the Union Pacific rail line is recommended, that is \$54 million which is half; and the second one is the Shafter Intermodal Facility which is about \$15 million in which the other half would come from the City of Shafter. Those are Prop 1B Programs that we will be receiving funding for.

On March 27th is the Kern County Association of Cities meeting which Kern COG is hosting, it will be at the Coconut Joe's Clubhouse on Easton Drive. Let us know if you would like to attend. The Program is Rollie Smith with the San Joaquin Valley Housing Trust, which is a new organization and they will be talking about what they are going to do and what services they are going to offer to help communities deal with their housing issues.

April 10-11 is the CalCOG Conference in Monterey, right now he said himself, Mr. Hildebrand and Mr. Phipps as well as Directors Wegman and Rubio will be going.

The Kern COG/SCAG meeting has been scheduled for April 24th it is being hosted at Tejon Ranch, if you would like to attend, let us know so we can get a head count. It will be an opportunity to meet their new Executive Director, we have talked to him before, he was one of their planners and now he is their new Executive Director, since Mark Pisano retired.

This week the COG staff and the City of Bakersfield staff went down to the California Transportation Commission hearing for the STIP and presented testimony and there were no questions or comments about our Program that we submitted, they will vote on it next month at their regular meeting.

Director Smith said that it sounds like the double tracking is moving along a little faster than anticipated. Mr. Brummett said that the double tracking is moving along at the pace that they put out the calendar for. Once the grants are approved by the CTC they have until 2012 to deliver them, which means that they will probably immediately launch into their environmental review process at which time we will then have an opportunity to comment on grade separations and other issues that we may want to raise. Director Smith said that is what he wants to stay focused on the grade separation from Mojave through to Bakersfield.

IX. MEMBER STATEMENTS:

On their own initiative, Council members may make a brief announcement or a brief report on their own activities. In addition, Council members may ask a question of staff or the public for clarification on any matter, provide a reference to staff or other resources for factual information, or request staff to report back to the Council at a later meeting concerning any matter. Furthermore, the Council, or any member thereof, may take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. None heard.

X. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald E. Brummett, Executive Director

ATTEST:

Cheryl Wegman, Chairman

DATE:_____