



BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Bi-State Working Group Meeting Summary

Monday, July 11, 2022 | 2:00pm – 3pm
Port of Hood River – Commission Board Room & Via Zoom
1000 E Port Marina Drive, Hood River OR 97031

In Attendance:

Members: Chair, Mike Fox (Commissioner), Port of Hood River - Absent; Vice Chair, Jake Anderson (Commissioner), Klickitat County; Catherine Kiewit (Mayor), City of Bingen; Marla Keethler (Mayor), City of White Salmon; Kate McBride (Mayor), City of Hood River; Bob Benton (Commissioner), Hood River County

Alternates: Kristi Chapman (Commissioner), Port of Hood River; Arthur Babitz (Commissioner), Hood River County; Joe Sullivan, City of Bingen (Councilor); Jason Hartmann (Councilor), City of White Salmon; David Sauter (Commissioner), Klickitat County; Jessica Metta (Councilor), City of Hood River

Staff/Consultants: Kevin Greenwood (Project Director), Port of Hood River; Genevieve Scholl (Interim Executive Director), Port of Hood River; Hal Hiemstra, Summit Strategies; Steve Siegel, Siegel Consulting

Welcome

Commissioner Jake Anderson called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

The minutes from June 12 regular meeting were approved by consensus.

Federal Advocacy Trip

Kevin Greenwood noted that there is an itinerary in the packet for the upcoming advocacy trip. Greenwood asked if there were any questions. Mayor Kate McBride asked if they would be carpooling to the Portland Airport. Greenwood replied that he would follow up with her on that. A handout for the advocacy trip was provided. The Bi-State Working Group (BSWG) suggested changing the word “Local” on the pie chart to “Tolls”. The BSWG requested a cheat sheet with the breakdown of the bridge replacement financing. Greenwood noted that the opening date of the new bridge on the handout will be changed to year 2028-2029. The BSWG also suggested that the timeline should reflect that they started much sooner than 2022 on this project.

Mayor Marla Keethler provided an update on the video. Keethler noted that residents were interviewed during the bridge closure and drone footage of the bridge was also taken. The video will promote the bridge replacement project.

Commission Formation Agreements Update

Steve Siegel of Siegel Consulting provided a brief update on the Commission Formation Agreements (CFA). The first draft of the CFA will be sent for review on July 15. The CFA includes additional provisions such as permitting the Commission to function without spending a lot of time on governance issues when it gears up. It also establishes a roadmap on how the transition will phase in over the next 1-2 years. Siegel recommended focusing on the makeup of the Board. One item included in the CFA is the Interim Rules for the Commission. The Interim rules are applicable until the Board adopts superseding rules. Also included in the CFA is coordination of the Port and Commission budgets during the transition period. Siegel questioned if the CFA should be divided into 2-3 separate agreements and added that for now it is easier to follow as one agreement.

RBMC Review and Recommendation

Kevin Greenwood noted that a memo regarding the RBMC contract was included in the packet and asked if there were any questions. Greenwood commented that the most critical part of the contract was the detailed work plan for the next twelve months. Greenwood noted that the HNTB's billable rates must be approved by ODOT and updated annually. There was consensus from the BSWG to present their recommendation to the Port Commission. Commissioner Anderson thanked Commissioner Mike Fox for his work on the RBMC contract.

Project Updates/Other Items

Greenwood commented that Commissioner Fox will be hosting a BBQ on July 30 for the BSWG members.

Adjourn

Commissioner Anderson adjourned the meeting at 3:07 p.m.

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