

**SUMMARY MINUTES
ROGUE VALLEY MPO POLICY COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 24, 2015**



<u>NAME</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Art Anderson	ODOT	774-6353
Bruce Sophie	City of Phoenix	535-1634
Colleen Roberts	Jackson County	774-6118
Jim Lewis	City of Jacksonville	899-7023
Michael Zarosinski	City of Medford	
Mike Quilty, Chairman	City of Central Point	664-7907
Paige Townsend for Julie Brown	RVTD	608-2143
Rich Rosenthal	City of Ashland	941-1494
Ruth Jenks	City of Eagle Point	826-4212
 <u>Staff</u>		
Dan Moore	RVCOG	423-1361
Sue Casavan	RVCOG	423-1360

Others Present

Al Densmore, Stuart Senelt, Mike Montero, Ian Horlacher, Alex Georgevitch, John Vial, Karen Jones, Mike Faught

1. Call to Order / Introductions/ Review Agenda -

Chairman Mike Quilty called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. Introductions followed.

2. Review / Approve Minutes -

Jim Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Bruce Sophie. Paige Townsend noted that Julie Brown was present at the last meeting. Minutes were approved with subsequent changes.

3. Public Comment -

None received.

4. Elect Chair and Vice Chair

Jim Lewis nominated Mike Quilty for Chair, seconded by Ruth Jenks.

Committee unanimously elected Mike Quilty for Chair.

Lewis nominated Bruce Sophie for Vice Chair, seconded by Jenks.

Colleen Roberts nominated Jim Lewis for Vice Chair, seconded by Bruce Sophie.

Mike Quilty called for a vote for Bruce Sophie, committee unanimously elected Bruce Sophie for Vice Chair.

5. RVMPO Public Advisory Council (PAC) Applications

Michael Stanek, representing Eagle Point and Edgar Hee, representing Bicycle/Pedestrian submitted new member applications. The following members submitted renewal or change of representation applications:

- David Lewin, representing Phoenix
- Eric Heesacker, representing Talent
- Glen Anderson, representing East Medford
- Kay Harrison, representing Central Point
- Mark Earnest, formerly of Jacksonville, residence and representation changed to East Medford
- Mike Montero, changing representation from Central Point to Freight Industry
- Thad Keays, representing Talent

On a motion by Bruce Sophie and seconded by Jim Lewis the committee unanimously approved all RVMPO Public Advisory Council member applications.

6. 2015 – 2016 RVMPO Dues, Work Program Review

Dan Moore presented the proposed dues recommendation on Table 1 and noted that the Technical Advisory Committee recommended approval. He explained that the dues were based on \$0.16 per capita rate. He added that staff is not recommending an increase in dues at this time.

Jim Lewis made a motion to approve the RVMPO dues as presented. Seconded by Rich Rosenthal. The committee approved the RVMPO dues as presented. Art Anderson abstained.

Moore briefly discussed the MPO work program tasks. He indicated that the bulk of the work would be the Regional Transportation Plan update. He explained there would most likely be a few changes with the final funding determination. Sophie asked the final numbers be sent to the committee members when appropriate. Moore said the final draft will come out in April and document will be brought back to the committee.

7. Proposed Oregon MPO Consortium (OMPOC) Legislative Priorities

Moore presented the OMPOC funding and policy package. Quilty emphasized the lack of funding for transportation in Oregon and noted that the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) is recommending taking a small amount of money and distributing it to MPOs and Area Commissions on Transportation (ACTs). Art Anderson informed members that Fix-it will be priority and Enhance will be looked at as second.

Mike Montero commented that the objective was to test out how ACTs will react to the split of money and at least consider the region looking at the leveraging of funds.

Rich Rosenthal asked about the rail train which seemed to him without broad state benefit. Quilty explained that if it goes out of service the state will still pay for it and it does take some traffic off the system. Paige Townsend added that the train schedule was for commuters and does little to offset vehicle trips on I-5.

Mike Faught asked about proposed jurisdictional transfers and where funding would come from for maintenance. Anderson said ODOT would look at 20-years and give maintenance money. Quilty added that if communities are asked to take over the roadway there needs to be an

incentive and a funding source to encourage jurisdictional exchange.

John Vial reminded members that none of the proposals were written in legislation yet and the Oregon Transportation Forum (OTF) group was comprised of transportation officials with pieces that don't necessarily fit every region.

Al Densmore suggested that the group might consider asking for more regional flexibility, are there ways for regional distribution to accomplish local goals and go back to OMPOC with regional comments.

Jim Lewis made a motion to approve support of the OTF Transportation Funding and Policy Package with the added amendment for regional flexibility. Seconded by Bruce Sophie. Committee approved the motion. Colleen Roberts and Art Anderson abstained.

8. MPO Planning Update –

Moore informed the committee that Jonathan David was still on medical leave and expected back middle of March.

MPO Staff is in the initial stages of the Strategic Assessment work.

The Alternative Measures analysis is finished. A final report will be brought back for review and upon adoption by the Policy Committee the report will go to Land Conservation & Development Commission for review and recommendation.

9. Public/Audience Comment –

None received.

10. Other Business / Local Business

Anderson expressed appreciation to the City of Ashland and to Rich Rosenthal for their support of the water for the Siskiyou Rest Area. He added that the Fern Valley Interchange project is on time and on budget. Bid packages for the rail project for the Siskiyou Tunnel work will be going out in few days. First phase of Highway 62 going out to bid.

Paige Townsend informed members that RVTD is advancing the electronic fare project and researching methods that are currently in use.

Mike Quilty stated that he had seen an article in the Mail Tribune about a growth area in North Medford. He was concerned about the MPO's role and timing in reviewing the conceptual plans.

Alex Georgevitch noted that the City of Medford is still working through the proposal and the plan will be consistent with the regional plan. The city will go through the Regional Problem Solving (RPS) process with MPO interaction at the appropriate time.

Ian Horlacher noted that the questions were premature and he invited Quilty to the next Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting. Michael Zarosinski added that the planning is not finalized and there are no definitive answers at this time.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.