

MINUTES OF MEETING

THURSTON REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Friday, January 8, 2016
2424 Heritage Court SW
Conference Room A, 1st Floor
Olympia, WA 98502

Call to Order

Chair Virgil Clarkson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Everyone present provided self-introduction.

Attendance

Members Present:

City of Olympia
City of Lacey
City of Tumwater
Thurston County
City of Rainier
City of Yelm
Town of Bucoda
Nisqually Indian Tribe
North Thurston Public Schools
Olympia School District
Intercity Transit
PUD No. 1 of Thurston County
Lacey Fire District #3
The Evergreen State College
Timberland Regional Library

Nathaniel Jones, Board member
Virgil Clarkson, Chair
Tom Oliva, Vice Chair
Cathy Wolf, Commissioner (alternate)
Everett Gage, Council member
Bob Isom, Council member
Alan Vanell, Council member
Heidi Thomas, Staff
Graeme Sackrison, Board member (alternate)
Jennifer Priddy, Board member (alternate)
Karen Messmer, Board member
Chris Stearns, Commissioner (alternate)
Gene Dobry, Board member
Jeanne Rynne, Staff
Jeff Kleingartner, Staff

Members Absent:

City of Tenino
Confederated Tribes of the
Chehalis Reservation
LOTT Clean Water Alliance
Port of Olympia
Thurston EDC

pending
Amy Loudermilk, staff
Cynthia Pratt, Board member
pending
Michael Cade, Director

Staff Present:

Lon Wyrick, Executive Director
Jared Burbidge, Assistant Director
Karen Parkhurst, Senior Planner
Jailyn Brown, Senior Planner
Sarah Selstrom, Administrative Assistant
Veena Tabbutt, Senior Planner
Paul Brewster, Senior Planner
Rosalie Bostwick, Office Manager
Bethany Nylander, Intern
Aaron Grimes, Transportation Modeler
Michael Ambrogi, Senior GIS Analyst

Others Present:

Doug DeForest, Transportation Policy Board
Joel Carlson, Citizen
Ann Freeman-Manzanares, Intercity Transit
Amy Buckler, City of Olympia
Ramiro Chavez, Thurston County Public Works Director

Agenda Item 3
ACTION

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Oliva moved, seconded by Councilmember Sackrison, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 4

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Agenda Item 5
ACTION

Consent Calendar

- a. Approval of Minutes – December 4, 2015
- b. Approval of Vouchers
- c. Approval of RTIP Amendment 16-01

Councilmember Oliva moved, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to approve the consent calendar as published. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item 6
PRESENTATION

Transportation Benefit District (TBD)

Ramiro Chavez, Thurston County Public Works Director, gave a presentation on the Thurston County Transportation Benefit District (TC TBD). The presentation included background information, information on the Thurston County transportation system and transportation trends, funding options for the TBD, possible work plans and activities, and next steps. Director Chavez fielded questions from the Council.

Agenda Item 7
PRESENTATION

Transportation Model Update

Senior Planner Tabbutt reviewed the update to the Transportation Demand Model. Planner Tabbutt reported that the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) provided extensive input for the update. The model is used by jurisdictional and TRPC staff in developing local transportation planning studies. Executive Director Wyrick pointed out that the Model is one tool – a detailed and analytical one – that is used in transportation planning and that planning decisions are not made based solely on the information in the Model. Planner Tabbutt fielded questions from the Council.

Agenda Item 8
INFORMATION

Call for Written Officer Nominations

Chair Virgil Clarkson reviewed the process for nominations for officer positions. Director Wyrick explained that each position may only be held for two years and that each of the incumbents have held their position for one year. Chair Clarkson asked that nominations be sent to Lon and/or Sarah for inclusion in the February meeting packet. Elections will occur at the February meeting.

Agenda Item 9
ACTION

South Sound Military & Communities Partnership (SSMCP) Participation

Director Wyrick reviewed TRPC's participation to date in the SSMCP. He explained that initially, funding was provided by the Department of Defense, but since then, funding has been through assessments of participating jurisdictions. The dollar amount of \$6,500 has not changed from last year to this year. Director Wyrick recommended continued participation.

Councilmember Oliva moved, seconded by Councilmember Isom, to approve continued membership and involvement in the SSMCP and authorize the 2016 assessment payment of \$6,500.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 10
ACTION

Proposed Organizational Restructure

Executive Director Wyrick explained that this item is a result of discussions at the staff retreat earlier in 2015. The current organizational structure has been in place for at least the last 15 years and could use some adjustments to increase efficiencies, enhance project management and provide growth opportunities for staff. Director Wyrick summarized the proposed changes and answered questions from the Council.

Councilmember Isom moved, seconded by Councilmember Oliva, that the changes to the organizational structure be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 11
ACTION

2016 TRPC Operating Budget

Executive Director Wyrick explained that the proposed 2016 budget is based on the 2016 Work Program and Funding document that the Council adopted in December 2015 and includes the reserve carried over from 2015. The proposed budget reflects no change in staffing levels, includes a 2.4% cost of living adjustment for salaries and reflects a 1% decrease from the amended 2015 budget. Director Wyrick and Deputy Director Burbidge responded to questions.

Councilmember Jones moved, seconded by Councilmember Messmer, to approve Resolution 2016-01 adopting the 2016 Thurston Regional Planning Council budget in the amount of \$4,232,030. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 12
DISCUSSION

Legislative Priorities

Division Director Parkhurst announced that the 2016 Legislative Session is a short session and begins on Monday, January 11th. She reviewed the Council's priorities and handed out the summary page that will be provided to legislators. Division Director Parkhurst also reviewed pre-filed bills that might be of interest to the Council. Ms. Parkhurst encouraged members to attend meetings with legislators once they are scheduled.

Agenda Item 13
PRESENTATION

The Profile 2015

Division Director Tabbutt announced that the 2015 is the 43rd year TRPC has published *The Profile* and it is one of the most popular documents on the website. She also indicated that 2015 was the second year of publishing a strictly digital document, available online but no longer in printed form. Division Director Tabbutt recognized staff who worked on the project. Senior GIS Analyst Michael Ambrogi and Profile Intern Bethany Nylander led the Council in a game of Profile Trivia Bingo.

Agenda Item 14
INFORMATION

Report from Outside Committee Assignments

Doug DeForest shared that Councilmember Alan Vanell joined him in attending the PSRC Transportation Policy Board. Mr. DeForest reported that the new HOV lanes on I-405 was the biggest topic of discussion. He also shared that there will be a new Chair of the TPB as the current Chair is stepping down.

Agenda Item 15
UPDATE

Member Check In

Chair Clarkson announced there was still space available at the Martin Luther King, Jr. banquet on the evening of January 16th at SPSCC.

Councilmember Messmer encouraged members who were not able to attend the Smart Towns event earlier in the month to view the information online.

Councilmember Sackrison announced that North Thurston Public Schools Superintendent Raj Manhas has announced his retirement and the District is working on next steps in finding his replacement.

Councilmember Kleingartner announced that the Library is holding the “Book a Great Getaway,” adult winter reading contest through March 15th. Information can be found online and in libraries.

Councilmemeber Stearns announced that the Thurston PUD is now a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

Agenda Item 16
INFORMATION

Executive Director’s Report

Executive Director Wyrick informed the Council that there will be a new look to the minutes in 2016. Administrative Assistant Selstrom will be the recording secretary and the minutes will be more of a summary of the meeting. The transcript will be available upon request. Executive Director Wyrick also announced that he and Deputy Director Burbidge met with Senator Murray’s transportation staff person on Thursday and reviewed issues and priorities for the region.

Agenda Item 17

Adjournment

With there being no further business, Chair Clarkson adjourned the meeting at 10:58 a.m.

Virgil Clarkson, Chair

Lon D. Wyrick, Ex-Officio Secretary