

REGION 1 AREA COMMISSION ON TRANSPORTATION

Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2015 Gresham, Oregon

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Attendees: Bill Avison, Steve Bickford, Tom Chamberlain, Mayor Krisanna Clark, Mayor John Cook, Councilor Peter Cornelison, Councilor Shirley Craddick (Alternate), Mayor Lori DeRemer, Mayor Denny Doyle, Jess Groves, Councilor Jeff Gudman, Mayor Brian Hodson, Neil McFarlane, Commissioner Diane McKeel, Bill Merchant, Brian Newman, Commissioner Steve Novick, Chris Oxley, Chair Ron Rivers, Commissioner Roy Rogers (Chair), Joseph Santos-Lyons, Commissioner Paul Savas (Vice-Chair), Pam Treece, Julie Wehling, Rian Windsheimer, Bill Wyatt

Absent: Mayor Shane Bemis, Sam Breyer, Mayor Jeffrey Dalin

Rian Windsheimer welcomed ACT members and convened a round of introductions.

Rian Windsheimer gave an overview of the agenda.

Kelly Brooks asked the Formation Committee to approve the meeting minutes from the May 7, 2015, Formation Committee meeting.

Commissioner Paul Savas moved, and Commissioner Roy Rogers seconded, approval of the minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Motion: The ACT was asked to appoint a chair and a vice-chair. Chair Ron Rivers nominated Commissioner Roy Rogers to serve as chair, and Councilor Gudman seconded his nomination.

- ✓ Commissioner Roy Rogers was appointed chair unanimously.

Motion: Councilor Jeff Gudman nominated Commissioner Paul Savas to serve as vice-chair, and Mayor Krisanna Clark seconded his nomination.

- ✓ Commissioner Paul Savas was appointed vice-chair unanimously.

Kelly Brooks walked the ACT through an overview of the draft bylaws and outlined the task force process that led to the creation of the ACT. She also reviewed the Formation Committee meeting and what feedback was gained from it. She opened a discussion about the size and scope of the executive committee.

Councilor Shirley Craddick distributed a letter from Councilor Craig Dirksen asking that the bylaws be amended to include the chair of the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) as a member of the executive committee.

Councilor Shirley Craddick moved to amend the bylaws to include the chair of JPACT as a member of the executive committee. Neil McFarlane seconded the motion.

Commissioner Paul Savas asked that the amendment be altered to include one member from each county in the executive committee. Councilor Shirley Craddick declined.

Commissioner Steve Novick said that the ACT workplan should be coordinated with the JPACT workplan and suggested that the bylaws state that the workplan will be developed in coordination with the JPACT chair.

Rian Windsheimer explained that ODOT staff was attempting to narrow the scope of the executive committee, and that the full ACT would provide input and approve the workplan.

Bill Wyatt clarified that the decision had already been made that the power lies in the full ACT, and that the executive committee will need the full ACT's blessing. He noted that the ACT represents more than the MPO boundary, so it wouldn't necessarily make sense to include the JPACT chair but not other representatives from outside the Metro boundary. He suggested that the executive committee be very narrowly focused and that policy questions be handled by the full ACT or a subcommittee.

Councilor Shirley Craddick asked how the ACT would manage to handle the large task of developing the workplan.

Rian Windsheimer responded that the Formation Committee had discussed potentially creating a subcommittee specifically for that work.

Commissioner Paul Savas noted that the bylaws don't necessarily preclude the ACT from expanding the executive committee at a future meeting.

Commissioner Steve Novick suggested stating in the bylaws that the executive committee would: "facilitate the development of the ACT workplan by the ACT" rather than proposing a finished product for approval.

Motion: Commissioner Steve Novick moved to amend the bylaws to include that language. Mayor Denny Doyle seconded the motion.

Councilor Shirley Craddick withdrew her motion pending consideration of Commissioner Steve Novick's motion.

- ✓ The motion to include in the bylaws language that the executive committee "facilitate the development of the ACT workplan by the ACT" was adopted unanimously.

Joseph Santos-Lyons expressed concern about the section regarding alternates, stating that members representing environmental justice and health provide unique voices among the ACT and should be included in the list of members who have alternates.

Tom Chamberlain stated that he would support such language if it also included stakeholders representing labor.

Bill Avison pointed out that many members will not be able to make every single meeting.

Brian Newman asked for clarification on the process that led to the alternates policy.

Commissioner Roy Rogers explained that the Formation Committee discussed the matter of “how big is too big?” and tried to keep the number of total members manageable.

Mayor Lori DeRemer explained that many mayors are community volunteers and would benefit from alternates, but also that having a number of alternates at every meeting would dilute the effectiveness of the group.

Mayor Krisanna Clark agreed, and iterated that she is an unpaid full-time volunteer, but that there needs to be consistency in the process and sending alternates would not present the same level of engagement.

Bill Wyatt asked that members remember that it will also be a two-way street, and the group should pace meetings appropriately to get the work done. There will always be pressure to have more agenda items and more things to discuss, but it’s important to keep in mind what needs to get done.

Commissioner Paul Savas explained that during the task force process, they started with no alternates, but three people eventually appointed alternates and new people arrived and changed the course of the process. He said it’s tough to maintain progress when new people come in and aren’t up to speed.

Joseph Santos-Lyons expressed that he understood the points made, and considering that the bylaws will be revisited early next year, it would make it easier to prioritize attendance as long as fair notice is given for meeting dates and the workplan schedule.

Brian Newman asked about the potential for participating via teleconference.

Commissioner Roy Rogers acknowledged that the possibility exists if the ACT wants to explore it.

Commissioner Steve Novick asked to also amend the workplan language to match the executive committee language, stating that the ACT would collaborate on the workplan with JPACT.

Commissioner Roy Rogers responded that such a change could be problematic because of the parts of the ACT that are outside the MPO boundary.

Councilor Shirley Craddick mentioned that federal law requires the MPO to coordinate projects within the MPO.

Commissioner Paul Savas responded that since many members of JPACT also serve on the ACT, it would be natural that any workplan approved by the ACT would coordinate with JPACT's workplan.

Commissioner Roy Rogers asked if someone was moving to include language on coordination with JPACT.

Motion: Commissioner Steve Novick moved to include language to state "facilitate the development of an annual workplan by R1ACT members....The committee shall meet as needed to facilitate the development of and monitor the workplan." Commissioner Paul Savas seconded the motion.

✓ The language was adopted by a vote. 25 in favor; one opposed.

Motion: Commissioner Steve Novick moved to add "R1ACT will coordinate with JPACT" to the workplan section of the bylaws. Councilor Shirley Craddick seconded the motion.

Commissioner Roy Rogers suggested altering that language to read: "coordinate with the MPO and all affected parties."

Commissioner Paul Savas suggested that if the language is going to identify one group by name, it should identify all, including coordinating committees and transit agencies.

Jess Groves said that he views a push to coordinate specifically with everyone as likely to just create more meetings and more work for everyone.

Chair Ron Rivers said that one of his hesitations to initially join the ACT was that considering he's from a rural county, most of his constituents don't know what JPACT is. He doesn't support the motion.

Mayor Denny Doyle said that no matter how the bylaws are written, JPACT members who also serve on the ACT will ensure coordination.

✓ The motion failed with four votes in favor.

Commissioner Rogers moved to adopt the bylaws as amended. Bill Avison seconded the motion.

✓ The bylaws were approved as amended unanimously.

Kelly Brooks opened a discussion of whether members prefer one central location or various locations around the region.

Mayor John Cook expressed a preference for meetings at Metro, because of the adjacent parking garage.

Mayor Brian Hodson suggested that occasionally, maybe once per quarter, it would be beneficial to hold meetings elsewhere in a region to see different parts of the system.

Andrew Plambeck asked for feedback about the time and date of the meetings.

Multiple members expressed standing conflicts, and the group asked for a Doodle poll to be sent for the September meeting that could be used to inform future scheduling.

Andrew Plambeck explained the process for applications for the at-large active transportation and freight stakeholders, and named the recommendations made by ODOT's Oregon Freight Advisory Committee (OFAC) and Oregon Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (OBPAC).

Motion: Councilor Jeff Gudman moved to appoint Pia Welch as the freight stakeholder. Commissioner Paul Savas seconded the motion.

✓ The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion began of the two top candidates that received identical scores from OBPAC, Steph Routh and Gerik Kransky. Kelly Brooks provided some background on each candidate.

Rian Windsheimer asked if rather than have to make a decision immediately, ACT members would be more comfortable submitting a preference via email and then voting to approve a final recommendation at the July meeting. The group agreed.

Kelly Brooks noted the lack of time to move into the informational item regarding the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), and offered to present to ACT members by appointment or in small groups before the July meeting. She noted that she has already presented to most county coordinating committees and City of Portland staff. She also committed to sending some materials about the STIP to ACT members via email.

Commissioner Roy Rogers adjourned the meeting.