

**Northwest Area Commission on Transportation  
Meeting Minutes January 12, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Chair Heimuller. NWACT Members in Attendance are denoted with an asterisk:

**Clatsop County**

Commission (v) Lianne Thompson\*  
Commission (a) Ted Mclean  
Large City (v) Sean Fitzpatrick  
Large City (a) Steve Wright\*  
Small City (v)  
Small City (a)  
Citizen-at-Large Kathy Kleczek\*  
Citizen-at-Large Jim Knight

**Columbia County**

Commission (v) Henry Heimuller\*  
Commission (a) Mike Russell\*  
Large City (v)  
Large City (a) Dave Sukau  
Small City (v) Bob Brajcich\*  
Small City (a) Scott Jorgenson  
Citizen-at-Large Rosemary Lohrke\*  
Citizen-at-Large Ryan Pearson

**Tillamook County**

Commission (v) Erin Skaar\*  
Commission (a) Bill Baertlein  
Large City (v)  
Large City (a)  
Small City (v)  
Small City (a) Liane Welch\*  
Citizen-at-Large Nicole Stevens  
Citizen-at-Large  
Citizen-at-Large Patrick McHugh

**Washington County**

Commission (v) Jerry Willey\*  
Commission (a) Joe Younkens  
Large City (v)  
Large City (a) Jolynn Becker  
Small City (v) Marsha Kirk\*  
Small City (a)  
Citizen-at-Large Mike Borresen\*  
Citizen-at-Large

**Transit Districts**

Columbia Co (v) John Dreezen  
Columbia Co (a)  
Clatsop County (v) Tracy MacDonald\*  
Clatsop County (a) Jeff Hazen\*  
Tillamook Co (v)  
Tillamook Co (a)

**Ports**

Port of Astoria (v) Frank Spence\*  
Port of Astoria (a) Will Isom  
Port of Columbia Co (v)  
Port of Columbia Co (a) Sean Clark\*  
Port of Tillamook Bay (v) Michele Bradley\*  
Port of Garibaldi (a) Mike Saindon

Others in attendance:

Mark Bernard, ODOT  
Peter Brandom, City of Cornelius  
Jayson Buchholz, ODOT  
Mark Buffington, ODOT  
Ayreann Colombo, ColPac EDD  
Caroline Crisp, ODOT  
Bill Fashing, Cowlitz-Wahkiakum COG  
Kimberley Fear, ODOT  
Casey Garrett, Columbia Co. Commissioner  
Tim Hall, Mayor of Garibaldi  
Jeff Harrington, City of Astoria  
Sarah Lu Heath, NWACT Administrator  
Terry Hendryx, Clatsop County Public Works  
Tony Hyde, Columbia County  
Bill Jablonski, ODOT  
Matt Johnson, ODOT  
Jasper Lind, Tillamook County  
Arla Miller, ODOT  
Anita Muhly, ODOT  
Troy Pomeretz, ODOT  
Mike Reed, Tillamook County Transit District  
Stacy Shetler, Washington Co.

Others in attendance continued:

Ken Shonkwiler, ODOT

Dave Sukau, City of Scapoose

## **Welcome and Introductions**

### **NWACT Minutes/Updates:**

Minutes were reviewed. Two corrections were needed: Liane Welch's job titled was updated to City Manager and the order of the Executive Committee was confirmed to be Lianne Thompson as Chair, Liane Welch as Second Chair, and Marsha Kirk as Third Chair. Rosemary Lohrke moved to approve the minutes as corrected and Kathy Kleczek seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment:** No attendees wished to provide public comment.

**Tillamook County Transportation Update:** No update was provided.

**AOC Transportation Committee Update:** Commissioner Skaar noted her appointment to the Association of Oregon Counties Transportation Committee and updates would become regular in the future. It was noted that HB2101 is a possible legislative fix for ODOT's Fund Exchange program and is under consideration.

**ODOT Region 2 Updates:** ODOT is working on ADA curb compliance projects across the state. The Oregon Community Paths program will include Rockaway Beach and Astoria. Oregon Highway 6 Wilson River Corridor Study is underway with public comment periods coming up. The study findings will be finalized in September 2023. Oregon Highway 6 will see barrier upgrades from Banks to Tillamook. The Gearhart facilities plan continues. In Columbia County, the work at Mallard and Bennett continues with some weather delays. Resurfacing work will take place in Westport at Dairy Creek Road, as well as bridges near Arcadia Beach and Ecola State Park. It was noted that Highway 130 is closed due to damaged caused by a collision.

Councilor Kirk noted that information on Highway 47 needs to be updated on the Trip Check website.

The landslide on Highway 30 has been cleared and a semi-permanent traffic reconfiguration is in place for the coming years.

Ms. Kleczek noted that Trip Check had some incomplete or missing information during the ice storm and ODOT acknowledged that staffing and timing was strained during that time.

Mr. Hendryx noted concerns regarding visibility at a recent Seaside project. ODOT mentioned that a new lighting scheme in that area is forthcoming.

**Highway 30 in Knappa:** NWACT members shared constituent concerns they have received about the recent fatality in Knappa. Feasibility of addressing concerns was discussed. ODOT is holding a meeting on this topic.

**NWACT Leadership & Roster:** The nomination committee provided a recommended a slate of officers: Commissioner Liane Thompson for Chairperson, City Manager Liane Welch for Second Chair, and

Councilor Marsha Kirk for Third Chair. A motion to approve the slate was made by Tony Hyde and seconded by Michele Bradley, the motion was approved unanimously.

The group discussed how to create a strategy document for the NWACT. It was decided that ODOT staff would guide discussion for the group during regular NWACT meetings. The purpose of the NWACT strategy is to provide a snapshot of project and policy priorities for the region to be presented to the OTC.

**STIF Discretionary Applicant Presentations:** Arla Miller, ODOT's Region 2 Transit representative, presented information about the STIF Discretionary process for this cycle. There were originally four applications in our region but one was withdrawn. A motion to provide feedback to ODOT in support of all projects was made by Kathy Kleczek and seconded by Tracy MacDonald; the motion carried unanimously.

**2024-2027 STIP Updates:** ODOT staffer Ken Shonkwiler provided updates on the STIP projects and noted that public comment will be open in March and April.

**Member Updates:**

Tracy Macdonald would like to see a Clatsop County Safety Commission.

Port of Tillamook Bay will have their AWAS weather project done in the next weeks.

Sunset Empire Transit District is still awaiting new coaches with a new projected wait time of 5-7 years.

Tillamook County Transit District is happy to welcome Brian Vitulli as their new General Manager.

Stacy Shetler will be taking over from Joe Younkens in Washington County and joining NWACT.

Bay City will be submitting a Community Paths grant application.

Terry Hendryx will be taking over from Ted McClean in Clatsop County.

Kathy Kleczek reminded everyone about the EV charger plan.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:23pm.