



MINUTES
 Wasatch Front Regional Council
 May 28, 2020

Commissioner Bob Stevenson, Chair, called the meeting of the Wasatch Front Regional Council to order at 2:04 p.m. on Thursday, May 28, 2020. The meeting was held via remote connection, due to the safety restrictions put in place by the Utah Governor's Office, in response to COVID-19 concerns, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The following were present:

WFRC COUNCIL MEMBERS - 2020				
BOX ELDER COUNTY		Yes/No	Alternates / Others in attendance:	
Member - Jeff Scott		yes	Gage Froerer, Davis Co Commissioner	
Alternate – Tyler Vincent		no	Jo Sjoblom, South Weber City Mayor	
DAVIS COUNTY MEMBERS			Joy Petro, Layton City Mayor	
Len Arave		yes	Robert Hale, Midvale City Mayor	
Mark Shepherd		yes	Clint Smith, Herriman City Council	
Randy Lewis		yes	Dirk Burton, West Jordan City Mayor	
Bob Stevenson		yes	Karen Lang, West Valley City Council	
MORGAN COUNTY			Ryan Beck, Envision Utah	
Member - Tina Cannon		yes	Dina Blaes, Salt Lake County	
Alternate - Robert Kilmer		no	Victoria Ashby, ULCT	
Alternate - Mike Newton		no	Shule Bishop, UTA	
SALT LAKE COUNTY MEMBERS			Ben Huot, UDOT	
Jenny Wilson		no	Kyler Brower	
Erin Mendenhall		no	Karina Brown, Chris Peterson	
Troy Walker		yes		
Michael Jensen		no	WFRC Staff: Ben Wuthrich, Jory Johner,	
Jeff Silvestrini		yes	Rosie Hernandez, Christy Dahlberg,	
Robert Dahle		yes	LaNiece Davenport, Ted Knowlton,	
Ron Bigelow		yes	Megan Townsend, Loveit Baumgardner,	
Derk Timothy		yes	Wayne Bennion, Andrew Gruber,	
TOOELE COUNTY			Nicole Proulx, Bert Granberg, Suzie Swim,	
Member - Shawn Milne		yes	Josh Reynolds, Chad Worthen, Katie Gerard	
Alternate – Debbie Winn		yes	Hugh Van Wagenen, Alex Roy, Nikki Navio,	
WEBER COUNTY MEMBERS			Lauren Victor, Scott Hess, Andrea Pearson	
Scott Jenkins		yes	Justin Smart, Penna Powers/WFRC	
Jim Harvey		yes	Jeannie Lambert, Penna Powers/WFRC	
Mark Allen		yes		
Mike Caldwell		no		
UDOT & UTA			NON-VOTING MEMBERS	
Member - Carlos Braceras, UDOT		yes	Lorene Kamalu, UAC	yes
Alternate - Teri Newell, UDOT		yes	Dawn Ramsey, ULCT	yes
Member - Carlton Christensen, UTA Board of Trustees		yes	Ari Bruening, Envision Utah	yes
Alternate - Beth Holbrook, UTA Board of Trustees		yes	Gregg Buxton, State Senate	no
Alternate - Kent Millington, UTA Board of Trustees		yes	Mike Schultz, State House of Reps	yes
			Evan Curtis – Utah State Planning	yes

Welcome [00:02:00]

Commissioner Bob Stevenson welcomed Wasatch Front Regional Council members and guests and introductions were made via roll call.

1. Consent Agenda [00:06:48]

1a. ACTION: Minutes

Commissioner Bob Stevenson made a motion to approve the minutes of the WFRC meeting held March 26, 2020, and Mayor Jeff Silvestrini seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

1b. ACTION: Financial Statements

Commissioner Bob Stevenson made a motion to approve the Financial Statements and Check Registers for February, March, and April 2020, and the current Budget/Expenditure Report. Mayor Mark Shepherd seconded the motion and the financial statements were accepted unanimously.

2. Chair's Report [00:07:14]

Commissioner Stevenson discussed the current COVID 19 economic and tax impacts, such as motor fuel tax dropping 13% in March. As expected, sales tax is down in hospitality and brick and mortar retail, and online sales tax has seen an increase. WFRC is continuing to work with Utah delegation and national associations. The priorities, at present, are: Assistance for local governments, Investment in transportation infrastructure as an effective means of promoting economic recovery and promoting Congress' work in the timely reauthorization of the FAST Act for transportation funding and policy. WFRC, ULCT, UAC, MAG jointly sent letters to Utah state leaders adding support. [00:09:52] Carlos Braceras, UDOT, discussed the impacts of COVID19 on UDOT and state capital projects. [00:11:12] Carlton Christensen, UTA, discussed the impacts of COVID19 on UTA projects and service. [00:13:02] Mayor Jeff Silvestrini discussed the impact of COVID and the economic recession on Millcreek transportation. [00:18:02] Representative Mike Schultz discussed the Legislature developing potential budget cuts and the potential bonding for infrastructure projects, that could include projects impacting active transportation, road, transit, and broadband capabilities.

3. Public Comment [00:38:15]

Commissioner Bob Stevenson opened the meeting for public comment. Mr. Chris Peterson, Democratic candidate for Governor and Ms. Karina Brown, Democratic candidate for Lieutenant Governor, made comments. Andrew Gruber, WFRC, stated that all public comments are welcome and WFRC remains a non-political, non-partisan organization.

4. Regional Growth Committee (RGC) [00:44:45]

Mayor Dawn Ramsey, RGC Chair, briefly reviewed the outcomes of the Regional Growth Committee (RGC) meeting held on May 21, 2020.

4a. COVID19 impacts on transportation and communities

a. Short-term data on impacts of "Stay Home Phase"

Ted Knowlton, WFRC, outlined data on current COVID19 shifts in behavior and impacts on transportation and air quality.

b. Long-term risks and opportunities after COVID19

Mr. Knowlton then opened the time up for a discussion about the long-term shifts we may see in communities after the COVID19 pandemic subsides. Residents and businesses are trying new ways of conducting business, reaching customers, and even spending their free time. WFRC is committed to helping communities navigate these long-term changes, hoping to help shape them to maximize benefits and minimize negative impacts.

c. Local policy approaches

Mr. Knowlton concluded by leading a discussion of policy approaches appropriate for the recovery. Communities will be thinking through the implications on community development to inform effective development of general plans. With the disruption of "business as usual" we are

currently experiencing, this is also a time to reflect on what kind of communities we want to develop and be poised for long-term recovery and enhanced community resilience.

5. Transportation Coordinating Committee (Trans Com) [01:09:27]

Commissioner Jeff Scott, Trans Com Chair, informed the Council of the items that were discussed in the Trans Com meeting held on April 16, 2020.

5a. Report on Board Modifications to the 2020-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Ben Wuthrich, WFRC, presented information regarding requests to modify the current 2020-2025 TIP. The modification required action from Trans Com (since WFRC was not meeting) and the UDOT Transportation Commission but did not require a new air quality conformity analysis or a 30-day public comment period. The modification and approved resolution have been included in the meeting materials.

5b. ACTION: Board Modifications to 2020-2025 TIP [01:11:49]

Mr. Wuthrich reported that WFRC has received a request to modify the current 2020-2025 TIP with the list of projects included in the meeting materials. Mr. Wuthrich briefly discussed the two projects. [01:16:44] Commissioner Jeff Scott made a motion to approve the resolution to modify the 2020-2025 TIP as requested. Mayor Mark Shepherd seconded the motion and the voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

5c. ACTION: Approve the Surface Transportation Program (STP), Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality Program (CMAQ), and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Projects for 2021-2026 TIP [01:17:15]

Mr. Wuthrich then reminded the Council of the funding programs that Wasatch Front Regional Council administers, that provide resources for local governments. These programs include:

- Surface Transportation Program (STP)
- Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ)
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

After a brief description of each program and the technical criteria used to evaluate each project submitted, Mr. Wuthrich continued his report by discussing the STP projects, the CMAQ projects, and the TAP projects that have been recommended by the Trans Com Technical Advisory Committees. [01:29:30] Commissioner Scott made a motion to approve adding the STP, CMAQ, and TAP projects to the draft FY 2021-2026 STP and CMAQ Programs, and the draft FY 2022 TAP Program. Mayor Troy Walker seconded the motion and the majority vote was affirmative.

6. Budget Committee [01:30:10]

Commissioner Shawn Milne, WFRC Budget Committee Chair, discussed with the Council the items that were reviewed in the Budget Committee meeting held on May 14, 2020.

6a. PUBLIC HEARING and ACTION: Approval of WFRC draft FY21 Goals, Budget and Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Commissioner Milne made a motion to open a public hearing [01:31:17] regarding approving the WFRC FY21 Goals, Budget and Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Mayor Troy Walker seconded the motion. The affirmative vote was unanimous. Commissioner Milne then turned the time to Andrew Gruber.

[01:33:30] Andrew Gruber, WFRC stated that WFRC staff, in coordination with the WFRC Budget Committee, has identified agency goals and prepared a budget and Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that outline the objectives and activities that WFRC plans to undertake in fiscal year 2021.

The WFRC Council reviewed these three items on March 26, 2020 and recommended to make

them available for review by the public and by the County Councils of Governments (COGs). There have been no comments received from members of the COGs, nor the public, on any of the items. The goals, budget and UPWP presented here for approval are the same as the draft previously provided and reviewed by the Council in March.

[01:34:40] The COVID19 pandemic and associated economic downturn create uncertainties in budgeting, for WFRC and all its member entities. These uncertainties warrant a cautious approach to WFRC's budget and expenditures. Therefore, while the proposed budget for FY21 has not been modified from the budget that was considered in March, WFRC has instituted and will continue to institute cost-saving measures. In other words, while the budget acts as a legal limit on the level of expenditure, it does not *require* expenditures at the level in the budget, and WFRC is taking steps to hold expenditures flat or bring them down given the current circumstances. This includes delaying or cancelling new consultant or other contracts and utilizing WFRC staff to the greatest extent possible to complete essential work; freezing any new hires; potentially delaying or cancelling COLA or merit increases; limiting travel and training costs; and generally reducing or deferring expenditures. WFRC's budgetary focus is to continue to provide excellent service to our communities and region and maintain stability for our existing staff. As in the past, WFRC's budget situation will continue to be closely monitored and discussed with the WFRC Budget Committee.

[01:38:14] Commissioner Bob Stevenson asked if there were any comments or questions related to the three items discussed. There were none. He then requested a motion to close the public hearing. Mayor Troy Walker made a motion to close the public hearing, Commissioner Scott Jenkins seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative. Commissioner Bob Stevenson made a motion to approve the final WFRC Goals, Budget and UPWP for fiscal year 2021 and Commissioner Shawn Milne seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

7. Active Transportation Committee (ATC) report [01:40:31]

Mayor Jo Sjoblom, Chair of the Active Transportation Committee, reported on the outcomes of the last meeting of the ATC, held on April 8, 2020.

8. Wasatch Front Economic Development District (WFEDD) report [01:45:07]

Scott Hess, WFRC, announced that WFRC and WFEDD had the opportunity to apply for funding through the CARES Act, which has been provided to the Economic Development Administration, based on anticipated resiliency response and recovery efforts of COVID19.

9. Executive Director Report [01:46:42]

Andrew Gruber, WFRC, stated that the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) conference will be held remotely on June 8-9, and information about attending will be sent out to the members. Mr. Gruber also confirmed that the WFRC staff will continue to work remotely for the foreseeable future.

8. Other Business [01:48:00]

Commissioner Bob Stevenson reminded the group that the next Council meeting will be on August 27, 2020 and asked if there were any other items to discuss.

11. Adjournment [01:48:20]

As there were no other items brought forward, Commissioner Stevenson requested a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Scott Jenkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mayor Robert Hale seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative, and the meeting adjourned at 3:52pm