

**MINUTES**  
**LANE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Eugene School District 4J - Auditorium**  
**200 North Monroe - Eugene**

**April 27, 2006 - 7:00 P.M.**

**VOTING MEMBERS**

**Present**

Mayor Gary Williams (Cottage Grove), Chair	Director Susie Johnston (LCC)
Mayor Phil Brubaker (Florence)	Director Al King (School District 19)
Councilor Darrell Carman (Veneta)	Commissioner Patrick Lanning (EWEB)
Commissioner Patti Chappel (EPUD)	Councilor Don Nelson (Coburg)
Director Sherry Duerst-Higgins (Lane ESD)	Councilor Gary Papé (Eugene)
Councilor Glenn Fortune (Oakridge)	Director Anette Spickard (School District 4J)
Director Keyte Hladky (Fern Ridge Library Dist)	Director Helen Wagner (Willamalane)

**Absent**

City of Creswell Representative	Lane County Representative
City of Dunes City Representative	Lane Library District Representative
City of Westfir Representative	Siuslaw Library District Representative
City of Junction City Representative	School District 52 (Bethel) Representative
City of Lowell Representative	School District 68 (McKenzie) Representative
City of Springfield Representative	Western Ambulance District Representative
Port of Siuslaw Representative	

**STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS**

None

**GUESTS**

Chuck Forster, Jim Lindly, Jack Roberts

**LCOG STAFF**

George Kloeppe, Jamon Kent, Kay Metzger, Ann Mortenson, Bob Swank, Tom Schwetz, Byron Vanderpool

**1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL**

Chairperson Gary Williams called the meeting of the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m. He welcomed Councilor Don Nelson to his first meeting representing the City of Coburg.

LCOG staff Ann Mortenson called the roll of members. LCOG Executive Director George Kloeppel stated that a quorum was not yet present.

## **2. REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Mr. Kloeppel requested approval to add acceptance of a Re-Lending Program Loan from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Business Services, as recommended by the Executive Committee. Chairperson Williams said action on the request would be taken on the arrival of the additional members required for a quorum.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **3. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## **4. REPORTS FROM THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Kloeppel referred to Agenda Support Material entitled “Report of the Executive Committee” and “Report of the Executive Committee – Supplemental.” He noted that they described efforts of a subcommittee to plan the July Board Planning Session. He explained that educational presentations planned for the June meeting were intended to provide background for the goal setting experience in July. Director Anette Spickard said the subcommittee believed the June meeting was essential for new and less experienced member representatives.

## **5. ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mr. Kloeppel noted Agenda Support Material entitled “Advisory Council Reports.”

## **6. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Mr. Kloeppel referred to Agenda Support Material entitled “Comments from the Executive Director,” expressed appreciation to the Eugene School District 4J for hosting the meeting, and noted that hosts for two additional meetings in 2006 were required. Mayor Phil Brubaker stated that the City of Florence would host the June meeting. Commissioner Patti Chappel stated that Emerald Peoples Utility District (EPUD) would host the December meeting.

Mr. Kloeppel reviewed other information found in his report – USDA Intermediary Re-lending Program, Willamette River Water Trail dedication, Annual Conference of the National Association of Regional Councils, and Western Council of Governments Summer Conference.

Director Al King recommended that LCOG consider sending a representative to the United Nations Urban Planning Conference to be held in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Mr. Kloeppel noted that Director Keyte Hladky, Commissioner Patrick Lanning, and Councilor Gary Papé had joined the meeting and completed the required quorum.

*Director King moved, seconded by Mayor Brubaker, to add consideration of an Executive Committee recommendation to adopt Resolution 2006-5, Authorizing New Loan for \$500,000 from the USDA for the Intermediary Re-Lending Program as the third Local Services Item on the Agenda . The motion was adopted unanimously, 15:0.*

### **BUSINESS ITEMS**

#### **7. CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairperson Williams noted that acceptance of the Minutes of the February 23, 2006, meeting and approval of the FY 2006-07 Area Plan for Senior and Disabled Services were included in the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Kloeppel commented on the significance of the Area Plan and noted that it had been recommended for approval by the Senior Services and Disability Services Advisory Councils and the Executive Committee.

*Director Sherry Duerst-Higgins moved, seconded by Commissioner Patrick Lanning, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was adopted unanimously, 15:0.*

#### **8. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

None

#### **9. LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES ITEMS**

##### **A. Economic Development Coordination**

Mr. Kloeppel reported that the Board request to a three-member subcommittee to prepare a report regarding the purpose and effectiveness of the economic Development Standing Committee of the Board of County Commissioners, Lane Economic Committee of LCOG, and the Lane MetroPartnership had been carried out. He said members of the subcommittee had received the report, but had determined that its evaluation would not be ready until the June meeting of the Board.

##### **B. Transportation Planning Responsibilities**

LCOG Local Government Services Director Byron Vanderpool presented background information regarding the Board's 2002 delegation of Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) federal transportation planning responsibilities to the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC). He said the group had already assumed most MPO responsibilities already.

Mr. Vanderpool reviewed the report of MPC Chairperson Bobby Green at the February LCOG Board meeting that transportation planning decisions were being delayed because of differing views by members regarding the West Eugene Parkway project. He said extended delay of approval of the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) could put in jeopardy funding for all area transportation-related projects requiring federal funding or approval.

Mr. Vanderpool identified possible actions by the Board:

1. Take no action.
2. Send a letter of concern to the MPC
3. Form a subcommittee to meet with the MPC
4. Rescind the delegation of MPO responsibilities to the MPC
  - a. Board could reassume the responsibilities by adding required member representatives
  - b. Board could establish a new body to fulfill MPO responsibilities
  - c. Board could delegate MPO responsibilities to a different existing body

Mr. Vanderpool stated that staff recommended the Board take no action regarding MPO delegation concerns, but that it plan to make a decision at its June meeting when staff would either recommend continuing to monitor the situation or forming a subcommittee to meet with MPC representatives. He said the September meeting would be well-timed to take actions that could ensure approval of the MTIP.

Councilor Papé asked if the MPO had responsibilities besides those related to transportation planning. Mr. Vanderpool replied that when acting as the MPO, the group's only task was transportation planning, but that the same body, slightly reconfigured, also served as the MPC with many additional duties. He said formation of a local MPO had been required because the area had passed a certain population threshold in the 2000 census. He explained that no other body filled the same transportation planning role.

Director King asked if there was an administrative budget associated with the MPO. Mr. Vanderpool replied that staffing for the committee was funded through separate arrangements that would not be affected by any changes made.

Mr. Kloepfel explained the basis for the impasse the MPO appeared to have reached in dealing with the West Eugene Parkway. He said an MPC bylaw requirement of requiring at least one affirmative vote from Eugene, Springfield and Lane County for every decision was applied to MPO questions. He said both representatives from Eugene supported eliminating funding for the project in the MTIP and both representatives from Lane County favored including it. He explained that LCOG staff was not able to take a policy position in such a situation, but that it was appropriate for the Board to be concerned about the process because it could result in elimination of funding for all federal transportation projects in the county.

Chairperson Williams said he was inclined to accept the staff recommendation and wait for a recommendation at the June meeting.

Commissioner Chappel suggested that members interested in serving on a subcommittee to develop a recommendation regarding the issue identify themselves to the Chair.

Mr. Kloeppe stated that the MPC/MPO was scheduled to meet twice before the June meeting of the LCOG Board and that it was likely an indication of the need to form such a group would be known in advance

Chairperson Williams determined, by virtue of no relevant motion being offered, that the Board would take no action in the matter of MPO Transportation Planning until its June meeting.

### **C. Re-Lending Program Loan**

Mr. Kloeppe referred to Agenda Support Material entitled “Acceptance of Re-Lending Program Loan from USDA Rural Business Services, Authorization to Incur Debt – Resolution 2006-5.” He reviewed its background information and explained that the purpose of the LCOG Rural Business Development Fund was to support economic development by Lane County businesses in rural areas. He said matching funds required by the loan were being applied for from Oregon Lottery funds administered by the Benton/Lane/Linn/Lincoln (BL<sup>3</sup>) Regional Investment Board.

*Councilor Carman moved, seconded by Commissioner Lanning, to approve Resolution 2004-5, Authorizing New Loan for \$500,000 from the USDA for the Intermediary Re-Lending Program. The motion was adopted unanimously, 15:0.*

## **10. SENIOR AND DISABLES SERVICES ITEMS**

None.

## **11. EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION ITEMS**

### **A. FY 2005-2006 Budget Revision**

Mr. Kloeppe referred to Agenda Support Material entitled “Revised FY 2005-2006 Budget Resolution 2006-4.” He said the Revised Budget had been approved by the Budget Committee and that most changes were minor. He explained that the \$4 million cash and in-kind addition for the Lane Transit District (LTD) Student Bus Pass Program had little impact because it was how LCOG facilitated utilization of Energy Tax Credits by the District. He said the process was entirely legal and the Board will receive additional information about it.

*Councilor Papé moved, seconded by Director Spickard, to approve Resolution 2006-04, Approving Budget Revision. The motion was adopted unanimously, 15:0.*

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **12. INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **A. Budget Committee Appointed**

Mr. Kloeppele noted that the Report of the Executive Committee received earlier had announced that Wayne Michael Lottinville had been appointed to a three-year term as a citizen member of the LCOG Budget Committee and that the one-year appointments to the Committee by the Board Chair had been endorsed for Greg James, Anette Spickard, and Gary Williams.

#### **B. Third Quarter Financial Report Third Quarter Financial Report**

Mr. Kloeppele referred to Agenda Support Material entitled “Third Quarter Financial Report” and invited questions regarding it.

#### **C. July Goal-Setting Session**

Mr. Kloeppele reported that the subcommittee planning the July Board Goal-Setting Session had determined that a significant amount of time needed to be spent on educating members. He said staff was planning to make informative and interesting presentations about broad areas of LCOG service during 40 minutes of the Agenda of the June Board meeting.

#### **D. Region 2050 Resignations**

Mr. Kloeppele reported that the cities of Springfield and Cottage Grove had decided to withdraw from participation in the Region 2050 project managed by LCOG. He said the Policy Committee for the project had met and accepted a staff recommendation to adopt a time schedule to complete the process and provide participants with planning tools by October. He said a presentation about Region 2050 would be made at the June meeting of the Board.

Director Susie Johnston asked how the withdrawals affected other participants in the process. Mr. Kloeppele replied that project participation had always been voluntary. He said decision making facilitation provided by Regional Problem Solving statutes adopted by the State of Oregon after the project had begun would not be available, but its other benefits would continue and participants would be provided information and tools that would enhance local planning efforts. He noted that Pleasant Hill participated in the project through Lane County and would be one of the areas continuing to benefit.

## SPECIAL PRESENTATION

### 13. EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Kloeppe reported that the Board had identified Education and Workforce Development as a regional issue with multiple jurisdictional impacts.

Jack Roberts stated that he was Executive Director of the Lane Metro Partnership. He said his agency was formed in 1984 by the Chambers of Commerce of Lane County, Springfield, and Eugene to help with recovery from an economic depression in the area.

Mr. Roberts said the Metro Partnership sought to encourage economic growth by concentrating on encouragement of the *Traded Sector* of the economy. He explained that the sector included approximately one-third of area businesses and operated by buying and selling outside the area, in contrast to the *Local Sector* which existed by virtue of buying and selling in the local area.

Mr. Roberts said *Traded Sector* businesses provided a wide range of jobs, but were mostly considered “family wage” employers. He said the businesses were the main source of economic growth in the area and that *Local Sector* businesses grew in a symbiotic relationship.

Chuck Forster stated that he was Executive Director of the Lane Workforce Partnership. He distributed copies of a document entitled “State of the Workforce 2006” and reviewed elements of its executive summary – employment growth has recouped many of the losses in manufacturing in the 2001-2003 economic downturn, the economy is expected to continue growing and diversifying, the fastest growing jobs in Lane County require post-secondary education and training, aging baby-boomers are beginning to retire which will increasingly create challenges for many industries.

Mr. Forster described “targeted industry clusters” and reviewed workforce analyses provided – health care, wood products, RV/transportation equipment software/computer system design, high technology, biomedical – emerging, scientific research and educational support. He also reviewed information about what he termed “major workforce challenges facing Lane County:”

- Youth are not ready to enter the labor market
- Employers report serious skill shortages in applicant pools and a lack of education and training system capacity
- Workers need to be more flexible and adaptable
- Global environment changes put new pressures on businesses
- There is a growing shortage of skilled workers because of baby boomer retirement
- An untapped labor pool of older workers, people with disabilities, minority populations, and people re-entering the workforce will be increasingly be used
- Lack of affordable housing impacts the ability of the “working poor”

Jim Lindly stated that he was Director of the Lane Community College Business Development Center, Employee Training, and Workforce Development Department. He distributed

copies of information regarding his department and a flyer entitled “Summer Academies – Summertime, and the Learning Is Easy.” He reviewed information they contained.

Members discussed the presentations, asking questions and offering opinions about the problems facing economic, workforce, and education – the changes in a new generation of workers and difficulties in business in general.

### **MEMBER AGENCY REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

None.

#### **14. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

*(Recorded by Dan Lindstrom)*