

MEETING: LCOG Executive Committee

DATE: Thursday, September 16, 2004

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

LOCATION: LCOG Main Office
Wells Fargo Office Building
Fourth Floor Small Conference Room
99 East Broadway, Suite 400
Eugene, Oregon

CONTACT: George Kloeppe, 682-4395

AGENDA

Note

For some of the following agenda items, more narrative background has been included than is customary. This is an experiment, intended to eliminate the need for separate background memos. The Committee's judgment regarding this approach is invited.

1. September 30 Board of Directors Agenda

An outline of the agenda and some of the background materials for the Board's September meeting in Florence will be available for review under this item. The Board approved rescheduling the September meeting to the *fifth* Thursday of the month in order to avoid a conflict with the Western COGs Conference in California the previous week, so the Committee will have an opportunity to shape the agenda before it is finalized. The LCOG Board will be hosted by the City of Florence on the 30th, rather than Dunes City as previously planned.

Three of the items scheduled to be on the September Board agenda are particularly flagged for the Committee's attention. First, this is the month when the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) Chair is asked to provide a report to the Board regarding the past year's work in the MPO (transportation planning) arena. Second, as provided in the Bylaws, the Board will be asked to confirm the Chair's appointment of a Nominating Committee. Once formed, that committee will be asked to expeditiously determine its choices for Chair and Vice Chair in 2005. It is suggested that the nominee for Chair be encouraged to consider his/her choices for Executive Committee appointments *before* the election in December, so that (again, as provided in the Bylaws) the Executive Committee can be named and confirmed immediately following the December 9 election. To postpone confirmation until the next Board meeting in February would mean that the current Committee would continue to serve until replaced—which might be difficult if there are changes in the full Board's composition.

Also on this month's agenda will be a special discussion on public safety. The Committee's guidance is sought here. In July, the Board took a “bottoms-up” approach to the identification of issues that might be pertinent for further exposition and discussion. There were five or six such issues that were lumped into a category called “public safety” and slated for Board attention in September. Thinking about the regional dynamic for LCOG Board discussions, it is clear that several topics have come into focus since the Board's Planning Session. One is the prospect of Springfield building a jail; another is the proposed construction of police services facilities in both Springfield and Eugene; and of course, there is the Board of Commissioners' action on August 25 to authorize staff to work toward facilitating a BCC decision on the formation of a public safety special district.

While the latter would not happen at the earliest until after a November 2006 election, it prospectively represents a significant public safety step for the region. At this stage, there are numerous questions which other local jurisdictions would find pertinent. For example, what would such a district do? Who would provide the policy direction? What would its services mean for the other local jurisdictions? And how would services be provided? But answers to these and other questions may not be available until further staff work is done and decisions made by the Commissioners.

The Committee is asked to consider how best to utilize the time at the September 30 LCOG Board meeting to explore the broad public safety issue. An option might be to invite the Sheriff or the chair of the PSCC to make a presentation as a catalyst for the Board’s discussion. Bill VanVactor, County Administrator, has indicated that he, along with Jan Clements and Bobby Green, might be the right folks to make the presentation.

2. Board of Directors’ December Visit with Legislative Delegation

“Local control” was identified in July as a topic with regional and multi-jurisdictional implications—appropriate as a “special discussion” topic at the December Board meeting. In anticipation of the start of the legislative session, it seemed timely to invite the members of the Lane County delegation to visit with the Board in December. Such a visit and the goal of local control are closely related. The Committee’s direction is sought as to how such a legislative dialogue could be structured.

3. Review and Refinement of Board’s July Planning Session

See attached material. The Committee is asked to confirm or modify the conclusions drawn from the July 22 Session. Elsewhere on this agenda, consideration is being given to the Board’s September 30 and December 9 meetings—public safety and local control, respectively. Direction from the Committee is also sought for the balance of the Board meetings in this fiscal year.

4. Senior & Disabled Services Advocacy Recommendations

S&DS Advisory Councils will be asking for the approval of the Board of Directors for a set of “legislative priorities” for 2005 as well as authorization to communicate with the Oregon congressional delegation and with the U.S. Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services. See two attachments. The Executive Committee’s advance review of those requests and a Committee recommendation to the Board would be appropriate.

5. 2004 Appreciation Dinner, January 27, 2005

The annual LCOG Appreciation Dinner has been scheduled for Thursday, January 27, 2005, at LCC—the same venue as was utilized last year. As preparations are being made for awards, entertainment, speaker, etc., the Committee’s counsel is invited.

6. Rotary Club

Just an announcement... While I have declined the honor in the past, I have been persuaded to stand for election as president of my Rotary Club for the twelve-month period beginning July 2006. While this will certainly involve additional work and time on my part, I do not expect that it will in any way detract from or diminish my primary role as your Executive Director. In past years, the Board and the Committee have urged that, within my LCOG capacity, I give attention to civic, cultural and service organizations in the region. In that vein, I have been involved in leadership roles with United Way, the Eugene City Club, Rotary and others. I just stepped down last year as a board member of the City Club and I currently serve as a member of the board of directors of Southtowne Rotary. I believe that such activity and visibility is good for the agency, and supportive of our long-term reputation and image.

7. Internal Organizational Changes for Wells Fargo-Based Staff

This summer, supervisory and leadership responsibilities have been realigned somewhat within what we have called Local Government Services and Regional Technology Services. While the changes will likely be transparent from the outside, it is management’s belief that they will allow us to operate in a more flexible and efficient manner, and they will help us to more effectively “grow” the leaders of the future. The over-riding purpose and mission of the professionals within the affected work groups remains the delivery of high quality services to our member governments. The primary modification has been away from the traditional hierarchical organization chart to one that focuses on *teams*. The use of functional teams has long been the norm for our staff serving local government; it is the way LCOG has done business. The changes this summer have legitimized the practice that has served us (and our client/members) well for some time. “Team Leaders” may be in any classification in our personnel system, and nearly

everyone will work on more than one team. The teams will of course change with time as tasks are accomplished and new ones initiated, and teams will likely have responsibility for multiple projects and contracts. Bob Swank will continue to have management responsibility for “administrative” teams; Byron Vanderpool will manage the teams of “technology services;” and Jamon Kent will head the “planning services” teams. Under this item, the changes can be given additional exposition, and Committee questions can be answered.

8. New Human Resources Manager

Linda Aday, LCOG’s Human Resources Manager for the past five years, will retire on October 11. Her professional experience, wisdom, good sense and good humor will be missed. After a broad recruitment, we have appointed James Walsh to the position. Jim will join us on October 1. He holds a bachelors degree from the University of Oregon in public administration and has over 15 years of public sector human resource management experience with the State of Oregon (Department of Transportation and Department of Corrections) and with Lane County. We welcome Jim to the agency’s management team, and we wish Linda a very happy and fulfilling retirement.

9 Other Items, Coming Events, Adjournment

Oregon Planning Institute, September 12-14, Eugene
Western COGs Conference, September 21-24, San Diego
LCOG Board, September 30, Florence
MPO Summit, October 14 and 15, Eugene