

FREIGHT MOBILITY STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

May 31, 2024 • 9:00 am – 1:00 pm • Pasco, WA

<https://www.tvw.org/watch/?clientID=9375922947&eventID=2024031014>

TVW Recording

In Attendance

BOARD MEMBERS

Temple Lentz, Chair

Peter Bennett

Marshall Elizer on behalf of

Roger Millar

Matt Ewers

Al French

Erik Hansen

Johan Hellman

John McCarthy

Anne McEnerny-Ogle

Art Swannack

Phil Wallace

Not Present:

Ben Wick

Leonard Barnes

Aaron Hunt Ex

officio

FMSIB STAFF

Kjris Lund, Executive Director

Sally See, Executive Assistant

GUEST PRESENTERS

Ted Prince, TriCities Intermodal

Jay Drye, WSDOT Local Programs

Brian Murphy, BERK

Erinn Ellig, Parametrix

Don Ludlow, CPCS

Chris Herman, WPPA

Meeting Convenes

Chair Lentz convened the meeting at 9:00 am.

Chair Lentz introduced Phil Wallace, the new FMSIB Board member representing Heavy Highway Construction. Chair Lentz then requested that Board members, FMSIB staff, and guests introduce themselves.

Public Comment

Chair Lentz asked if anyone would like to share any public comment.

No one stepped forward.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mr. Ewers moved to adopt March 15, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes. *Mayor McEnerny-Ogle* seconded.

MOTION CARRIED

Board Member Reports

Chair Lentz asked Board members to share what they have been involved with since the last FMSIB Board meeting.

Commissioner Swannack let Members know that he was invited to sit for an interview with radio KONA, a local radio station in Pasco. He spoke for an hour regarding what FMSIB has accomplished and what we're presently working on. Commissioner Swannack reported that it went well.

Commissioner McCarthy stated that he attended some meetings in Washington DC. Some of those were in regard to the Gateway Alliance. He also spoke with Allison Camden of the National Highway Freight System. She's heavily involved nationally in moving freight forward.

Mr. Biggs provided information regarding WSDOT's efforts regarding the National Highway Freight Plan and how they're sharing information with FMSIB. *Mr. Beloso* added some points about freight movement at the national level.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle stated that she also went to Washington DC and met with the Federal Corridor Initiative group regarding the bridge investment program. Several federal authorities have approved the direction moving forward on the I-5 Bridge Program. Progress is looking very promising.

FMSIB Strategic Issues

Chair Lentz introduced Ted Prince. *Director Lund* noted that if the Members had any questions, they should be sure and ask Mr. Prince as he has expansive knowledge of all things Intermodal.

Mr. Prince, CEO and Founder of TriCities Intermodal provided the Board with an Educational presentation on "Intermodal". This was followed by discussion with the Board.

(See attachment: Intermodal 101.)

FMSIB Chair Report

Chair Lentz noted that Mr. Wallace was interested in becoming a member of the FPAC and Legislative Committees. Chair Lentz noted that a vote of the Board would need to be taken. She supports the action.

Commissioner Swannack moved to make Board Member Phil Wallace a member of the FMSIB FPAC and Legislative Committees. *Mr. Ewers* seconded.

MOTION CARRIED

Chair Lentz provided an update on consultant Karras regarding the recruitment of a permanent Executive Director, referring to the Karras update included in the Board packet. Mid to late July, the Administrative Committee will be reviewing and hopefully interviewing applicants.

Chair Lentz introduced discussion regarding date and location suggestions for 2025 Board meetings. There were several questions regarding the proposed dates.

Suggested locations were Walla Walla, Puget Sound, Suncadia, Skamania, and Vancouver. Dates for FMSIB workshop were also discussed. After Board discussion, for 2025 it appears that the workshop should be held in June 2025. Suggested dates and locations will be considered by Chair Lentz and

Director Lund and offered for a final vote at the next FMSIB Board meeting. (Vote will be taken at the August Special Board meeting.)

Mr. Bennett moved to accept dates to be worked out by Chair Lentz and Director Lund. Mayor McEnerny-Ogle seconded.

MOTION CARRIED

Chair Lentz reviewed the policy regarding an extra five percent wage increase to those that work in King County. Since Executive Director Kjris Lund works in King County, a vote of the Board will be needed to approve the five-percent compensation be given to Director Lund.

Commissioner French moved to approve Director Lund's five percent increase for working in King County, retroactive to February 2024. Mr. Ewers seconded.

MOTION APPROVED

Staff will notify Human Resources of the update.

(See attachments: Karras Update, date and location suggestions, Compensation brief, and draft letter to Human Resources.)

Executive Director's Report and FMSIB Operating Budget

Director Lund addressed the Director's workplan, as well as the FMSIB Operating budget. She announced that she would be meeting with Representative Fey in June to discuss FMSIB's work, ensuring that FMSIB is on the right track.

There are Decision Packages that will be put together for OFM to review for the coming Governor's budget. The first will be asking the Legislature to raise the Executive Director's salary which will add \$5-\$10K to the budget. Another will be to ask for funds to enable FMSIB to continue to work with existing contractors if necessary. She will notify the Board of further Decision Packages that will be needed as we move forward. Once identified, the Packages will be voted on by the Board before they are submitted.

Director Lund presented an update on the open Board seats. Sheri Call stated that WTA has submitted names for the Trucking seat and is attempting to recruit a good candidate for the Package Delivery seat. The Director is also working with OFM to extend Member's terms that have indicated that they would like to stay on the FMSIB Board, as well as new Board members that the Governor will appoint. Commissioner Swannack pointed out that if Board members desire to remain on the Board, they must still go to the Governor's website to fill out the form requesting to remain in their seats. [Boards & Commissions | Governor Jay Inslee \(wa.gov\)](#)

Director Lund also addressed the FMSIB Operating Budget. We are right on target and there have been no changes since the last Board meeting. Director Lund also thanked those that replied to the survey she sent out. Survey showed that the Board thought that Preservation was of the highest priority.

(See attachment: Director's Workplan Report, Operating Budget spreadsheet, and Board member survey results.)

FMSIB Capital Budget Report

WSDOT Director Drye addressed the FMSIB Capital budget. FMSIB projects that were approved by the Legislature during the 2023 session are beginning to move forward with Construction “ramping up”. Local Programs is also working with Mr. Herman of WPPA to complete the Marine Cargo Study scope of work and schedule.

(See attachment: Capital Budget Report.)

Marine Cargo Forecast Study Scope and Schedule

Mr. Herman, Deputy Director of WPPA presented the proposed updates made by the Local Programs office to the Marine Cargo Forecast Study Scope. These are listed in the attached presentation. Mr. Herman thanked the Board for the recommended \$300,000 for this study. This report will be an update to the study done in 2017. WPPA has interviewed two highly capable consultants to help with this study. WPPA is currently reviewing data sources and tools that will be used by the consultants. They will make the final decision next week and providing the results to WSDOT the week of June 3rd.

WPPA plans to submit the draft study to the FMSIB Board at the November 22nd Board meeting in Anacortes. After discussion with the Board in November, they will be submitting the study to the Legislature during the 2025 session.

Chair Lentz commented that she was pleased that this is moving forward well. FMSIB has a December 1st deadline to submit FMSIB’s report to the Legislature, noting that this is a tight timeline. She asked Mr. Herman if the information would be ready by then. Mr. Herman replied that it would be ready in time for FMSIB to put that report together by December 1, 2024.

Director Lund addressed recent history of progress on this report. She noted that at the November 2023 Board meeting the Board approved a Scope of Work for this. Once that reached WSDOT Local Programs office, they made some changes, as represented by the attachment in the FMSIB Board packet, updating language in the Scope to include Legislative language.

Mr. Ewers moved to approve changes made to the Study by the Local Programs office. Commissioner Swannack seconded.

MOTION APPROVED

Mr. Hansen asked what the Board will be doing with the study relative to freight once it’s final. Director Lund and Mr. Ewers addressed this stating that the information in the study will provide important information needed regarding the capacity, volumes, and types of cargo that goes in and out of the Ports and how it affects freight. Further Board discussion will be had at the November FMSIB Workshop and Board meeting.

(See attachment: WPPA Marine Cargo Study Kickoff PowerPoint.)

FPAC Committee Report

Director Lund stepped in for FPAC Chair Ben Wick. She noted that the FPAC committee has discussed the Six-Year Investment Program application process and the Truck Parking Study. FPAC has met three times so far since the last Board meeting and have been working on the application process, as

well as the Truck Parking Study. They plan to hear from WSDOT Mr. Briggs regarding their portion of the Truck Parking Study.

Erinn Ellig of Parametrix gave a presentation on where Parametrix is in processing and scoring applications received from Washington local agencies. She also addressed timelines moving forward, as outlined in the attached Parametrix presentation. FPAC will be meeting several times this summer.

Mr. Hansen asked Erinn to add the costs represented by each type of application, as well as the dollars attached to each of the years that the applications address in her summary slides. Erinn agreed to add that to the different lists that outline types of projects and years that funding is needed from the applications received.

Board had an extended conversation regarding what will and what won't go into the Six-Year Program that is going to the Legislature. These are items that FPAC will be deciding on to bring to the Board for a vote. Erinn will be back at the September Board meeting to discuss FPAC's progress.

Donald Ludlow of CPCS gave a presentation on where CPCS is in developing the FMSIB portion of the Truck Parking Study due to the Legislature on December 1, 2024. Mr. Ewers pointed out that one of the issues with trucking is the safety of the drivers.

(See attachments: Parametrix and CPCS presentations.)

New Directions Committee Report

Committee Chair French spoke to the discussions that the New Directions Committee has been involved in with the consultant BERK regarding the Overburdened Communities Best Practice study due to the Legislature on December 1, 2024.

Mr. Murphy of BERK presented the attached PowerPoint Overburdened Communities Best Practices Study. Board had a lively discussion on what constitutes an Overburdened Community and how it might affect upcoming projects. Determinations will be reflected after the vote of the Board in the report going to the Legislature on December 1, 2024.

(See attachments: Overburdened Communities Best Practices Study presentation.)

Next Board Meeting

Commissioner French moved to Affirm that the next Board meeting will be held on September 6th in Spokane, WA. *Mayor McEnerny-Ogle* seconded.

MOTION AFFIRMED

Meeting Adjourned

Chair Lentz adjourned the meeting at 1:01 pm.

Summary of Board Motions:

- 1) Adoption of March 15, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes. Motion Carried
- 2) Motion to include Board Member Phil Wallace as a member of the FMSIB FPAC and Legislative Committees. Motion Carried.
- 3) Motion to accept dates will be worked out by Chair Lentz and Director Lund for 2025 FMSIB Board meetings. Motion Carried.
- 4) Motion to approve Director Lund's five percent location compensation for working in King County, retroactive to February 2024. Motion Carried.
- 5) Motion to accept changes made to the study's Scope of Work by the Local Programs office on the Marine Cargo Forecast Study. Motion Carried
- 6) Affirmation of next Board meeting September 6, 2024, in Spokane, WA. Motion Carried.



Temple Lentz
Board Chair



Attest: Kjristine Lund
Executive Director