

TTPO Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2006
Okanogan Inn & Suites
Okanogan, Washington

Welcome, Invocation and Introductions

Michael Cardwell, TTPO Chair opened up the meeting at 9 am. Brian Clark, Roads Engineer for the Colville Tribe introduced Cherie Moomaw, Colville Tribal Councilmember and Myrna Mooman, Tribal elder, to welcome the TTPO and give the invocation. There were 16 people in attendance, with representatives from 6 Tribal governments, BIA, WSDOT, NW and Alaska TTAP, and Dale Stedman, Washington State Transportation Commissioner.

Safety Related Projects on the Colville Reservation

Brian Clark, Colville Roads Engineer, gave a presentation on the safety related projects on the Colville Reservation. Brian focused on the safety issues facing the community on the reservation. He also mentioned some of the issues that impede proper and accurate reporting of accident on the reservation.

Lyn Edgel, consultant for the Colville's made a presentation on his work on the Colville Traffic Safety Task Force. Lyn mentioned that the task force had identified that 100% of the fatalities that occurred in 2005 within Ferry County were located on the Colville Reservation. Lyn also reported that the task force had identified that of the 1,021 miles of roads on the reservation only 136 miles are paved. Brian then reported on the major issues on the reservation were improved, signage and crosswalks.

BIA Bulk Uploader Resolution

Fred Eckenberg explained the current process that the BIA was considering. Fred recommended that the TTPO adopt a resolution and forward it to the BIA for their information.

Formation of Work Groups

Jim Longley gave a brief presentation about potential legislation and gas tax collection issues on Tribal Reservations. After a discussion it was agreed that the TTPO would form two committees to improve communications and tribal participation. The two committees formed are: recruiting and education.

WTP Update by Commissioner Stedman

Commissioner Dale Stedman of the Washington State Transportation Commission (WSTC) described the new roles and responsibilities of the Commission focusing on the

key responsibility of developing the Washington Transportation Plan. Commissioner Stedman explained what the WTP is, how tribal input is included, and how to continue providing input during the public review process. Commissioner Stedman provided several suggestions to the TTPO including getting more tribal governments actively involved in the TTPO, and working early in the process with key legislators to build support for tribal transportation needs.

IRR Road Inventory

Ken Ratcliff from the Portland Area Office of the BIA made some comments on the existing letter of understanding that WSDOT uses to assist the Tribal governments when requesting to add road miles onto their IRR inventory. After it was explained in detail what the process is for Washington State there was no more discussion on the issue.

Additional Discussion

Kirk Vinnish asked about the TTPO's future role in Tribal Gas Tax debate. He asked that his item be on the agenda at the next TTPO meeting.

Kirk also commented that there is an appeal process that Tribal Governments can go through to appeal the accuracy of the BIA's Road Inventory Data.

Michael Cardwell mentioned that he had sent letters to: Secretary MacDonald, thanking him for his support of prioritizing Tribal Planning Capacity as a high priority in the draft WTP, and; Chief of Staff Paula Hammond and Jennifer Ziegler inviting them both to attend a future TTPO meeting

Next TTPO Meeting

August 8, 2006

Host: Jonathan Ciesla, Quinault Indian Nation

Location: Quinault Beach Resort

Upcoming Events

2006 Tribal/State Meeting

November 6-8, 2006

Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, Washington