

**WASHINGTON COUNTY
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (COG)
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 20, 202**

The Washington County Council of Governments (COG) Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Gil Almquist at 1:00 p.m. on August 20, 2024, in the 3rd floor Training Room of the Washington County Administration Building, 111 East Tabernacle Street, St. George, UT 84770.

Members Present:

Commissioner Adam Snow
Commissioner Victor Iverson
Commissioner Gil Almquist
Mayor Justin Sip, Toquerville City
Councilwoman Patti Wise, La Verkin, Utah
Mayor Kress Staheli-Washington City
Mayor Barbra Bruno, Springdale City
Mayor Jean Krause-Virgin City
Mayor Michelle Randall-St George City-Via Zoom

WELCOME:

Commissioner Almquist welcomed all in attendance and it was determined that a quorum existed for voting on action items.

CONSIDERATION OF MEETING MINUTES: March 19, 2024

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Snow to Approve the Minutes of March 19, 2024. Motion seconded by Commissioner Iverson and Carried by Unanimous Vote.

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Washington County Public Works Director Todd Edwards presented the financial update as of December 19, 2023:

Total bank balance of \$5,667,698.17.

Obligated funds of \$2,996,378.31(unspent funds e.g. Kwavasa Dr., 3000 East Corridor, etc.)

Available unobligated funds of \$2,671,319.86

As of February 29, 2024 the COG has the following unobligated fund balances available:
\$ 112,631.58 in the Preservation Fund
\$ 1,548,081.58 in the Construction Grant Fund
\$ 1,010,606.70 in the Construction Revolving Loan Fund
\$ 2,671,319.86 Total available unobligated funds

Total amount of requests on this agenda are:

Formally De-obligating funds of \$ 626,330.73 back to the Preservation Fund

See the list from Camille. These are funds that were never *formally* de-obligated. Some are left-over funds that were not spent when property was acquired. Some are funds for projects or studies that were never completed. By formally de-obligating these fund it frees up funding for future right-of-way purchases.

Formally De-obligating funds of \$ 121,423.86 back to the Construction Grant Fund

See the list from Camille. These are funds that were never *formally* de-obligated. Some are left-over funds that were not spent when property was acquired. Some are funds for projects or studies that were never completed. By formally de-obligating these fund it frees up funding for future right-of-way purchases.

ACTION ITEM: Formally De-Obligate the list of Projects that are shown on the list from Camille. \$626,330.73 back to the Preservation Fund and \$121,243.86 back to the Construction Grant fund.

These are funds that were never *formally* de-obligated. Some are left-over funds that were not spent when property was acquired. Some are funds for projects or studies that were never completed. By formally de-obligating these fund it frees up funding for future right-of-way purchases.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Iverson to Approve De-Obligating Funds from the list presented back into the Preservation Fund and back into the Construction Grant fund. Motion seconded by Commissioner Snow and Carried by Unanimous Vote.

ACTION ITEM: Transfer Funds from the Revolving Loan Fund to the Corridor Preservation Fund.

Excess funding has accumulated in the Revolving Loan Fund. As of August 7, 2024, there was \$ 1,010,606.70 in the fund. This fund is rarely, if ever, used. Periodically we have transferred excess funds from this fund to other more popular funds. Staff is requesting to transfer \$1,000,000.00 from the Revolving Loan fund to the Preservation Fund.

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Sip to Transfer \$1,000,000 from The Construction Revolving Fund to the Preservation Fund. Motion seconded by Mayor Randall and Carried by Unanimous Vote.

ACTION ITEM: Approval of COG Policy Revisions and recommendation of Adoption to the County Commission

The COG periodically updates its policies to reflect current concerns and processes. The policies were last updated in 2019. The proposed changes are staff initiated and are meant to address concerns with:

- 1: Encouraging appraisals to be obtained prior to application where practical.
- 2: Clarify the language that requires Washington County to be on the deed.
- 3: Quantify the minimum amount of time that staff needs to process requests and funding for closings.
- 4: Formally add Roll-back taxes as an eligible cost that the COG may pay.
- 5: Formally add that the COG well have at least two reporting meeting each year to discuss and receive reports on currently obligated funds and the status of each obligated project and a second meeting to discuss the status of any surplus property.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Snow to Approve the Changes as Presented. Motion seconded by Mayor Sip and Carried by Unanimous Vote.

Safe Streets for All (SS4ALL) Report and Presentation

Rick Thornock from UDOT presented a slide show showing the most recent Safe Streets 4 All Survey results.

Commissioner Almquist thanked all in attendance and adjourned the meeting at 1:37 p.m.

JAYANNE LEWIS
DEPUTY CLERK

GIL ALMQUIST
CHAIRMAN