

North East Area Commission on Transportation (NEACT)
3012 Island Avenue
La Grande, Oregon 97850
Phone: 541-963-3179 Fax: 541-963-9079

Minutes of Meeting
June 3, 2010, 9:00 a.m. PDT

Oregon Department of Transportation
3012 Island Avenue
La Grande, Oregon

Members and Alternates present:

Bill Hansell
Tom Fellows
Ron Sivey
Terry Tallman
Gerald Breazeale
Ron McKinnis
Burke O'Brien
Steve McClure
Robert Strobe
Norm Paullus
Fred Warner, Chair
Mike Hayward
Russ McMartin
Bob Jepsen
Frank Reading, ODOT

Ex-Officios present:

Dave DeMayo, City of Heppner
Jeremy Morris, Anderson-Perry
Ray Crapo, City of LaGrande
Chet Phillips, Mayor, Boardman
Karen Pettigrew, Boardman City Mgr.

ODOT staff:

Laura Slater
Doug Wright
Harold Lasley, Salem staff
Tom Kuhlman
Nancy E. Martin

No introductions were made and no items from the public were presented for discussion.

Standing Items:

- Roll call of voting members – Quorum present
- OTC/ODOT updates – Frank Reading reported on the special OTC meeting held to complete action on the OR219 project. This is a maintenance project contracted out to private entity as mandated by HB2001 legislation. He also reported there will be some reorganization of the ODOT Transportation Division upon Doug Tindall's retirement. Jerri Bohard will be the new Director of Operations (new position created to integrate several divisions under one director). The Highway Division manager will have more time to spend in the field and with legislators as a result of the reorganization. The next OTC meeting is in Jacksonville on June 10th. ODOT Major Projects Division has been tasked with implementing the new radio system for emergency management. It will include local agencies as well as four state agency networks. Status of referral for HB2001 is still in signature-gathering stage. It looks unlikely that there will be enough signatures to get it on the ballot. OTI/III Bridge projects are nearly completed. There are only 43 bridges left, with 27 starting into construction phase in 2010. For Region 5's summer construction projects, Lime/3-Mile Hill, Pleasant Valley to Durbin Creek, completion of Pendleton viaduct, OR82-Indian Creek, Minam Viaduct and repairs, OR7: Salisbury to Rancheria Creek, 414 bridge bundle on Hwy 395, and 19/US26 rehab projects are all on the schedule for this summer. All ARRA projects that went to bid last year will go to construction this year.
- Local Agency update – Doug Wright said Urban Trail Program funding is available with \$970,000 in funds. Statewide there will be four grants given out, so competition will be

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tough. However, they are accepting 20% in-kind matching on these applications. These grants will be awarded in October with construction in 2011. Transportation Enhancement program is accepting letters of intent with \$200,000 minimum requests. The local government section has a quick reference guide to project delivery on its website with good guidelines for applicants to follow. HB2001 JTA's have most agreements in place or in submittal.

- Approve minutes of previous meeting – Mike Hayward moved, Steve McClure seconded, minutes unanimously approved.

Old Business:

Connect Oregon III handout – Steve Grasty and Fred Warner will be able to utilize the information on this handout for negotiations at the final committee review. Project dollar amounts may change. The project list will be finalized June 9 and 10, with all projects statewide under scrutiny. Then the recommendations will go to OTC, which will meet in Hermiston in August to finalize the selection and funding of Connection Oregon III projects.

New Business:

Statewide Access Management Presentation – Harold Lesley See handout material included in packet. This presentation was interrupted by a telephone conference call from Sheila Lyons.

Statewide Bike/Pedestrian Programs telephone conference call from Sheila Lyons

Sheila went over the information in the handout concerning bike and pedestrian grant applications. These applications are due July 9th (postmark). The grants will be awarded by the end of the year, with fund available July 1, 2011. Call Sheila for details on grant priorities. She mentioned that there are a lot more funding sources for non-motorized projects.

Approach Application Process power point – Tom Kuhlman, Region 5 Traffic Manager

OR82 Passing Lane Modernization project revamp – Russ McMartin, Wallowa County
Russ address the ACT concerning the possible redirection of the OR82 passing lane modernization project funds to Hurricane Creek widening route and adding bike lanes, 7 miles in length, with the addition of \$5 million from HB2001 and a \$750,000 bike grant. There would be quite a few steps to getting the funding sources in alignment and having it meet the eligibility requirements. NEACT would then have to give its approval. This item will be on the August agenda.

Transportation Enhancement – Frank Reading let NEACT know there will be a TE workshop following the August NEACT meeting. Patricia Fisher will be here and will conduct the workshop. She will be the guest of NEACT during its meeting. Announcements are out for 2013-2014 funding cycle. Notices of intents are due June 30th; proposals are due September 30th. Oregon Forest Highway Program applications are also due June 30th.

STIP update – Frank talked briefly about the handout showing that updates have been done. Program level allocations have been received. Final STIP review will occur in August, with OTC review following in September.

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Ex-officio documentation and membership review – Frank asked the members to help get the issue of alternate representatives and terms of membership in line with the NEACT charter and bylaws. Counties will review their membership and alternates list and commissioners will report back to NEACT in August with resolutions identifying representation for each. Ex-officio list will also be updated and revised by NEACT and ODOT staff.

County and Local Partner Roundtable – All

No Byways or LOC/AOC updates

No Transit Update

County updates:

Umatilla County - Bill Hansell and Dennis reported on the bike/ped program in Pendleton and the road out of Hermiston (Townsend Road over the bridge to Highland Avenue). They are applying for bike/ped grants for this project.

Morrow County – Terry Tallman reported the groundbreaking for ZeaChem for production of 1 million gallons of ethanol every 10 days. The demo plant has been producing 265,000 gallons per day.

City of Irrigon – Gerald Breazeale announced that the ARRRRA project in Irrigon is nearing completion. They will start the paving portion tomorrow (June 4).

City of Boardman – Karen Pettigrew announced that the overlay on the Boardman overpass project has started. The sidewalks and curbs project is also underway.

Imbler project is also going forward.

Agenda Build:

OTC meets Tuesday and Wednesday, August 24-25, 2010, in Hermiston

Connect Oregon III update from Frank

Modernization project Wallowa County

Updated list NEACT membership/alternates and ex-officios

Pat Fisher, Highway Program Office, presentation on TE, afternoon training

Next Meeting:

August 5, 2010, Region 5 Conference Room

9:00 a.m. to noon

TE workshop 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.