

North East Area Commission on Transportation (NEACT)

3012 Island Avenue
La Grande, OR 97850

Phone: 541-963-3179 Fax: 541-963-9079

MEETING SUMMARY

MEETING DATE: October 2, 2008 (9:00 am - Noon)
MEETING LOCATION: Oregon Department of Transportation
3012 Island Avenue
La Grande, Oregon

☞ **Open Meeting**

- Roll call of voting members – 16 present - Quorum

Voting Members

Commissioner Bill Hansell
Ron Sivey
Bob Patterson
Commissioner Terry Tallman
Jerry Breazeale
Bob Jepsen
Commissioner Steve McClure
Robert Strobe
Norm Paullus
Commissioner Fred Warner
Jennifer Watkins
Mary Jo Carpenter
Russ McMartin
Robert Quaempts
Jack Davis
Frank Reading

Ex-Officio

Kathleen Cathey

Others

Glenis Harrison
Monte Grove
Jeremy Morris
Doug Wright
Tom Strandberg
Alaina Mildenerger (CTUIR)
Burke O'Brien (Alternate)

- Approve minutes from previous meeting

☞ **Commissioner Steve McClure moved that the minutes from the last meeting be approved as written. Mary Jo Carpenter 2nd the motion, the motion passed unanimously.**

- Announcements

☞ Commissioner Fred Warner introduced Jennifer Watkins as the new voting member representing Cities for Baker County.

☞ **Public and/or Stakeholders Comments:**

- Public comments may be taken at any time during the ACT meeting

☞ **Old Business and Reports**

- OTC Update, Commissioner Mike Nelson or Monte Grove
 - ☞ Release of 2010-2013 STIP, Tom Strandberg is still doing presentations to Chambers, etc.
 - ☞ Received report from PSU on elderly disabled needs. DHR and ODOT were directed to do this through a budget note in 2007
 - ☞ Priorities for Federal Transportation Authorization. Funding and finance, investments and reform.

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- ✍ Transportation Building Renovations; OTC agrees on the need but doesn't think this is the right time to be spending \$70 million.
 - ✍ Strategic Investment Analysis will be used for the 2012-2015 STIP Update. It will be added to the STIP stakeholder project eligibility prioritization work.
 - ✍ \$65 million increase to the Pioneer Mtn – Eddyville Project
 - ✍ SB-1086 – Emergency Administrative Rules; requires applicant to use full legal name when applying for Oregon Driver's License. Change allows us to use more documents to determine this.
 - ✍ OTC will meet in Gleneden on the 21st and 22nd of October for their annual workshop. Will focus on work plan items.
 - ✍ Chair Achterman will be in Ontario next Tuesday, Oct 7 and will meet with both staff and community members. You are all invited to the 10:00 am mountain time meeting at the Area office off of East Idaho Avenue.
 - ✍ Federal Avenue Picture - \$8 billion moved over to Highway fun from General Fund. Safetea-LU sunsets September 9. OTC is depending on the Congress to deal with this.
 - ✍ State Revenue Picture – People are driving less. Draft 2009 revenue package goes to Governor in mid October. Includes a version of ConnectOregon III. Plus or minus \$500 million a year to Highway (50-30-20) split. Will be funded by Title and registration fees and the gas tax.
- ODOT Update, Monte Grove
 - ✍ Currently we will need to reduce the 2010-2013 STIP by \$6 million to balance, includes all programs.
 - Byways Committee Update, Janet Dodson and/or Alice Trindle – No report
 - LOC,AOC Update: Bob Patterson – AOC meets October 13th, more info to follow
 - Public Transit Update, Mary Jo Carpenter
 - ✍ **Jack Davis moved that the agenda item “Public Transit Update” be a continuing item on all NEACT agendas. Bob Patterson 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
 - ✍ Mary Jo gave report at a meeting on the state budge
 - ✍ Transportation Hub in La Grande will be operating this month.
 - ✍ Big change on choosing projects; projects will be chosen locally
 - ✍ Judge Terry Tallman gave a report on Public Transit in Morrow County.

New Business and Presentations

- ✍ Transportation Enhancement Update - Commissioner Warner gave an update on Mike Nelson's health condition. He then talked about the Transportation Enhancement Process. The Sub Committee scored the project by email. The Dearborne Project is number 1. Public comments closed on September 15. The formal decision will happen in December.
- ✍ NEACT Membership – Commissioner Warner discussed a request by Kim Puzey, general manager of the Port of Umatilla, to become a voting member of NEACT. After some discussion it was decided that Umatilla County would appoint Mr. Puzey as their Alternate at large, a position that is currently vacant. The County Commission will contact Mr. Puzey.
- ✍ Asphalt Fuel Escalation, Program Impacts - Frank Reading discussed the rise in cost of Asphalt and how that rise is effecting projects, specifically Imbler and Athena. After much discussion, the consensus was that Union and Umatilla County will sit down with the cities of Imbler and Athena to discuss partnering to find a way to build the projects if only partially.
- ✍ ACT Earmark list, current status – **Motion by Commissioner Ansell to support the following projects: Spring Creek Climbing Lane, Boardman Main Street US730 East Beach and send a letter to the OTC requesting that they support the projects for the next surface transportation authorization legislation. Motion 2nd by Robert Strobe. Motion passed unanimously.**
- ✍ STIP Public Outreach - Tom Strandberg
 - STIP public meeting will be held on November 6. Tom will send out an email that will request people to sign up to attend one of the 8 sites.

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✍ **County/City Round table –**

- Judge Terry Tallman – Gave a brief update of progress in Morrow County
- Norm Paullus – Gave update on 12th Street Project in La Grande

✍ **Agenda Build – All**

- Update on STIP public meeting
- Transportation Enhancement Update
- Public comments for STIP
- Should we have a meeting in January?
- Future Funding
- Revenue Enhancement – speaker?

ACTION: Fred will send out a list of funding ideas by the end of October.

Tom Strandberg will draft a paper that discusses the economic condition of the counties regarding transportation.

✍ **Set time, date and place for next meeting**

✍

December 4, 2008 9am – Noon

✍

TBD

✍

La Grande, Oregon

✍

Adjourn meeting

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