

North East Area Commission on Transportation (NEACT)
3012 Island Avenue
La Grande, Oregon 97850
Phone: 541-963-3177 Fax: 541-963-9079

Minutes Summary

Meeting Date: December 3, 2009
Meeting Location: Oregon Department of Transportation
3012 Island Avenue
La Grande, Oregon

Open Meeting

- Roll call of voting members – Quorum present
- Change in agenda: We will call Michael Bufalino at 9:30 a.m.
- Approve minutes of previous meeting – unanimously approved.
- Introductions: Tom Fellows, taking Hal Phillips's place (documentation letter from Umatilla County provided to NEACT). Tom Davis, SEACT Coordinator from Ontario, was introduced to the members.
- Public Comments: None at this time

Old Business:

OTC/ODOT Updates from Monte – OTC held a special meeting Wednesday, December 2, to deal with one item, to move \$35 million to purchase two trains. On the December agenda, Region 5 had only one agenda item, the Boardman area interchange project.

On the highway side, the initiative to require voter approval for legislation with fiscal impacts to Oregonians was rejected. Processing Connect III application continues. STIP stakeholders committee continues its work. Monte is on this committee. Freight Plan subgroups continue to work. Travel Information Council work on the rest area agreements is approaching the January 1st deadline.

New Business:

Connect Oregon III Subcommittee Selection: Fred Warner, ad hoc
Jerry Breazeale - cities (Morrow Co.); Burke O'Brien – Morrow County;
Russ McMartin – Wallowa County; Terry Tallman – Morrow County; Steve McClure – Union County; Tom Fellows – Umatilla County; Jennifer Watkins – Baker City. Motion to appoint the subcommittee was made by Steve McClure, seconded by Ron Sivey. Discussion – none. Unanimously approved the above members for the subcommittee.

NEACT/SEACT Connect Oregon III interactions:

A dialogue between the ACT's needs to occur prior to final project selection. A conference call will be set up prior to the next NEACT to facilitate project review and selection. Frank will make the arrangements.

Call with Michael Bufalino: The process for the Connect Oregon III timeline will be similar to that of Connect Oregon II two years ago. By February 1st applications will go out to the five modals committees for review. The review process concludes March 15th. From March 15th through March 24, the regions will receive applications for their

North East Area Commission on Transportation (NEACT)
3012 Island Avenue
La Grande, Oregon 97850
Phone: 541-963-3177 Fax: 541-963-9079

review. These need to be completed by May 5th, with a prioritization sent back by May 5th. Final review will be around June 9-10. The committee will then send the finalized list to OTC for approval. The 5% of program for Rural Airports is being handled separately. The deadline is May 1st for those projects. 10% of the money goes to each region. Rules: the only rule changes cover the rural airports and some language changes. Projects of statewide significance should not be separated out. If they are of Region 5 significance, they should be prioritized into the Region's list. In January a list of considerations will be sent to reviewers, along with written instructions to the ACT's detailing the process. (This information is summarized in the handout that Frank provided everyone.) By the next ACT in February we will have project presentations.

HB 2001 Earmark Project Updates:

Ken Helgerson reviewed two Baker County projects, Chico Road Reconstruction and Chandler Lane (North Powder).

Jennifer Watkins reviewed Baker City projects, Resort Street and Best Frontage Road.

Burke O'Brien reviewed Morrow County project on Bombing Range Road.

Ron McKinnis reviewed Port of Morrow project.

ODOT has taken on a portion of the project for City of Heppner.

Steve McClure reviewed Union County project on Pierce Road.

Russ McMartin reviewed Wallowa County project for an alternate route between Hwy 82, Enterprise to Joseph.

Draft STIP Update: Tom Strandberg reviewed the public meetings list for the draft STIP.

Housekeeping Topics: Term limits

Roundtable:

Scenic Bike Path for 104 miles, Heppner to Ukiah, has support of citizens. Oregon Parks may have funding. Coordination of Forest Service, Umatilla County, Ukiah, and NEACT. Heppner to send letter of consent. Port of Morrow Meeting, earthquake specialist, James Rodey. Late January. Umatilla County for more information.

Public Transit: Transit industry is working on allocations, on site training to get public to go to meetings.

Local Program: Paving project in Morrow County is complete. Haines Transportation Enhancement project, City of LaGrande, 2010 SEA, 10 approvals.

Agenda Build:

Revisit Connect Oregon III

Schedule presentations

Applications from NG

STIP Comments

North East Area Commission on Transportation (NEACT)
3012 Island Avenue
La Grande, Oregon 97850
Phone: 541-963-3177 Fax: 541-963-9079

Next Meeting:

February 4, 2009
3012 Island Avenue, La Grande, Oregon