



**RROMAC MEETING MINUTES**

**March 19, 2009**

Members:

Hal Ballard  
James Burns  
Robert Ewers  
Eldon Jossi  
Wendy Mortensen  
Matt Pihl  
Gary Virgin  
Lars Wahlstrom

Staff:

Dave Schamp  
Greg Clemmons  
Victoria Saager  
Keith Lewis  
Todd Watkins  
Stacia Sheelar  
Gary Stockoff  
Tom Tushner  
Gregg Leion

Absent:

Keith Fishback  
Lanny Garland  
Ken Moyle  
Dave Vanasche

Guests:

Nathan Potter – ODOT  
Serah Overbeek – APG  
Dave Taylor - ODOT

**Welcome**

Bill Ewers called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m. Jim Burns motioned to approve the February minutes and Wendy Mortensen seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Sherwood-Hillsboro Study Area**

Gregg Leion joined the meeting to collect the surveys that were handed out at the previous meeting by DKS Associates.

**LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (LID)**

The County's cost share portion of Local Improvement Districts (LIDs) was discussed. Lars Wahlstrom made a motion to recommend that in the future the County may contribute up to \$3.00 per square yard for LID preparation. Hal Ballard seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**ODOT HWY 219 PROJECT**

Nathan Potter, ODOT, Serah Overbeek, Angelo Planning Group and Dave Taylor, ODOT presented ODOT's plans to upgrade Hwy 219 in the Midway area with safety grant funding due to the accident history. Maps were shared of the proposed construction area. Gary Virgin urged ODOT to maximize the width on Hwy 219. East of Laurel and Midway should have 12 foot lanes and 8 foot paved shoulders. RROMAC also shared concerns about portions of farm land that may become unusable due to the construction. RROMAC requested that David Kim from ODOT attend the next meeting. Gary Virgin recommended that ODOT revisit the Rood Bridge and Farmington areas to see what works. He stressed to ODOT that they need to make sure the designers understand the impacts on farm land.

## **GRAVEL ROAD UPGRADES**

Greg Clemmons discussed the upcoming gravel road upgrades. Reiling Road will be the only road done this year. There are current LIDs for Whitmore and Parmele that will also be done this summer. Hillecke Road has been postponed.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Bill Ewers briefly discussed the expectations and bylaws for RROMAC. He reminded everyone that they must conduct themselves in a professional manner as they are all representatives of Washington County. He also asked the committee to review the current RROMAC bylaws.

Gary Stockhoff discussed the current economic stimulus package and said the best way to describe it is, "It's like changing a flat tire on a moving car". There are \$6 million in funds, we will only get a portion this amount and there are several projects earmarked for this funding (i.e. Johnson School, Glencoe and Simpson will be overlaid).

Gary also mentioned that the 209<sup>th</sup> culvert to bridge project was awarded to Bones Construction. River Road Bridge is ahead of schedule and should only be closed for nine months instead of one year.

Gary also expressed that he talked with a resident along Farmington and she felt her experience with Greg Clemmons was very positive and he wanted to pass that along.

There was a brief discussion regarding farm equipment and bicycles. The majority of the committee felt that cyclists need to move over or stop when a large piece of farm equipment needs to get by. There was some disagreement on the part of Hal Ballard who represents the Bicycle Transportation Alliance. Hal Ballard resigned his position with RROMAC.

Jim Burns motioned to adjourn and Eldon Jossi seconded the motion.

## **NEXT MONTH**

ODOT – David Kim

Budget Update – Dave Schamp

Economic Stimulus – Gary Stockhoff

Sheriff's Office Representative

**Stacia Sheelar**

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**From:** Hal Ballard [bicyclist@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 08, 2009 10:26 AM  
**To:** Desari Strader  
**Cc:** Stacia Sheelar  
**Subject:** Resignation from RROMAC

Dear Commissioner Strader,

I was appointed by then Commissioner Leeper to serve on the Rural Roads Operations and Maintenance Advisory Committee in 2006 for my "View from the Saddle," if you will, to provide a perspective from bicyclists who ride our county's rural roads.

In the three years I've served, I've tried to explain the reason bicyclists ride where and how they do, what should be expected of them and what they expect from other users to committee members and, frankly, I've grown tired of the constant tirades against bicyclists being there.

I went in saying that I wasn't going to defend bad behavior by bicyclists just as I don't expect them to defend the bad behavior of motorists, yet month, after month, after month, something comes up that I am called on to defend.

I have chosen my battles to fight and causes to serve and, although I've tried to be upbeat and positive, this is one battle I choose not to engage in any longer.

I therefore resign my position on the RROMAC, effective immediately.

Sincerely,

*Hal Ballard*  
Executive Director  
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503.516.6733

*Transportation Solutions byCycle*

*"I ride my bicycle to ride my bicycle" ~Zen proverb*