



RROMAC MEETING MINUTES

March 16, 2006

Members:

James Burns
Don Logan
Wendy Mortensen
Ken Moyle
Gary Virgin
Lars Wahlstrom
Dave Vanasche

Staff:

Dave Schamp
Rich Girard
Keith Lewis
Victoria Saager
Stacia Sheelar

Absent:

Robert Ewers
Keith Fishback
Eldon Jossi

Guests:

Peggy Linden – CDBG
Karen Whittle – CDBG
Jerry Baas – Parson Rd.
Carole Clark – Timmerman
Sharon Boge – Thornburg Rd.
John Clausen – Old Pumpkin
Ridge Rd.
Bill Kepler – Sell Rd.
Lanny Garland – Sell Rd.
Denny Hrubby – Koehler Rd.
Dave Sweeney - Stimsons

Welcome

Gary Virgin called the meeting to order. Gary asked that the February minutes be changed to say Pihl Excavating instead of Pihl Logging. Wendy Mortensen moved the February minutes be approved with the change and Lars Wahlstrom seconded the motion, minutes were approved. Introductions were made.

Community Development Block Grant

Peggy Linden and Karen Whittle from Community Development made a presentation on community development block grants. The Department of Housing and Urban Development funds these grants. The CDBG helps fund infrastructure improvements, public facilities, public services, and housing. Community Development works closely with county departments, incorporated cities, and non-profit agencies. Applications are due in October for the program that begins the following July of each year. There were discussions of applying for CDBG for local roads in rural communities such as Sell Road or roads in Cherry Grove. You can read more about this program at

www.co.washington.or.us click on Departments and Offices, Community Development and CDBG program.

Finance Committee Update

The Finance Committee established by RROMAC includes Don Logan, Lars Wahlstrom, Gary Virgin, Matt Pihl and Ken Moyle.

The committee shared their thoughts that money spent outside of road building should be revisited (i.e., sweeping bike lanes). Ideas were shared on taxing automobile diesel for vehicles that are under 26K Gross Vehicle Weight. A discussion was held regarding an increase in the gas tax. Multnomah County's tax is \$.03/gallon and Washington County's is only \$.01/gallon. The committee realizes that this would have to go before the voters.

RROMAC made an official recommendation to increase the Washington County gas tax \$.02/gallon for paving rural roads. Possibly \$.01 rural and \$.01 urban.

The committee's goal would be to have an additional million dollars per year for ten years. Dave Vanasche suggested the goal should be two million dollars per year.

Victoria mentioned that there has recently been an increase in the tourism tax. Ken Moyle mentioned the possibility of a Rural Road Maintenance District similar to the Urban Road Maintenance District that currently exists.

RROMAC questioned why RROMAC does not receive more MSTIP funding. Wendy Mortensen suggested that rural road paving be added to MSTIP as a project. Wendy motioned that staff advise RROMAC of the fundamentals needed for a proposal to the Board to submit rural road paving as a MSTIP project to upgrade and enhance commerce and increase trade. Jim Burns seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Miscellaneous

Victoria Saager handed out a draft of a mailer that could be used to notify property owners of upcoming vegetation maintenance. Victoria asked RROMAC to review the mailer and discuss at the April meeting.

Ken Moyle raised the question, "Are LID contributions tax deductible?" Staff will check with Assessment and Taxation.

Lars Wahlstrom moved to adjourn, Wendy Mortensen seconded the motion. Adjourned.

APRIL AGENDA

Finance Committee Update

Ditching Contract – Todd Watkins

County Road Status – Dave Schamp

Work Program Update – Rich Girard

Vegetation Mailer – Victoria Saager