



Department of
Land Use & Transportation

WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON

RROMAC

RURAL ROADS OPERATIONS AND
MAINTENANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 11, 2018, 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

**Walnut Street Center, 1400 SW Walnut Street, MS 51
Second Floor Training Room 1, Hillsboro, OR 97123-5625**

MINUTES

Members Present: Allen Amabisca, Denny Hruby, Michael Jamieson, Daniel Morgan, Ken Moyle, Gary Virgin, Lars Wahlstrom

Absent: Matt Pihl, Doug Riedweg

County Staff Present: Aaron Clodfelter, Melissa De Lyser, Steve Franks, Brian Irish, Keith Lewis, Courtney Threewitt, Todd Watkins, Jennifer Williams, Joe Younkings

Guests: Dave McCoy, Gayle Ostgard, Jerry Willey

Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of Minutes

Dan Morgan welcomed everyone to the meeting. He announced the meeting is being recorded.

Dan shared with the group that Hollie Pihl passed away. He suggested RROMAC send a condolence letter. Members agreed. Dan will sign the letter on behalf of the committee.

Michael Jamieson made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes; Gary Virgin seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved as submitted.

Guest Comments

Dave McCoy – He said he has applied to be a RROMAC member.

Gayle Ostgard – She said she has also applied to be a RROMAC member. She lives on Old Krueger Road where an LID proposal was done years ago.

Jerry Willey – He said he will be attending RROMAC as the District 4 Commissioner elect, taking Commissioner Bob Terry's position.

Engineering and Construction Services Update – Joe Younkings

Joe Younkings gave the following updates:

- [Clark Hill Road](#) will open Tuesday October 12, a couple days earlier than anticipated.
- [Vanderschuere Road Bridge](#) replacement update
 - Todd explained these bridge projects come from Operations' bridge reviews which are completed every two years. When a bridge needs to be replaced, the project goes to the Engineering and Construction Services Division (ECS). Funding is mainly from House Bill 2017 or Major Streets Transportation Improvement Program (MSTIP). At RROMAC's last meeting, staff said it would present design alternatives for the

Vanderschuere Bridge replacement bridge at this meeting. Joe reviewed a PowerPoint titled “Vanderschuere Road Bridge Replacement Design Alternatives” ([Vanderschuere Bridge Design presentation 10-9-18](#)).

- The current bridge is narrow, with a width of 22 feet. ECS considered three alternative bridge designs, with widths of 36 feet, and 28 feet. Environmental impacts, such as ditch, wetland and fish passage, vary with each option. Permit requirements are also different for each design. Joe said safety is staff’s number one concern. Also, a 28 foot wide bridge is not the “pinch point”—the 20 foot wide road is. Staff recommended design alternative 3, with the 28 foot wide width being the “sweet spot”—sufficient, but not too wide. Joe said staff was comfortable with design alternative 3 enough to move forward with it. Lars asked if staff wanted a recommendation from RROMAC. Joe replied no, saying he was happy with the feedback he received during RROMAC’s discussion of the bridge design alternatives and staff’s recommendation of alternative 3.

Operations and Maintenance Update – Todd Watkins

Keith Lewis updated RROMAC on Operations’ maintenance program and routine work. Crews are ramping down machine patching and ramping up road grading. Weather is prohibiting the grading process because the ground must be saturated in order for grading to be effective. The striping program is 70% complete; cool temps make it harder for the paint to dry.

Todd attended the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Winter Planning meeting and reported that a weak El Niño season is expected this winter, which means a dryer fall season and a warmer winter with snow pack below average. Overall, models show a mild year but Ops is preparing for storms anyway. Ops prepares for the worst case no matter what the weather reports show. Ops has two new small sanders added to our snow fighting equipment, which are available this year. Snow zones were used for the first time last year. It was difficult to change the placards on the barriers during storms so Ops worked with Traffic Engineering to install amber flashers instead. Now crews can turn the lights on with a switch instead of changing out the signs. These have solar powered batteries.

The vegetation program is winding down for the season. The bridge program and in water work is complete for this year. The drainage crew completed some cross tile installations. Keith said the homeless population is growing and there are a number of issues associated with them. Clean up has been a big challenge, especially under bridges. There are several safety issues, including setting fires to keep warm, damaging property and leaving waste/needles. We are working with the Housing Authority and Sheriff’s Office as well as other agencies to create safe areas.

Department of Land Use & Transportation • Operations and Maintenance Division

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Aaron updated the committee on contracted services. He said it has been a challenging year since we are so short staffed. Contracts took precedence over asset management duties. Some inspectors were assigned to night work for the majority of the summer. The River Road widening project is complete. Paving repairs were planned for this week, but because of the natural gas explosion in Canada, we are unable to get asphalt for approximately the next week. The urban slurry seal contract was robust this year. David Hill Road culvert replacement was completed. Aaron is excited to bring on more staff so we can accomplish more tasks next year. Joe also said it is currently difficult to find employees to hire—that is the reality of the current job market and it is a significant issue for the County. Todd said it has been a decade since Operations added any new employee positions—the full time equivalent (FTE) employee level for Operations has been at 103 for a decade. Next year it is anticipated to rise to 104 FTE.

Todd explained that Groveland Drive was machine patched and Milne Road had a portion of the north end that was hard surfaced at one time. This was reverted to gravel by Washington County. Dave Vanasche paid with private funds to create a hard surface again and the County will maintain the road.

Discuss yearly RROMAC meeting topics and schedule – Steve Franks/Dan Morgan

Steve Franks shared a handout [Outline – RROMAC Annual Meeting Topics](#) showing RROMAC's proposed draft topics schedule with the committee. Dan said this sort of outline was what he wanted. Mike asked for an outline showing the timeline for the budget cycle. Todd agreed to provide a calendar of budget overview due dates. Mike also asked Todd if he would address Pottratz Road. Todd said he would have an update on Pottratz Road for RROMAC at its November meeting.

Review Development Schedule for “FY 2019/20 Road Maintenance Program” and Surface Maintenance “150% List” – Brian Irish

Brian shared the [2019-20 Chip Seal Candidates DRAFT, 2019-20 Full Depth Contracted Reclamation Candidates DRAFT, 2019-20 Machine Patch list DRAFT, and 2019-20 Contracted Road Fund Rural Roads Overlay Candidates DRAFT](#) list for next fiscal year. He stressed these are draft lists only. The spreadsheets compare the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) of the roads. If a road has a PCI of 54 or below he will work with the inspection team to determine the appropriate treatment process, which may include reclamation. The County is not sure which roads will be candidates for the Reclamation Road program. This information goes out to utilities around the beginning of the calendar year. Chip sealing is in-house work and full depth reclamation work will be contracted out. The Chip Seal and Contracted Full Depth Reclamation draft lists are at about 150% of what we will be able to fund. The 150% list provides flexibility to add or cut roads; these lists give Brian something to use to make those decisions when needed.

Brian shared the 2019 Work Program Development Schedule of Tasks and Milestones with the committee (what the “pink book” (the “FY 2018-19 Road Maintenance Program”) is created from). He asked RROMAC to review it and send him any questions. Brian pointed out which activities the committee can consider providing input on. Dynamic activities are those in which there is flexibility in each program, while the cyclical activities are mostly routine maintenance scheduled annually. Brian shared another handout, looking at [Gravel Road Paving Candidates](#) for hard surface (GRPC Matrix). He said he likes this format and it has been successfully used in the past for Minor Betterments and Roads Not Maintained lists. This spreadsheet is a starting point for RROMAC to use to decide which roads to potentially pave. Brian suggested (he said the idea came from Ken Moyle) we could have four tiers of gravel roads. Tier one would be regular gravel roads that would just need routine grading, tier two would be gravel roads needing spot portions of surface stabilization, tier three would be adding surface stabilization from end to end, and tier four would be changing the road surface from rock to asphalt. Washington County has 217 center line miles of gravel roads and this list represents about 138 of those miles, making them the most likely candidates for considering a hard surface option.

Brian explained the categories included in the spreadsheet are just placeholders—they are temporary; the categories that would be included still need to be determined. In response to a question about a deadline or timeframe, Brian said this is not a “red hot” issue—further work could take place on this in six months or a year from now. Todd suggested that this work could take place within the next 12 months.

Lars Wahlstrom made a motion to form a subcommittee to discuss the criteria of the Gravel Road Paving Candidate matrix. Allen Amabisca seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Confirm meeting follow-Up (what and who?) and set next agenda

Follow-ups identified at the meeting include: For staff, write condolence letter to come from Dan regarding Hollie Pihl and provide budget schedule as Mike requested. For RROMAC members, they were invited to send feedback to Brian on the 150% lists, provide feedback on the dynamic activities in next year’s work program, and think about categories that might be included in the gravel road paving candidate spreadsheet.

For next meeting agenda, topics identified were further discussion of the draft FY 2019-20 Road Maintenance Program (particularly surface treatment candidates) and discuss formation of the gravel roads paving candidates subcommittee.

Miscellaneous

Updates:

- Dan contacted Assessment and Taxation (A&T) about having property owner names listed and accessible to the public. He said that issue is still in process.
- Dan also shared a bicycle tourism committee update. He said tourism does not make the roads used for this purpose “destinations” and the establishment of a route but is a way to bring more tourism to Washington County and Salmon Berry Trail in Tillamook. Travel Oregon is putting a lot of money into this effort.
- Aaron reported on follow up to Matt’s question at the last RROMAC meeting about the timing of issuing Over Dimensional Permits. After discussion with Matt and his staff, Aaron found out the state is taking a couple days to process the permits before they send them for consideration by Washington County. Washington County processes these permits within an hour of receipt. Aaron said that Operations can issue a permit directly to the carrier when the requested route only uses Washington County roadways.

Comments:

- Lars suggested getting new striping on Tile Flat Road. Todd will follow up on this request with Traffic Engineering.
- Jerry Willey introduced himself as Commissioner Bob Terry’s elected replacement. He said he served eight years as Mayor of Hillsboro. He said he would appreciate having acronyms and locations of roads explained when topics are brought up. Introductions of the committee members were made per his request.

Next meeting: November 8, 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.