

**RURAL ROADS OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Approved Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 14, 2021**



**MINUTES**

Members Present:

Loren Behrman  
Marc Farrar  
Mike Jamieson

Dave McCoy  
Dan Morgan  
Matt Pihl

Doug Riedweg

Absent:

Denny Hruby

Kristine Kennedy

Ken Moyle

County Staff and Board Members Present:

Aaron Clodfelter  
Melissa DeLyser  
Steve Franks

Keith Lewis  
Sherri McFall  
Michael Nemeyer

Todd Watkins  
Commissioner Jerry Willey

Guests:

None

---

1. Welcome, Introductions and Approval of November 2020 Minutes

Chair Jamieson called the meeting to order at 7:37 a.m. He welcomed members and staff.

Chair Jamieson noted that the minutes contain less detail recently and that he believes more detail is important for historical purposes. Member Pihl moved to approve the November 2020 minutes. Member Morgan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Guest Comments

There were no guests present.

3. Election of Officers

Vice Chair Pihl opened the floor for nominations.

There was discussion about rotating the chair to members who have not served as chair previously. Commissioner Willey offered a suggestion to postpone the election until members are more prepared to discuss. Todd Watkins shared a reminder that the bylaws require the

elections to be held at the first meeting of the calendar year. Member Morgan asked to add an item regarding elections at a future meeting to streamline this process.

Member McCoy was elected Chair. Member Riedweg was elected Vice Chair.

#### 4. Long-Term Road Closures

Aaron Clodfelter shared a presentation regarding long-term road closures.

Member Jamieson suggested developing standardized language to bring the road closure before the Board of Commissioners and following that up with standardized permissions and signage of the closed roads. He also suggested that when we inform the public that we also inform adjacent landowners. Member Morgan shared that the challenge is not so much that the road is closed but that the adjacent landowners presume the road is theirs once its closed.

Chair McCoy asked what happens to the legal property line when the road is vacated and if there's a way to prevent unwanted use of the closed road while still allowing County and appropriate use.

Chair Jamieson stated that we should add to a future agenda with possible solutions.

Todd will share this with our workgroups and develop solutions to bring back to the committee with the agenda item.

Member Pihl asked what the determiners are for the county to stop maintaining a road. Todd responded that there are a couple factors: road use type, and residential or commercial sites on the road. The County reviews all rural roads at least once per year to note condition.

Chair McCoy stated that he may have a potential conflict of interest on this issue.

#### 5. Bridge Deck Maintenance

Aaron shared a presentation regarding bridge deck maintenance. He explained that a bridge deck is the part of the bridge that transfers the load to the beams, and from there it goes to the foundation. Bridge decks act as the wearing surface for traffic, and are subject to bending stress and shear stress.

Member Jamieson asked how often we will assess bridges. Aaron shared that the federal mandate is every two years, which we follow. We continue to monitor all maintenance recommendations as they come in.

Todd shared that our crews don't do this type of work, and we are fortunate that the contractor submitted a bid on it. They did a great job and we were able to lean on their expertise.

#### 6. Two-Part Road Stabilization Process

Aaron stated that he and Member Pihl were able to discuss Member Pihl's recommendations for this process: that the product be laid down then graded before laying another coat of material. Aaron indicated that the County will assess which roads have premature maintenance and test

---

this process on them. Member Pihl shared that he understands the challenges with using this process but the result is worth it.

#### 7. Update on Service Requests

Todd gave a briefing about recent weather, road issues and resulting service requests. He shared that the county doesn't remove trees that have wires entangle in them. Both flood gates have been closed.

Keith Lewis shared that most of the winter issues have calmed down, though some of the flooded areas are slow to drain.

Todd shared data on service requests in the past year. We are focused on reducing the number of requests using the Miscellaneous category to create a clearer view of the services requested.

#### 8. Planning for RROMAC in 2021: Goals, Meeting Topics and Schedule

Todd shared the schedule of RROMAC annual meeting topics. He shared that the bylaws only require.

Member Jamieson asked about the bridge standards established by the bridge subcommittee. He stated that the expectation of the subcommittee was that the standards would be distributed to local first responders. Todd explained that our bridges are built according to modern seismic standards and is the purview of Capital Project Services. He shared that the issues we see are with existing bridges when ODOT modifies their standards and we have to find a way to meet the standards. Aaron spoke to the comment about first responders and that we keep them apprised of bridge limits. He explained that the subcommittee's work on prioritizing bridge repairs will be brought into the new asset management system when it comes online. Member Jamieson explained that his expectation was that the 50,000 lb weight limit would be codified somehow.

Member Jamieson also asked about the signage for super-solos. Chair McCoy indicated that the signage has been changed.

Member Farrar asked what the Board of Commissioners' top two priorities are for RROMAC. He also asked what the Operations and Maintenance Division's top two priorities are for RROMAC, and how RROMAC can work toward those goals. Todd thanked Member Farrar for that a great question. He explained that the County is strongly focused on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives. He expressed appreciation for the expertise that each member of this committee brings to the issues, and how they inform the conversations in different ways. Our primary focus is how we can continue to maintain and operate the roads so we're serving all necessary elements. He shared that the division is reassessing its own goals right now as well, as we find ways to do more with less.

Member Jamieson shared that he feels it's important to follow and interact on legislation affecting the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). Todd explained that the County has a governmental relations staff who does this.

---

## 9. Meeting wrap-up

Topics for upcoming meetings:

- ✓ Committee elections process – future meeting
- ✓ Closed road signage actions (McCoy) – March
- ✓ Statewide seismic update (McCoy) - future meeting
- ✓ South Road bridge decommissioning (McCoy) - future meeting
- ✓ Feedback on Cochran Rd gate recommended by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF); discussion of other roads for which this solution might be applicable for fire protection (Jamieson) – future meeting
- ✓ Roundabout input (Riedweg) - future meeting
- ✓ Enforcement of private driveway approach standards (Pihl) - future meeting

Steve shared that there is still one vacancy on RROMAC and asked members to encourage others to apply. He also shared that Kristine Kennedy asked him to extend her apology to the committee that she could not attend today's meeting.

Todd reminded all that the bylaws require RROMAC to meet quarterly. Steve Franks announced that he is retiring on February 5.

Regarding the roundabout input request from Member Riedweg, Todd indicated that we will connect members to Capital Projects Services (Joe Younkings) to give input for the roundabouts in planning and suggested that a roundabout subcommittee that includes the CPS project manager may benefit this topic most. Member Behrman and Riedweg volunteered for the subcommittee. We will also ask Kristine Kennedy if she is interested, as well, with her valuable background in hauling.

## 10. Adjournment

Chair Jamieson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Behrman moved and Member Riedweg seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

Next meeting: March 11, 2021 at 7:30 a.m.
---