



RROMAC MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2016

The purpose of RROMAC is to study rural road operations and maintenance concerns in Washington County, work with County staff to develop program and funding alternatives and make recommendations to the Board of Commissioners.

Members: Allen Amabisca
Bill Ewers
Denny Hruby
Mike Jamieson
John Malnerich
Dan Morgan
Matt Pihl
Doug Riedweg
Dave Sweeney
Gary Virgin
Lars Wahlstrom

Staff: Andrew Singelakis
Steve Franks
Melissa De Lyser
Kim Haughn
Jennifer McCollum
Victoria Saager
Dave Schamp
Gary Stockhoff

Absent:

Guests: Bonnie Hadley

Welcome, Introductions and Election of Officers

Dave Schamp called the meeting to order and asked the committee to introduce themselves. Bonnie Hadley was introduced to the committee as the newly elected chair of the Urban Road Maintenance District Advisory Committee (URMDAC).

Volunteers for the chair and vice chair were discussed. John Malnerich nominated Lars Wahlstrom for committee chair. Allen Amabisca and Matt Pihl seconded the nomination. Lars accepted. All were in favor.

Lars took over the meeting and nominated John Malnerich as vice chair, however, he declined. Lars then nominated Matt Pihl. John Malnerich seconded the nomination and all were in favor.

Correction to the November minutes were as follows: Matt Pihl was not absent, Allen's name was misspelled, and Todd noted that the reference to 9 roads to be reverted to gravel should be 16 roads to be saved from reversion to gravel. Matt made a motion to approve the November minutes as corrected. Gary seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Guest Comments

None.

Engineering and Construction Services Update – Gary Stockhoff

Gary stated his division met the \$100 million goal in projects for 2015. While 2016 will still be busy, it probably won't reach that financial amount.

The committee discussed several projects including:

- Roy Rogers Road from Scholls Ferry to Bull Mountain
- 175th Avenue and Kemmer Road intersection to High School
- TV Hwy (will probably start in 2018)
- Roundabout awarded at Verboort
- Roundabout at David Hill will be awarded soon
- South Hillsboro project will include a new rail crossing which may start in April
- Work started on 198th Avenue
- TV Hwy south to Farmington Road will be expanded to five lanes

Denny asked about Springville Road/185th Avenue work to make the intersection safer. Gary noted the plan is to widen Springville Road to five lanes and the intersection will be corrected in the next couple of months.

John asked if the Verboort roundabout project would be designed to county or state specifications. Gary said yes to both; it will be a combination of county and state. John wanted to know who was in charge so he knows to crush rock to state or county specifications. Gary said he would have Matt Meyer call him. Doug asked about people passing in the roundabout. Gary acknowledged there isn't anything that can be done.

Gary Virgin asked about 198th Avenue affecting 209th Avenue. Gary noted the bond project would probably take about five years just to get the project going. Gary wasn't sure if there was a future project planned.

The committee also discussed trees in the roadway.

Operations and Maintenance Update – Dave Schamp

December was a challenge with the record rainfall. December 7 was an eventful day with flooding. Then we had a wind event on December 21. Snow and ice followed. Washington County experienced significant damage from the flooding. FEMA is involved due to the enormous storm damage costs and we are waiting for their response. The estimated cost for repair of storm damage is \$4 million.

Timber Road is a major road between Hwy 6 and Hwy 26, so the closure due to the culvert washout is a big deal for folks who live out there. Operations repaired the culvert during the winter break causing the least amount of impact for schools. Pihl Construction was contracted to do the work. It was open by the return to school in January. The windstorm occurred while they were working on the culvert on Timber Road. A large tree fell close to the culvert repair location, but fortunately no one was injured and it did not impact the work that had been completed.

Scoggins Valley Road has been plagued by landslides. This has been a problem area in the past but never to this degree. Material has been coming from above and forcing the road to slip down the hill. Two residences and Stimson Lumber are the primary users of this road. The estimated cost for repairs to get the road reopened is \$2 million. Evaluation has been done and a possible solution has been developed at a lower cost.

Kerr was contracted to repair the culvert on Beef Bend Road, which was completed ahead of schedule.

Nowakowski Road had a water drainage problem and we replaced the old undersized culvert.

Mid-December we were notified about the bridge on 229th. Weight restrictions were changed from 40 tons to 3 tons due to the need to replace two pile caps. This is difficult work in the summer. Winter made it near impossible. However, crews replaced the caps in four workdays. Because of this quick replacement, the school traffic was not impacted. This was done during winter break for the schools.

Culverts on Timber Road and Beef Bend Road will need to be replaced with permanent repairs this summer. This was a costly month but all damage was corrected in a timely manner.

Save the Road – Low PCI Roads Preservation Policy

Todd reviewed the committee's plan for low PCI roads. He shared the list of roads with the corresponding PCI. Sixteen road segments listed have at least two of the criteria and would be the most likely to preserve as paved road surfaces. The other nine at the top of the list are most likely to be reverted to gravel.

Dan Morgan asked if the grade of the road is taken into consideration for the PCI number. Todd answered this would be decided on a case-by-case basis.

Public Education about Transportation Funding – Andrew Singelakis

Andrew introduced Melissa De Lyser as the department's new Communications Coordinator. He stated she is putting together a public education plan in a way that is interesting to the average citizen. Melissa has no background in roads so Andrew thought it would be a great idea to have her look at ways to make this interesting and more entertaining to engage the public.

Melissa is proposing to make a short animated video highlighting the importance of roads. She proposed showing the video at fairs and other public gatherings but is also looking for other ways to market the video. The video will be accompanied by a one-page flyer.

Bonnie recommended not spending a lot of money on this effort because citizens are already thinking we shouldn't spend their money on this kind of thing. Melissa said the cost will be low but agrees with Bonnie. Melissa used the comparison to Solid Waste Department's video, which is approximately 20 minutes long and cost around \$20,000 dollars. LUT's video will be around five minutes long and cost less than \$5,000 dollars. Denny asked if the gas tax will be referenced in the video. Melissa said the gas tax is mentioned as well as how it is used to improve roads.

Andrew remarked this is more than a video; it's a campaign. Melissa said it's a challenge to get everyone involved even though we are living in the most technologically advanced time.

Transportation Safety Action Plan (TSAP) – Kim Haughn

Washington County received a grant from ODOT to collect data on serious accidents and make safety recommendations for our roads. These accident trends will be studied and are different in each area of Washington County.

Kim stated an advisory committee will be put together from approximately 20 different agencies including fire departments, schools, health department, URMDAC, RROMAC, law enforcement, etc. According to the grant, it must be completed by September, and only data for accidents including serious injuries or fatalities will be used. Public involvement is critical and the committee's input is important to the study.

Kim extended an invitation to a RROMAC member to join the committee. Doug Riedweg volunteered.

An [FAQ about the Traffic Safety Action Plan](#) was shared which included Kim's contact information. She clarified that this initiative is not the same as "Vision Zero" which is copyrighted, but our goal is similar to theirs as we also strive to have a zero fatality rate. The data collected will help prioritize future safety projects using crash data and trends.

Kim said we don't want to wait until someone dies to make necessary changes to dangerous roads.

Michael and Matt recommended putting the "5 E's" in the order of importance instead of randomly on the FAQ form. They did not like having enforcement before education on the list. John thought it would be interesting to see how many tickets have been issued for accidents involving serious injuries or deaths.

Kim also shared a [list of projects](#) for ECS.

Miscellaneous

Both committees previously discussed having a joint URMDAC/RROMAC meeting. Dave added it would be an opportunity to see each other's point of view since both committees are in opposite situations financially. This would also save time for County staff by presenting budget and work programs only once. Proposed meeting times that will work for both groups were discussed. Victoria suggested the groups meet once yearly. Lars proposed the RROMAC members join the URMDAC meeting from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16, 2016. All agreed.

Andrew asked if the RROMAC meetings could be moved to the second Tuesday or a different weekday due to a scheduling conflict.

Dave mentioned we have two new trucks and transfers and they will be outfitted and on the road in about two weeks. Dave explained the replacement process for County vehicles. He mentioned citizens complain about how we don't have money for their roads but have new trucks because they don't understand how the vehicles are budgeted and paid for.

Victoria took a group photo for the committee webpage.

Future Agendas

- | | |
|----------|---|
| February | Funding for roads vs. revert to gravel – invite Chair Dyke, commissioner(s)
Update from Andrew on legislative action on roads
ODOT update – joint projects with other agencies
Plans for the Scoggins Valley dam – CPO 6 meeting speaker
Amendments to work program due to storm damage-Dave/Keith/Todd |
| March | Joint meeting with URMDAC 3/16/16 4 p.m.
Maintenance budget preview – Dave
Draft annual road maintenance program – Todd
South Hillsboro – Don Ottermott |

Future CWS update
 198th timeline – Gary Stockhoff
 Fern Hill Road
 Jurisdictions/funding

Meeting adjourned.