



Rural Roads Operations and Maintenance Advisory Committee Meeting

April 13, 2017, 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, John Malnerich, Ken Moyle, Matt Pihl, Doug Riedweg, Dave Sweeney, Gary Virgin, Lars Wahlstrom

Absent: Daniel Morgan

County Staff Present: Andrew Singelakis, Todd Watkins, Steve Franks, Stacy Shetler, Melissa De Lyser, Janelle Lockbeam

Guests: Sgt. Tim Tannenbaum, Washington County Sheriff Office

Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of Minutes

Lars called the meeting to order. Gary Virgin made a motion to approve the March minutes and Matt Pihl seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved as written.

Guest Comments

None

Engineering and Construction Services Update – Stacy Shetler

Stacy attended the meeting for Gary Stockhoff. Current construction projects update is:

- [Gales Creek Bridge](#) opening is anticipated by May 19. Traffic is currently operating in a single eastbound lane.
- [Jackson School/Meek Road roundabout](#) is scheduled to open May 1; Scotch Church Road opening is scheduled May 26. Remaining work includes curbs, paving, striping, and drainage.
- [Hwy 47/David Hill roundabout](#) completion is anticipated for June 2017.

Upcoming projects

- [Springhill Road Bridge](#): a full replacement over the Tualatin River. Closure starting July 1 through November 10. Estimated project cost is \$2.7 million.
- [Timber Road Bridge](#) over Gales Creek: a full replacement, single lane will be open at all times. Will be able to accommodate standard rock haul and timber haul loads.

Questions to Stacy included:

- About the [bike path on the north bound side of Cornelius Pass Road](#): will some bollards or markings be put down to keep cars off the bike path? A pickup was seen driving on it recently. Stacy said he would look into the issue and see if the project is finished. If not, there may be an opportunity to add some design element to address this.
- The safety of Cornelius Pass Road at Germantown Road intersection was mentioned. Stacy will research the issue and get back to the group

Operations and Maintenance Update – Todd Watkins

Todd's update included:

- Storm recovery continues from last weekend's windstorm.
- Spring overlay contract has gone to Oregon Mainline; their bid was \$6.3 million. The bids received were very competitive, with a very small difference between the two lowest bids.
- Summer overlay contract is coming up; we are hoping for similar favorable bid results with it.
- Quarry issue continues – the challenges of getting rock. Todd was asked if Operations had ever considered stockpiling. Todd replied that the challenge was space – that there is not enough space to make stockpiling worthwhile.
- No chip seal program this year.
- Drainage reconstruction coming up to improve some isolated damage due to recent storms.
- Culvert replacements on Butner Road, 80th Avenue, and 174th Avenue are in design for next year.
- Weight limited bridges next year are expected to increase from 13 this year to 19 next.

Discussion of quarries and the County's quarry regulations and land use approval process continued. The issue is included on Long Range Planning's work program for this year, but as a Tier II item, it may not be worked on this year. The County has a requirement for a five-year quarry review process, which is done through the Planning Division. It was suggested that RROMAC might take some action to support the idea that the County's quarry requirements be simplified and the land use process not take so long. Todd suggested that a representative from Planning be invited to attend a future RROMAC meeting to explain the quarry permitting process, including what are state requirements versus County requirements, and what the status is of looking at the County's quarry regulations and process.

Operations & Maintenance FY 2017/18 Budget Presentation – Todd Watkins

Todd presented [Operations and Maintenance FY 17/18 budget](#) information, using a PowerPoint presentation that staff used recently with senior County staff. Points included:

- Operations' Fiscal Year (FY) 2017/18 budget is down \$1,735,164 from FY 2016/17.
- Operations' staffing levels remains unchanged from last year (103 staff).

- Lane miles continue to grow.
- Emerging issues include increasing truck and traffic volumes, spoils disposal, aggregate supply, and changing weather patterns.
- Significant changes include staff turnover and recruitment challenges, preparations for possible vehicle registration fee funding, and increased pressure for higher levels of service.
- Continuing challenges include pavement conditions, storm recovery, and aging infrastructure.

Sheriff's Office Update – Sgt. Tim Tannenbaum, Traffic Safety Unit

Sgt. Tim Tannenbaum, supervisor for the [Sheriff Office's Traffic Safety Unit](#), gave an update. Sgt. Tannenbaum supervises, among other teams, the [CORE](#) (Community Outreach Resources and Education) team. The goal of his unit is safety. He looks for trends and sees how to make roads safer. Traffic volumes are up which means crashes are also up. He would like to see accident rates down as far as he can get them. Washington County's fatal crash rates have dropped significantly since 2006. He encourages deputies to focus on impaired driving.

Data gathered this year is from 911 calls, which shows who called in the crash and the location. In rural areas of the county, 437 crashes were reported to 911 and responded to in 2016; of those 111 were injury crashes. Year to date 2017, there have been 344 crashes already – a nearly threefold increase. Some of those were related to the heavy rains.

Other concerns include bright LED lights and annoying driving behavior, such as loud vehicles. Enhanced Sheriff's Patrol District (ESPD) areas are the focus of efforts, since that is where the money comes from. They push education and the traffic safety hotline and website, and encourage citizens to report issues so the Sheriff's Office can have the information and work to fix those things.

Sgt. Tannenbaum stated that we cannot engineer our way out of human behavior, so we need to change people's driving behavior -- the goal is to get drivers to drive better.

It was suggested that Sgt. Tannenbaum be invited to RROMAC meetings periodically to give updates.

Miscellaneous:

Members discussed the current recruitment for the Operations Division Manager position. In particular, several members mentioned their support of Todd Watkins continuing (on a permanent basis) as the Division Manager. Todd said "thank you" for their sentiments but he pointed out that a competitive process is occurring but that he will be submitting his application packet for consideration.

Other topics mentioned briefly included roads and right-of-way that the County has decided may not be in the public interest to maintain, issues of reversion of roads to gravel, and legal right-of-way and where roads actually are located (legalization of roads).

Denny Hruby requested that Shelley Oylear, LUT's Bike/Pedestrian Coordinator, attend a RROMAC meeting again in the future. Denny is interested in the need to communicate the rules of the road to bicyclists.

Future agendas:

- Quarry approval process – John Lloyd, LUT Planning Division
- Future Operations and Maintenance Work Program – Brian Irish, Operations and Maintenance
- Right-of-Way legalization – Scott Young, Survey

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: May 11, 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.