



# Rural Roads Operations and Maintenance Advisory Committee Meeting

May 11, 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, Michael Jamieson, John Malnerich, Daniel Morgan, Ken Moyle, Matt Pihl, Doug Riedweg, Dave Sweeney, Gary Virgin, Lars Wahlstrom

**Absent:** Denny Hruby

**County Staff Present:** Melissa De Lyser, Steve Franks, Brian Irish, Keith Lewis, Gary Stockhoff, Todd Watkins, Scott Young

**Guests:** Anne Kelly, John Floyd

### Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of Minutes

Lars called the meeting to order. Introductions of staff and committee members were made. Michael Jamieson made a motion to approve the April minutes as corrected (Ken Moyle was added to the “members present” list) and Matt Pihl seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved as corrected.

Michael Jamieson mentioned the notification about the Volunteer Recognition event was not clear – an early notification about the event had the wrong date. Melissa said she would pass the information on to the CAO’s office.

### Guest Comments

None

### Engineering and Construction Services Update – Gary Stockhoff

The current construction projects update is:

- [Jackson School roundabout](#) should open by Friday, May 12. Striping will be completed after things dry up.
- A contractor defaulted on two projects: the [10th Street project in Cornelius](#) (which has hardly started) and the Verboort roundabout (which is about 90% done). Washington County is working with the bonding company to honor the insurance policy. John Malnerich commented on the default process and expressed concern about the impact of defaulting on subcontractors. Gary explained that in a default situation staff works with the bonding

company, which has three options: honor the insurance policy and pay the County the proceeds and the County rebids, the bonding company can rebid, or the bonding company renegotiates with local contractors.

- Several bridges are being worked on, including [Gales Creek Bridge](#).
- [David Hill roundabout](#) – final lift pavement will be finished mid-June (delayed due to weather).
- A long awaited traffic signal at Cedar Hills Blvd and Hwy 26 will add a left turn signal at the end of the freeway ramp. It is a joint project with ODOT, City of Beaverton, Peterkort, and Washington County. Washington County will also build a sidewalk under the freeway to make a continuous safe walkway for pedestrians. This project should start next year (2018).
- Hwy 217 from Hwy 8 to Hwy 99W will be extended to three lanes. This is an ODOT project in design phase.

Gary stated the County is under construction wherever you look.

Lars asked if Roy Rogers Road would have waterline installed. Gary explained it will have a segment of the waterline in it. This project will go to bid next year.

### Operations and Maintenance Update – Todd Watkins

Spring and summer are shoulder work season for Operations. It is prime construction season and there are many maintenance projects planned.

The lack of rock quarries has become a problem for Washington County and across the industry. This topic will be discussed later in this meeting.

Todd mentioned bids were received for the spring paving program. Operations has also accepted bids for the traditional summer paving program and several culvert projects. So far, bids have been within estimates but we are seeing fewer bidders. This is partly due to a tight job market; contractors are busy with other work.

Operations is kicking off a new on-the-job training program. Three Engineering Technician I positions have been filled with maintenance workers. These are temporary positions with the opportunity to experience a different part of Operations on a six month assignment. Unfortunately, these opportunities will put a pinch on the maintenance side of the division.

The finishing touches are being put on the Road Maintenance Program for Fiscal Year 2017-18. A consultant hired to evaluate the condition of County roads has finished its review of rural roads. This data will be reviewed and brought to the committee at a later date. Todd and Brian are expecting the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) will be lower due to the harsh winter weather.

Operations went to the Board on May 2 to add another nine bridges to the list of weight limited bridges. There are now 21 bridges in Washington County with weight limits. Washington County is designing repairs on certain bridges but some will only have the weight limit imposed.

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Allen Amabisca mentioned he noticed a “soft spot” on Bishop Road. Keith said he would follow up with a service request.

### **Future Operations and Maintenance Work Program – Brian Irish**

Brian stated he will meet with staff regarding the consultant’s road condition report and together they will create a future road maintenance plan. He also mentioned Operations is finalizing the work program [Road Maintenance Program] for next FY 2017-18 and planning bridge deck maintenance on eight bridges.

Brian is busy with his Asset Management team planning for the future Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) or state transportation funds. They have put together a plan to put this funding to the best use and to show an immediate benefit to the citizens. There will be a larger and wider array of maintenance and preventative maintenance projects, although these funds will trickle in. The plan is to begin with dust abatement and an increase in culvert inspections. Brian shared that he has a specific plan for the funding program, including a slight increase to staffing levels to handle the workload associated with the contracted services. There are no plans at this time to increase the size of the maintenance crews.

RROMAC has discussed reverting rural local roads to gravel on several occasions. Todd reiterated that a consultant has been assessing the condition of rural roads and that staff will be coming back to RROMAC in the future to discuss the findings and the reversion issue, including what roads might be on a reversion list. Todd noted that reversion was the last resort, and that safety is the County’s number one consideration. The committee discussed the reasons behind reverting roads to gravel.

Michael Jamieson asked if there is a list of roads that are County roads but are not County-maintained, and does the County respond to maintenance requests related to them. Brian responded that yes, there is a list of such roads, and 33 such road segments are listed in the work program. Staff assesses on a case-by-case basis how to treat those roads, consulting with County Counsel. Brian concluded by noting that, again, safety is our priority.

### **Quarry approval process – John Floyd & Ann Kelly**

Anne Kelly, Senior Planner, Long Range Planning, Land Use & Transportation began the overview by stating that Long Range Planning staff would be working on two ordinances relating to Washington County’s quarry ordinance and approval process. One ordinance (Phase 1) will be developed with a goal to complete it this ordinance season (in 2017) and a larger quarry-related ordinance (Phase 2) will be developed with a goal to complete it next ordinance season (in 2018). Anne said that looking at the County’s quarry land use regulations and approval process has been prioritized by the Board.

John Floyd, Associate Planner, Long Range Planning, said that staff had heard from RROMAC and the public about quarry issues. These quarry-related concerns, which vary, led to an examination of the

County's quarry regulations being placed on the Long Range Planning work program. John noted that there are limitations as to how the County Development Code (CDC) can be changed related to quarries, since any changes must be consistent with state regulations.

John noted that the County's current quarry standards allow only for quarries that meet state requirements for protection as "significant aggregate resources," requiring more than 2 million tons of onsite aggregate supply (four times the minimum for other areas in Oregon) meeting ODOT quality specifications. John noted that the County's current quarry standards allow only for quarries that meet state requirements for protection as "significant aggregate resources." He explained that these quarries must have more than 2 million tons of aggregate that meets ODOT quality specifications. Anne noted that the County's existing approval process for these "significant" quarries is complicated, requiring a complex Plan Amendment process with a hearing before the Board of Commissioners, appealable to the state; and a subsequent land use approval process.

Anne also noted that existing County standards don't reflect a separate state provision that could allow the County to approve quarries with lesser aggregate supply/quality on forestland (EFC) sites only. She noted that Phase 1 of ordinance work would look to accommodate standards for these lesser quarries as Special Use Quarries through a single land use review with no need for a Plan Amendment. In response to a question, Anne stated that state provisions would not allow the County to approve quarries through this Special Use process on lands other than EFC (such as the AF-20 – Agriculture and Forestry district).

Anne and John asked if RROMAC members were aware of particular areas where there is interest in opening new quarries or where there may be opposition. Members noted that where residences exist, opposition is more likely, and suggested some general areas where new operations might be desired. Anne and John indicated that they hoped to speak further about these issues with various individual RROMAC members, asked those members to verify their interest, and invited others to sign up.

Anne said that the timeline for Phase 1 quarry work aims for adoption this October, though the process may take longer depending on the level of public involvement and whether subsequent changes to draft standards are sought, requiring extra hearings and potentially extending work into next year. Phase 2 work, to begin in 2018, will look to update existing County standards that apply to significant quarries.

### **Right-of-Way legalization – Scott Young**

Scott Young, Acting County Surveyor, began by stating that legalization of the right-of-way (ROW) starts with statutes that protect the rights of citizens. Survey surveys a road to find the legal ROW. To go through the legalization process, there has to be doubt where the ROW is located, for example because the road was established in 1800's or 1900's. Survey sets a hearing to initiate the legalization process, which includes notifying property owners and setting a public hearing date.

Compensation to property owners does not happen very often, since the County does not pay for land within the ROW, only for structures within the ROW (if not knowingly placed in the ROW). An entire section of road, not just a small portion will usually be legalized at one time. Survey does their due diligence to find the road markers, and have found markers as old as 1852 on County roads.

Michael Jamieson brought up the issue of the difference between the existing ROW and traveled roadway – that they are not always the same. Scott said that Survey focuses on protecting the public's rights, but their intent is not to create problems or cause grief to the public. Survey responds to inquiries and tries to work with the property owners.

### Miscellaneous:

- Set agenda for next meeting
  1. CWS – Sheri Wantland, Fern Hill Project traffic impact
  2. Brian and Todd – PCI update
  3. ODOT – regional update on projects - 47 and roundabouts specifically & Hwy 217 project – David Kim
  4. How RROMAC can move the quarry issue ahead

### Future agendas:

- Quarry rule changes update

Meeting adjourned.

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