

North East Area Commission on Transportation (NEACT)

3012 Island Avenue
La Grande, OR 97850

Phone: 541-963-3179 Fax: 541-963-9079

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: June 5, 2008
MEETING LOCATION: Oregon Department of Transportation
3012 Island Avenue
La Grande, Oregon

Open Meeting

? Roll call of voting members

Voting members/Alternates		
Commissioner Terry Tallman	Ron Sivey	
Burke O'Brien	Jerry Breazeale	Bob Jepson
Commissioner Steve McClure	Ron McKinnis	Frank Reading
Mary Jo Carpenter	Commissioner Fred Warner	Russ McMarten
Others		
Jon Crogan	Nola Driskell	Jeremy Morris
Alice Trindle	Jessica Lindly	Ray Crapo
Staff		
Monte Grove	Nancy Martin	
Patrick Knight		
Cheryl Jarvis-Smith		

? **House Keeping Actions:**

- o It was decided that the Charter should be changed to reflect the meetings starting at 9 am.
- o The members decided to not tape record meetings. Minutes will be hand written by staff and not transcribed from tapes.
- o The ADA accessibility of the ODOT building the meetings are held in was discussed. The building is ADA accessible. A member had previously resigned due to inaccessibility. No action was taken.

Approve minutes from previous meeting – Commissioner McClure moved to accept the minutes as written, Russ McMarten seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Public and/or Stakeholders Comments:

? Comments:

- o Jon Crogan: Discussed the use of curbs and pads at cross walks by the visually impaired. Believes there is a problem due to the center radius crosswalk bars effecting placement.
- o Ron Sivey commented that training for younger blind individuals is taught to use the curb alignment, not the pads.

Old Business and Reports (30 minutes)

- ? OTC and ODOT Update, Monte Grove
 - o Policy on earmarks was approved
 - o Federal Highway trust fund goes into deficit in 2009, \$200 million a year for Oregon \$100 million is on the local side.
 - o Connect Oregon II hearing was held.
 - o EB Stanfield Bridge has been opened.
 - o Baker Maintenance Building is moving forward.
 - o ODOT was fined \$4300 by the DEQ for non compliance of nitrate testing. Testing should be semi-annual or quarterly, Region 5 was testing yearly.
- ? Byways Committee Update, Alice Trindle
 - o Gave update on phases of the Interpretive plan
 - o Publication handout
 - o Committee on ownership and sustainability
 - o Will be speaking at OTC meeting in June

The North East Area Commission on Transportation is pleased to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need special accommodations including a sign language interpreter to attend this meeting, a complete agenda packet, or additional information, please contact Glenis Harrison at (541) 963-3179 or send e-mail to glenis.harrison@odot.state.or.us at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Alternate formats available upon request. Thank you.

Chair Tallman welcomed Jack Davis from the Tribes as a new voting member. He asked Jack to tell the members about himself.

- o LOC, AOC Update: Bob Patterson (Not Available)

New Business and Presentations

- ? June OTC Meeting Update
 - o Monte Grove went through meeting agenda. Steve McClure commented that the workshop and meeting are a good opportunity to meet the new commissioners and get to know them on an individual basis.
 - o Frank Reading requested a copy of all county budgets to insert into a PowerPoint presentation to be given at the OTC meeting.
- ? Connect Oregon II Update
 - o Judge Tallman said that Michael Buffalino is an asset to the process. \$100 million line stopped at project 30. 26 voting members agreed to fund best projects across the state. State versus regional issues was not the focus.
 - o Handed out a chart that showed the data about selected projects by Region
 - o Final decision on project selections will be done at the June OTC meeting
 - o Terry said that the process was much smoother this time.
- ? SB 566 Project recommendations, approval – Commissioner Fred Warner
 - o Commissioner Warner explained the committee process and explained handouts.
 - o Presented the list that was accepted by the committee
 - o Asked that the list be approved by NEACT
 - o Motion to approve was made by Judge Tallman; second by Commissioner McClure. Approved unanimously.
- ? Public Involvement, Multimodal Tradeoffs – Robert Maestre
 - o Public involvement, multimodal trade-offs policy is out of date (1994).
 - o Use more modern tools to disseminate info, use web and Braille. Move away from paper.
 - o Make sure we are doing something sincere to reach people who need to be involved but often are not.
 - o Better job of coordinating with local governments.
 - o What do we need to improve in Region 5?
 - o Steve McClure; if owners were more involved it could help. At committee level, all owners and users should be at the table. Deadline dates are important.
 - o Multi-modal tradeoffs: Making decisions on how to spread dollars out efficiently and effectively. Consultants report. Multi-modal tradeoff analysis: it's tough to do and do it well. How to analyze. Benefit cost analysis is best tool if all the results are the same.
 - o More efficient system is what the Commission thinks should be the results.
 - o How should we address the tradeoff issue?
 - o Nola Driskoll: Strategic criteria issue, low traffic volumes make us less competitive.
- ? Earmarking Update – Frank Reading
 - o Policy approved in May be OTC
 - o Two phased approach, July 7 deadline for notice of intent.
 - o STIP drives the earmarks not the other way around.
- ? 2010/2011 Bicycle Pedestrian Grant information/timelines
 - o Timelines handout, discussion

County Roundtable

- o Burke O'Brien; Morrow County Exchange program.
- o Mary Jo Carpenter; Community Connection Update

Agenda Build

- o STIP Update
- o June OTC Meeting
- o  Transportation Enhancement

Set time, date and place for next meeting

August 7, 2008 9 am – Noon
3012 Island Avenue
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Meeting Adjourned by Commissioner Fred Warner

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