

# ORTAC Meeting



**Minutes of the meeting:**   **Date: Friday, May 19, 2006**  
  **Time: 1:00pm – 6:00pm**  
  **Where: Rogue River RFD Fire Hall**  
  **Rogue River, OR**

## **Council Members:**

- Ric Balfour, Congressional District 1 – absent
- Bruce Ronning, Congressional District 2 – present
- Ernie Drapela, Congressional District 3 – present
- Chuck Solin, Congressional District 4 (Coastal Rep) – present
- Terry A Wheeler, Congressional District 5 – present
- Bruce Galloway, Congressional District 5 – present
- C. John Mare, Congressional District 5 (Coastal Rep) – present

## **OPRD Staff:**

- Rocky Houston, State Trails Coordinator – present
- Jan Houck, Scenic Water Ways / Water Trails Coordinator – present

## **Other Present:**

- Darcie England (sp) – Rogue River Greenway Foundation
- Paul Kirbulick – Director Jackson County Public Works & Planning
- Don Robertson – Ashland Parks & Recreation Department
- Steve Geising – Ashland Parks & Recreation Department

## **Open of Meeting – Ernie Drapela**

- Welcome
- Self-Introductions

## **March 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> , 2006 Meeting minutes**

Chuck Solin made motion to approve minutes.  
Terry Wheeler seconded the motion.  
The motion was passed unanimously.

## **Doug Newman Award- Rocky Houston**

ORTAC reviewed the nominees for the 2005 award. A discussion of the criteria standards was reviewed and the council decided to revisit the nominee process the next day.

## **Public Comment**

### **Rogue River Greenway Trail - Rogue River Greenway Foundation**

Darcie England of the Rogue River Greenway Foundation presented the Rogue River Greenway Trail project. The project would link Central Point to Grants Pass through a 30-mile plus paved trail that would be within the right of way of roads and on pathways. The project would link to the Bear Creek Greenway Trail, allowing over 50 miles of connected paved trail for users.

In addition, there are efforts underway to transform sections of the Rogue River into white water parks. They would utilize existing dams and other features to enhance the utilization of this section of the river as a destination.

### **City of Medford – Bruce Galloway**

Bruce Galloway indicated that he would focus his presentation during the field trip tour scheduled later in the day.

### **Jackson County – Bear Creek Greenway Trail**

Paul Kirbulick indicated that the trail is almost done. They are working on a section of trail at the Ashland-Medford Sport Park. It will be a 10ft wide asphalt trail. They are utilizing volunteers to help with the trail work. They are applying for TEA-21 funds to complete the section from the Jackson County Fairgrounds into Central Point.

### **Ashland Parks - Status of Trails in the City**

Don Robertson and Steve Geising indicated that their Trails Master Plan for the city has been completed and adopted. They discussed the issues surrounding the RTP project they have been unable to complete. The main issue was their easements were no longer viable due to the creek changing it's course. The easements now are in the creek bed. They are going to cancel the RTP grant and come back later for a new project. The new project will probably be for a pedestrian bridge for the same trail.

## **Good of the Order**

### **ORTAC August Meeting – Ernie Drapela**

Ernie requested that the ORTAC meeting date be changed from August 4-5, 2006 to August 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup>, 2006. The council agreed to the change in the date.

## **Field Project Reviews**

### **Rogue River Greenway Tour – Rocky Houston**

The council completed a van tour of the proposed trail alignment from Grants Pass to Central Point. The council made several stops along. Rocky Houston provide the council with details to the various sections of the trail, the progress being made and the issues at certain sites.

### **City of Medford Tour – Bruce Galloway**

Bruce Galloway showed the council the city's Prescott Park. It is a 1700 acre park which provides spectacular views of Medford and the Rogue Valley. The park currently has several trails and Bruce is in the process of planning for additional trail miles, a new trail head and other features.

### **Jacksonville Woodland Association – Larry Smith**

Larry Smith provided the council with an overview of the Jacksonville Woodland Association's trails around Jacksonville. The association has been able to get \$4 million in funds to help acquire land and develop trails to preserve the history and botanical treasures in and around Jacksonville.

6:00 PM Meeting Adjourned

# ORTAC Meeting



**Minutes of the meeting:**   **Date:** Saturday, May 20, 2006  
  **Time:** 9:00am – 3:00pm  
  **Where:** Rogue River RFD Fire Hall  
  Rogue River, OR

## **Council Members:**

- Ric Balfour, Congressional District 1 – absent
- Bruce Ronning, Congressional District 2 – present
- Ernie Drapela, Congressional District 3 – present
- Chuck Solin, Congressional District 4 (Coastal Rep) – present
- Terry A Wheeler, Congressional District 5 – present
- Bruce Galloway, Congressional District 5 – present
- C. John Mare, Congressional District 5 (Coastal Rep) – present

## **OPRD Staff:**

- Rocky Houston, State Trails Coordinator – present
- Jan Houck, Scenic Water Ways / Water Trails Coordinator – present

## **Open of Meeting** – Ernie Drapela

- Welcome
- Self-Introductions

## **Public Comment**

No presenters or public comments made

## **Doug Newman Award**

ORTAC reviewed the proto-type of the plaque that will be presented to the award recipient. The council revised the award language.

The council selected Jack Remington as the 2005 recipient. Jack Remington is the “Father of the Oregon Trails Program.” He wrote the first trail system plan, which is the core of all future trails planning in Oregon. Jack was the first State Trails Coordinator. Since his departure with State Parks, he has written a book on Mountain Biking in Oregon. Last year, he published his second book “The Oregon Coast Trail: Hiking Inn to Inn.”

The council was pleased with the number of nominations this year and was impressed with everyone's contributions to trails in Oregon. The council recommended that OPRD recognize the other nominees with an "honorable mention" certificate and inclusion in the press release for the Doug Newman Award.

## **Good of the Order – Council Member Updates**

### **Terry Wheeler**

Terry indicated that the work on the Santiam Forest Horse Camp is making progress. The Department of Forestry and local equestrian clubs have been working on building trails and a staging area. When it is complete, it will have a 20-mile loop trail.

### **Jan Houck**

Jan indicates that the second leg of the Willamette River Trail will be dedicated on National Trails Day near Junction City. The governor is scheduled to paddle from Marshall Island to Harrisburg. The final leg of the Willamette River Trail will begin planning this fall.

### **Bruce Galloway**

Bruce indicates that the City of Medford has been working to link trails together to make a connected system as much as possible.

### **John Mare'**

John has been working to get the National Park Service to assist with the planning for the Alsea Bay water trail. He has attended the Corvallis-to-Sea trail meeting. John has been working to make the Oregon Coast Trail more visible in Lincoln County. There are several trails (804 Trail, Amanda's Trail, Cape Perpetua Trails, Hwy 101 section south of Yachats) that he has been working on and with the trail heads group to move issues forward.

### **Bruce Ronning**

On June 17<sup>th</sup>, there is the River Trail Ramble. The RTR is annual awareness and fundraising event hosted by the Bend Park and Recreation Foundation in support of Deschutes River Trail Projects. He is looking at trying to link the Deschutes River Trail to Tumalo State Park. He is investigating a land acquisition/swap that would assist in this linkage. The section could be a water trail as well.

## **Ernie Drapela**

Ernie stated that the Sandy River Area is currently receiving a lot of attention. There is additional property being acquired for public use and the City of Sandy is working on the Trickle Creek trail project. Ernie also indicated that there are several projects that could impact the Columbia River Highway in the Gorge. There is development related to the potential Casino in Cascade Locks or Hood River that would impact the Historic Highway. There is additional work in Hood River to the west being done by a condo developer that could impact the Historic Highway.

## **Field Project Reviews**

### **Valley of the Rogue State Park – Rogue River Greenway Trail**

The council met Andre Briggs, Assistant Area Manager, who was helping manage a group of volunteers who were constructing part of the Rogue River Greenway Trail. The council met Gail Frank, Rogue River Greenway Foundation Board Member, and discussed the public's support for the project.

### **City of Grants Pass**

The council met with City staff at the All-Sport Park. The council looked at the Pedestrian Bridge which links the Park to the South Bank of the Rogue River and serves as a link for an RTP project that was awarded this year. The City has a "River City Trail" concept that would link Cathedral Hills, a BLM recreation site, to Downtown via two off-road trails. The City is also working to link the River Front parks to Tom Pierce Park, a County Park, in the future as part of the Rogue River Greenway Trail.

### **Historic Golden/Wolf Creek Inn**

Rocky Houston showed the council the newly acquired City of Golden and the Wolf Creek Inn. The City of Golden is connected with a restoration project that has several trails linking ponds along the Coyote Creek.

3:00 PM the meeting adjourned