

OREGON HISTORIC TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL

September, 13, 2015

The Dalles, OR

Cousin's Country Restaurant

Council Members in Attendance: Dick Seymour, Jim Ford, Lindon Hylton, Loren Irving, Billy Symms, Jennifer Engum

Guests: Steve Spain, Gail Carbiener (OCTA), Lee Kruetzer (National Park Service), Erica Risberg, Sam Woolsley, Rene Ford

1. Call to Order

2. Recognition of guests

3.5 Approval of Minutes: Motion by Dick Seymour and Seconded by Billy Simms. Approved

3.7 Approval of Field Notes

3. OHTAC Treasure's Report : Glenn Harrison – Written report

Beginning Balance	1/1/2015	\$2778.16
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Current Balance	9/8/2015	\$2256.00
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Available from OCF		\$3853.00
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4. Old Business

a. Report on Oregon Historic Fund Barlow Road Grant: Erica Risberg, President, Shared, Context Consultants. LLC

Erica's Report: Barlow Project to promote trails. Pilot project is a website to promote the Barlow Road. Ten sites and panoramas with information of

diaries. Erica wants input from OHTAC members (including Ex Officio) on the website and design from OHTAC. Will eventually be in the school systems. Erica passed around what the website might look like starting with Laurel Hill. Icons will supply diary excerpts, maps and photos. Project intended to be complete October 1, 2015 and on budget. Jennifer asked about opportunity to add and merge Native American perspectives and will work with Erica on the project. Lindon: From the tribal perspective the trails were most often the original tracks under most of the 16 trails. Erica will be reaching out via email. Primary objective is to preserve and promote the 16 Historic Trails to learn about the stories. Primarily geared to teaching. \$ 6,000 remaining will be used primarily for the website. Glenn Harrison currently administering this project and will be looking to suggest Wendell Baskins to administer the next one.

Printed Finance Report: Glenn Harrison provided written report.

b. Ibertola/Montogue Wind Project: Cedar Springs Sign project

This is the result of mitigation from NW OCTA. Original sign was not informative of the trail and interpretive sign on the Oregon Trail. NW OCTA is currently finishing up a sign emphasizing the history of the Oregon Trail. Size is 2' by 3'. There hopefully will be a pull-out so people can see this new sign. Gail Carbiener volunteered to install. Henry Pittock is involved in the process. Discussion revolved around the company Novacolor as a good supplier of serviceable product. Novacolor is about 1/3 the cost of the Seascape. Jennifer discussed a book project of the tribes which will be dedicated to the late John Chess. Information from this book will be useful for reviewing Native information for trail signs and design in the future. Billy will check to see if there is an opportunity for Native information to be added to this Cedar Springs Sign.

c. Appointment of 2017 OHTAC Vice Chair

Lindon Hylton will consider this position.

d. Board Member Replacement. New board possibilities should include geographic representation. Gail will consider the possibility of sending in an application, and would align with the position of

Retiring Board Members

Glenn Harrison 7/30/2015

John Hayes 7/30/2015

OHTAC Treasurer: We need a new treasurer

Jim Renner Appointment: Not Accepted, A letter or reconsideration will be sent to the Governors Appt Office. We should emphasize the need for institutional memory..

New Business

A. 2015 Grant Application to Oregon Trails Fund: Erica Risberg

Overview

Phase one : Barlow Road

Phase two: Fremont Trail

B. Power Projects

Saddle Butte Wind Park

Wheatridge Wind Energy Facility

C. Future Financial Support

D. Whitman Sign letter

E Meeting Notices. promotion of attendance. and Funding Discussion: Gail recommends that representative from SHPO be strongly persuaded to attend.

Also that we might consider week day meeting times in order to get more government participants to attend.

Lee reviewed support in the past with supplying funds from NPS. To advertise a Saturday Field trip that incorporates the public in connection there might be a way to help fund something. Gail commented Park Service signs on County property works well whereas it is more difficult with ODOT properties.

Lee suggests on asking for future mitigation to ask for funds as possibly 10,000\$ or so for OHTAC to be used to promote the trail in the area.

Lee Kruetzer, Cultural Resources Specialist, National Park Service:

Potential funding opportunities.

Challenge Costshare program is in the past but, NPS can help develop the application and then it goes to a third party with other National Parks projects in competition.

Also NPS office has base funding available. NPS projects want emphasis on getting kids out, engaging minorities and based on NPS Trails. There are some funds available. Good potential to engage in projects with tribes

Four Trails Feasibility... to consider adding routes to include Pony Express, (and 3 more) to be designated NHT. Lee worked with OCTA years ago toward this effort and there is currently an environmental assessment to be released to the public. Can see the routes [www.nps.gov/oreg](http://www.nps.gov/oreg) Click on link to Trail Planning. Comment opportunity later. Meek Cutoff and Whitman Mission trails are two to be reviewed. Barlow Cutoff is included.

Lee devised a driving trail connected with the Whitman Trail gap.

On NHT it needs to be so folks can get close to, and stop and learn about the history of the route. People need to see something.

Erica discussed next Grant Request for the second phase. There is funding to be provided and OCF will likely fund the recent application. There is also a funder that on Nov. 1 will decide to participate in some matching.

Erica showed the 10 sites as an example on the map and drivers can download the information on their phones as a story telling component. You are directed to the site and when visiting can look on your phone to information downloaded. Erica is discussing this application with Travel Oregon. Tourism agencies are interested in this project.

Jennifer discussed the inclusion of directional information in an app context so folks won't get lost.

Erica and Loren will be working on locations and stories regarding the John C Fremont story.

#### Wheat Ridge East Windfarm Project.

Billy and Jim are working on an issue where the Oregon Trail in the vicinity of Echo Meadows will be impacted. Good trail experience at the Echo Meadows currently will be impacted by view-shed with close by windfarm towers with proximity . Billy is working with Andrew Connell with the project and he is receptive to protecting the OT. Go to EFSC website with Oregon Dept of Energy and maps are available

PGE backed out of buying the Montague Project (Ibertola).

Most Windfarm projects are on private property and OHTAC has little opportunity to

#### Saddle Butte Windfarm Access Road on Oregon Trail:

Billy advises Saddle Butte project will be putting an access road right on approximate location of the OT on private property. So it hasn't been verified. Billy on behalf of NW Octa will voice opposition via a letter.

There is a potential for OHTAC to write a letter that would support this opposition and suggest moving the location of this access road 50 or 100 feet one way or another.

Lee suggested a visit to survey and get permission by the landowner. Lindon suggested that if the windfarm company knows there is a suspected site of the OT then they might volunteer to relocated the access.

### 2016 Schedule

April 22-24, 2016 Bend / Free Emigrant Trail. Suggest John Hayes as trip leader?

June 24-26, 2016 Baker City / Potential visits regarding B2H location/OT  
Billy Symns, Gail Carbiener and Jennifer Engum Team leaders

September 16-18, 2016 Hermiston / Irrigon-Umatilla  
Jennifer/Billy

### 2017 Schedule

potential Meek Cutoff north of Madras

potential Fremont Northeast route

Meeting Adjourned 11:30 am