

OHTAC

April 24, 2016 OHTAC Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Members present: Glenn Harrison, Jim Ford, Loren Irving, Dick Seymour

Members Absent: Billy Symms, Jennifer Engum, Pat Davis, John Hayes. Lindon Hylton resigned.

Guests: Gail Carbiener, Ex-Officio Member
Jan Cupernall, Harney County Historical Musuem, Burns

Call to Order

Review – Approve Minutes from September 2015 minutes
Move to approve Glenn, 2nd Dick. Approved

Review September 2015 Field Notes
Move to approve Glenn, 2nd Dick. Approved

Treasurer Report: Glenn.

Presently we are operating with our own personal expenses. There is an annual amount to be used from OCF and is about \$3,000 annually. Currently there is \$2,302 in the checking account. Glenn suggests we move 4,875 to the Checking account for upcoming expenses.

There is a Barlow road project amount of \$4,000 but can only can be obtained by matching of which we are \$717 short. These funds will be used for Barlow Trail. Most of the work will be done this summer on the Barlow.

New Treasurer appointment. Minutes need to show signers, taking Glenns name off and putting the new Treasurer Jim Ford on the account.

Jim Ford has volunteered to be the new Treasurer. New Signers will be Jim Ford and Loren Irving. A motion to designate Jim Ford as the new treasurer with him and Loren Irving's named on the account, but only one signature needed to pay a bill. When the account is established Glenn will have the existing bank transfer the funds to the new bank and he will no longer be a signer on the account. First Community Credit Union (Grant's Pass) will be the bank for the account.

Motion to approve the Treasurers Report, appoint Jim Ford as the new Treasurer and Loren Irving as additional signer: by Glenn and seconded by Dick Seymour. Four members present voted yes and subsequent email votes by Billy Symms and John Hayes voting yes. Motion Passed

There will be some transition time for the new account to be established and the accounts transferred. Glenn will continue until the transfer is made.

Old Business

Cedar Springs Signage: Gail and Glenn

Determination of sign design and wordage was discussed. There is a need for a signed agreement for easement to get to the signage (with property owner). Legs of sign would be just over the property line and the owner has agreed in principle. There is discussion of using the same company that NPS uses for signage and so far their costs look competitive. Design discussion to

continue. Glenn has presented two design ideas to the company but has not had a response. Gail mentions needing a utility locator to approve. Gail Carbiener will assist in installation.

B2H Glenn Harrison, Gail Carbiener

OHTAC should respond to the Preliminary Agency Preferred Alternative B2H Transmission Line Route listed by BLM. A Letter has been written by Glenn on behalf of OHTAC and needs to be approved by the Council. It has been approved by members present. Motion by Jim Ford and Dick as second to approve and was approved. Copy to be included in Annual Report. Stafford Hazelett and Gail Carbiener contributed to this document. Council Members not present were emailed and John Hayes, Billy Symms and Jennifer Engum responded yes to support the letter.

Comments by Gail Carbiener, Ex-Officio Member:

OHTAC is recognized by BLM as a nongovernmental organization. Gail suggests we address OHTAC's document to Don Gonzales, District Manager of BLM. Gail's opinion is that BLM will come out with the routes as recently published, not come out with a plan we suggest. After final EIS there may be only 30 days to respond. Gail personally promotes the idea to stop the project, based upon need or environmental issues, rather than change routes. Two agencies OHTAC needs to strongly support is SHPO and National Park Service. Ian Johnson's letter on behalf of SHPO is important. Ms. Christine Lehnertz, Regional Director, Pacific Region of the National Park Service, has many specific points that OHTAC should support to protect the Trail. Gail suggests OHTAC be represented at the table in Vale, if invited, to communicate with BLM in order to make suggestions on what we can do to protect the Trail. Obligation of the BLM is to respond to inputs by public, State and Fed agency's comments made in response to the Draft EIS. BLM should recognize and discuss comments that have been made in our letter, Ian's letter and Christine's letter.

Suggests we copy Wyden, Merkley, Walden on these letters Governor, Hansel.

Barlow Trail Multimedia Grant Update: Erica Risberg,
A brief update from Glenn Harrison.....

Council Membership: Loren

We have three positions to fill. One, for Glenn Harrison who has exceeded his total of 8 years but remains a voting member until replaced. Two, for John Hayes for the same reason and remains a voting member until replaced. And, three, someone to replace Lindon Hilton who has had to resign due to moving out of the area.

As we understand it the state would like to see a balance Men and Women on the Council as well as consideration of geographic representation. We could use a new member from the Portland or north end of the Willamette Valley. In terms of potential female members Dick suggests Barb Adams and Glenn suggests Alice Norris. The name of Dave Huntzinger was discussed as well as possibly contacting Alice Trindle to help suggest potential members. Also suggested was that we find someone from the Burns area to consider.

We have encouraged Mike Berry from Bend to apply and he is very willing to do so.

Wind Farm Activity

There was little discussion on the current wind farm activity and no one was aware of new ones on the horizon. There has been some ones in the planning stage ask the state siting committee to approve an extension of timing. The "Wheat Farm" project is an example.

New Business

Bend Solar Project

We discussed the installation of a large Solar project east of bend in the approximate area of where the Free Emigrant Trail may have been located. There may or may not have been solid evidence that the trail went across that particular location.

Field Trip Leader

As the council has done in the past a check in the amount of \$200 will be provided to Mike Berry for his leading the Saturday field trip.

Motion to send \$200 to Mr. Berry was made by Dick Seymour and second by Jim Ford. Approved by the four voting members present and subsequent vote yes from John Hayes and Jennifer Engum and Billy Symms.

Administrative Support from OPRD – SHPO

The liaison with SHPO is now Christine Curran. We will contact Chrissy regarding new stationery with present Governor's name on the letterhead.

Filling of vacant position of Chair and Vice Chair 2016

The current Chair was recommended to be Billy Symms. Billy has had some health challenges which have resulted in him asking to be replaced for the rest of the year 2016.

With concurrence of the voting council members Loren Irving has offered to act as interim chair.

Application for such has been made by Glenn to the Governors office.

The Vice Chair for 2016 was Lindon Hylton and that is now a vacant position due to his resignation.

2017 Chair position recommendation

Billy Symms has indicated he will accept being the 2017 Chair if appointed.

2016 and 2017 Vice Chair positions.

As of now we need to fill both these positions.

Other

2016 Meetings

Subsequent discussions with potential trip leaders and other considerations have determined that the two remaining meetings and locations will be as follows, note that we have switched the locations for the dates originally planned.

June 24, 25, 26, 2016 Hermiston
Field trip leader Jennifer Karson Engum

September 16, 17, 18 Baker City
Field trip leader Gail Carbiener

Adjourn

Action Items

Approval of motions by absent members via email as of April 4, 2016. All motions passed by majority.

Checking (Yes: John Hayes, Billy Symms)

Treasurer (Yes: John Hayes, Billy Symms)

Appointment of Loren Irving as Chair 2016 (Yes: John Hayes, Billy Symms)

Approve \$200 stipend (Yes: John Hayes, Billy Symms)

(Contact Chrissy Curran for appointment of Loren as Chair for 2016)