

SOUTH WEST AREA COMMISSION ON TRANSPORTATION (SWACT)

Meeting Minutes May 10th, 2019 Coquille, Oregon

❖ Roll Call ❖

Chair Gary Milliman called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Roll was called and quorum confirmed. (20 voting members present. V = voting member for this meeting. Quorum = 10 (50% of filled [currently 20] membership positions.)

Commission Members and Alternates in Attendance (alphabetical)

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Bernhardt, Kathryn | Transit (Alternate) |
| 2. Boice, Court | Curry County (Primary) V |
| 3. Boyer, Brant | Douglas County Stakeholder (Primary) V |
| 4. Cheas, Cheryl | Douglas County Stakeholder (Alternate) V |
| 5. Cook, Theresa | Aviation (Primary) V |
| 6. Dolgonas, Dick | Bike/Ped (Primary) V |
| 7. Elliott, Brian | Douglas County City-At-Large (Alternate) V |
| 8. Hossley, Jim | Coos Bay (Primary) V |
| 9. Jensen, Matthew | Coquille Indian Tribe (Primary) V |
| 10. Kutch, Ron | Coos County Stakeholder (Alternate) V |
| 11. Mawson, Robert | Coos County City-At-Large (Primary) V |
| 12. Messenger, Nikki | City of Roseburg (Primary) V |
| 13. Milliman, Gary (<i>Chair</i>) | Brookings (Primary) V |
| 14. Neavoll, Darrin | ODOT District 7 Manager (Alternate) |
| 15. Negherbon, Sean | Douglas County City-At-Large (Primary) V |
| 16. Poole, Art | Coos County Stakeholder (Alternate) |
| 17. Richards, Terrie | Curry County Stakeholder (Primary) V |
| 18. Skinner, Rick | Coos County Stakeholders (Primary) V |
| 19. Stump, Jeff | CTCLUSI (Primary) V |
| 20. Sweet, John | Coos County (Primary) V |
| 21. Vitek, Charmaine | Port (Primary) V |
| 22. Usselman, Mark | ODOT SW Area Manager (Primary) V |
| 23. Wasbauer, Joanne | Transit (Primary) V |

ODOT Staff in Attendance

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Boardman, Jennifer | ODOT Region 3 Transit Coordinator |
| 2. Cornutt, Lisa | ODOT Planner |
| 3. Haan, Corey | ODOT Local Agency Liaison |
| 4. Hunter, Chris | ODOT Consultant Project Manager |
| 5. Latham, Dan | ODOT Project Information Specialist |
| 6. Olds, Barbara | ODOT Safety Training Coordinator |
| 7. Reading, Frank | ODOT Region 3 Manager |
| 8. Waldien, Amanda | ODOT Office Coordinator |

Guests in Attendance

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Baugh, Sam | South Coast Development Council |
| 2. Freeman, Donna | Powers Citizen/Tour de Fronds Coordinator |
| 3. Gilbert, Kristi | City of Sutherlin |
| 4. Heacock, Josh | Douglas County Public Works |
| 5. Kohns, Robert | City of Powers Mayor |
| 6. Milliman, Caroline | Brookings Citizen |
| 7. Richardson, Rachael | City of North Bend |

❖ **Approval of Minutes** ❖

- **Motion made and seconded to approve the March 08, 2019 SWACT Minutes. (Charmaine Vitek/Joanne Wasbauer)**
- Discussion: None.
- *Motion carried.*

❖ **Membership Updates** ❖

Corey Haan announced the following membership updates: Douglas County Stakeholder Primary and Coos County Stakeholder Alternate expire at the end of May 2019 and will be voted on at the September 13 SWACT meeting. According to the bylaws, At-Large Cities and Stakeholders will be selected to serve a 3 year term with the ability to reapply at the end of their term and be reappointed. Patrick Kerr has appointed Rich Lopez to the Freight/Rail Alternate position.

- **Motion made and seconded to approve Rich Lopez's appointment to the Freight/Rail Alternate position. (Robert Mawson/Joanne Wasbauer)**
- Discussion: None.
- *Motion carried.*

❖ **Public Input** ❖

None.

❖ **Last Chance Grade Presentation** ❖

Presentation:

Chair Milliman presented a video from CalTrans for Last Chance Grade in Del Norte County in California. The video highlighted the long term solutions with possible alternatives to the current route. The website link to the video is: https://lastchancegrade.com/app_pages/view/165

Discussion:

Chair Milliman requested that SWACT express their concern about the impact of the Last Chance Grade failure in a letter to the OTC and ODOT and to request that the State of Oregon include advocacy for federal funding for this project in their federal legislative program going forward so that Oregon's members of Congress hopefully will join together with California's members of Congress to make this a priority in the future transportation funding at the federal level. He asked Frank Reading if any of this has been discussed. Frank said that it was new information for him, but that discussions with OTC were ongoing, primarily around Hooskanaden. Dick Dolgonas said

that it didn't show where Oregon was in the video. Gary said that you'd have to drive east from Arcata through Redding to I-5. Joanne Wasbauer said that the other issue is with the advent of the increase of forest fires it's one of the state routes.

- **Motion made to send a letter to OTC and ODOT indicating that this is a matter of concern to SWACT and Southern Oregon and that the state should include efforts to secure federal funding for this project in cooperation with the state of California. (Chair Milliman/John Sweet)**
- Discussion: Ron Kutch stated that the estimates for this project were between half a billion and a billion dollars.
- *Motion carried.*

❖ Hooskanaden Slide & February Storm Updates ❖

Presentation:

Darrin Neavoll, ODOT's District 7 Manager, gave a report on the February and April Storm events, including the Hooskanaden Slide Repair. (See "Hooskanaden and Spring 2019 Storm Updates.pdf" below.)



Hooskanaden and
Spring 2019 Storm L

- April 2019 Storm Updates presentation included:
 - Some areas saw rain records broke.
 - Plugged culvert on Hwy. 42S washed away the road. Someone had blocked the culvert with signs.
 - Hwy. 38, downed trees
 - Coquille River Bridge log jam
 - Slide up Coos River
 - US 101 MP 332.3 the slope got oversaturated and washed out. This will go to bid next week and will start in June. Estimated repair cost \$950,000.
- February 2019 Storm Updates presentation included:
 - Remove and dispose of downed trees on I-5, OR38 & OR138W will get awarded next week. Total cost of \$1.92 million
 - John Sweet asked why someone would put signs in the culvert. Darrin said that people fill it up and use it for their own water irrigation.
 - Jeff Stump asked if there is any idea of realigning US 101 MP 332.3. Darrin said that it's pretty solid, but it was the waste that washed away. The road didn't settle.
- Hooskanaden Slide Repair presentation included:
 - May 6th it was open to 2 lanes. Speed was set at 45.
 - Soil Nails were being put in in the south end to stabilize a still moving section. They drive long rods under the road and they anchor it. It doesn't fix the slide. But it gives a bit of life. There is an anchor on the end of the rod and it gets bolted to the wall.
 - Historic Costs for Maintenance and Repair:
 - \$75,000 annually spent
 - Typical movement is 1-4 feet per year

- Major events: Drop of at least 100' west and 30' down
- Historically has a major event every 15-20 years (1977, 1995, 2019)
- Total estimated cost for the 3 major events: \$5-\$7 million
- Alternative Solutions & Costs:
 - 1. Carpenterville Hwy. Upgrades (\$439,880,000)
 - 2. Hooskanaden Slide Mitigation (\$302,629,500)
 - 3. Hooskanaden Viaduct (Bridge) (\$350,000,000)
- Tidewater Contractors, Inc. took 6 days to rebuild a temporary gravel road, and 13 days to open the road.
- Next steps: Rebuild US101 back to its original alignment.
- Currently working on design plans.
- Hillside work will include closing cracks.
- Estimated cost \$4,000,000
- Work with transit, business and hospitals to create plan for moving through detour routes

Discussion:

- Chair Milliman asked if he was looking at the cost of doing a cost-benefit analysis for preliminary planning, is that something that he would need OTC approval and if there was money in the budget. Frank Reading replied that there isn't money in the region, but he is not sure if there is money in the statewide level. To put it in perspective, Frank said that these were high level estimates, a lot of money, especially when comparing these figures with the 21-24 STIP, the entire bridge program was \$300,000,000 and these are beyond this. He mentioned the topography is very challenging. The entire area is unstable, so it needs to be studied but it takes time. He said that we could continue the conversation with communities down south. Chair Milliman said that ODOT needs funding for feasibility study work. He asked when would be the next opportunity to include this funding. Frank said that OTC will be discussing options next week. Chair Milliman said that getting this to look like the Last Chance Grade, is his vision for long-term planning for this slide area. There are some elements that are different, but the costs are not that dissimilar from the Last Chance Grade which are in the \$500,000,000 range. He would like ODOT to get a long term plan and deal with the short term issues with transit, hospital and businesses. There were a lot of problems with the Brookings economy because of this. A realtor lost a sale due to the buyers concern of transportation issues. He doesn't want that stigma attached to the community.
- Court Boice remarked on the nice new paving. The urgency and the level of response from ODOT was amazing.
- Ron Kutch went back to the 3 options, and clarified that it was a suspension bridge that they were looking at.
- Dick Dolgonas asked if the numbers were so rough, why couldn't they be rounded them up so that people can't come back to complain when the price increases. He asked if there was a monitoring device for this area. Darrin replied that we didn't have one. Dick also asked about the broad view of the climate change issues with our infrastructure at the OTC level. Frank replied that the topic is becoming a higher priority with the OTC. Dick also said that some of these roads are critical. Is there any flexibility in the budget to move money around to fix these? Frank replied that typically it comes from outside the region under the FHWA Emergency Relief program. Dick said thank you for the work that they do in the worst possible conditions.
- Nikki Messenger asked if the BUILD grant could help pay for it. Frank will look into it.

- Robert Mawson said that the payback period would be hundreds of years for the large fix. It wouldn't make sense to do the large fix when these smaller ones cost \$4,000,000. Nikki added especially with a low ADT.
- Chair Milliman asked if there was funding for Carpenterville Road. Darrin said not for improvements, but for maintenance. Chair Milliman asked if it could move up in priority since it's used as a detour.
- Darrin showed the District costs. Corey Haan clarified that the dollar figures for the counties only represented those roads that qualified for the federal emergency relief program and didn't represent all of the cost to the counties.
- **Motion made to modify Curry County's letter to OTC. The modification would be to request that they consider funding for a feasibility study for both long term and short term options. (Gary Milliman/Joanne Wasbauer)**
- Discussion: None.
- **Motion Carried.**

Chair Milliman expressed his appreciation for the ODOT employees that worked hard to get the road open.

❖ Douglas County Transportation District: TGM Planning Grant ❖

Presentation:

Cheryl Cheas, Douglas County Transportation District Director, gave a presentation on the Transportation Growth Management (TGM) Planning Grant. The project will produce a plan to serve as the short term, medium and long range transit blueprint for Public Transit Services within Douglas County. She asked SWACT for a letter of support. (See "Cheas_DCTD Letter of Support 051019.pdf" below.)



Cheas_DCTD Letter
of Support 051019.p

- **Motion for SWACT to provide a letter of support for the TGM Planning Grant. (Charmaine Vitek/John Sweet)**
- Discussion: None.
- **Motion Carried**

❖ Project Updates ❖

Presentation:

Dan Latham, ODOT Project Information Specialist, gave a presentation updating members on construction projects in SW Oregon. (See "Latham-2019-05-10 - SWACT Construction Update.pdf" below.)



LATHAM -
2019-05-10 - SWACT

1. South Umpqua River “Vets” Bridge
 - a. Completed by the end of September 2019
2. Exit 124 signals, Bellows realignment
 - a. Summer 2019 construction
3. Roberts Mountain Climbing Lanes
 - a. Adds NB & SB climbing lanes on Roberts Mountain
 - b. Paves 5 miles of I-5
 - c. Schedule: 2019-2021
4. Lower Lookingglass Creek Bridge Repair
 - a. Schedule: May-August 2019
5. US 101 to Dean Creek Paving
 - a. Completed by the end of September 2019
6. McCullough Bridge Painting
 - a. Sidewalks on one side will be closed.
 - b. Completed by Fall 2021
7. Isthmus Slough Bridge
 - a. Several nighttime bridge closures.
 - b. Completed by Fall 2019
8. Childers Road to Garrison Slough
 - a. Repairs four bridges (Sixes River, Elk Creek, Crystal Creek, Garrison Slough)
 - b. Paves 5 miles of US 101
 - c. Completed by Summer 2019
9. Thomas Creek & Reinhart Creek Bridges
 - a. Paints the steel trusses of both structures and the towers of Thomas Creek Bridge.
 - b. Completed in August 2019
10. 2015-18 Enhance Projects
11. 2018-21 Enhance Projects

Discussion:

Charmaine Vitek asked about the cement barriers on Hwy. 38 where the rock barriers are being placed, if it was due to the storm. Darrin confirmed this. She also commented about the trees that have fallen on the guardrail. Darrin said that they’re going to remove the trees first, then repair the guardrail. Dick Dolgonas pointed out a positive safety feature in Roseburg, after walking north on Hwy. 138 from the library, when the walk symbol is on, the red light is also on. He asked if that is a standard that ODOT is going to use all over. He really liked this feature.

❖ Region 3 Manager / OTC Updates ❖

Presentation:

Frank Reading, ODOT Region 3 Manager, gave updates on the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC).

- The Governor proclaimed May to be Transportation Safety Awareness Month to raise the level of awareness about work zones and motorcycle safety, etc.
- There is a newly confirmed OTC Commissioner, Sharon Smith, an attorney from Bend
- June 30th will be Chair Baney’s last meeting
- August OTC will be in Rogue Valley.

- Lots of work is being done on STIP Rebalancing, with higher costs due to ADA and increased costs. Projects may have to be moved to the 21-24 STIP if costs increase too much.
- Legislative bills, there are 530 bills that ODOT is following. The biggest bill is the Carbon Tax bill.
- OTC recently reviewed the Congestion and Tolling survey results. About 50% believe tolling is an option that should be looked at. People are finally seeing that congestion is an issue in Oregon.
- Hiring a new Director, OTC now has this responsibility. They have hired a national firm to help with this search. Matt Garrett will leave at the end of June. They will appoint a Deputy Director for the interim.
- Connect Oregon projects: \$60 million were earmarked, with \$50 million for the 2 multi-modal facilities alone.

Discussion:

Chair Milliman asked about rebalancing of the STIP, if the Brookings Sidewalk Project may have to be moved. Frank didn't have an answer for him yet. Ron Kutch asked about the Scottsburg Bridge. Frank said that it's within budget and on time. It will go to bid in October of this year.

❖ **Harassment/Discrimination Training: iLearn Demo** ❖

Presentation:

Barbara Olds, Region 3 Safety Training Coordinator, gave an iLearn Demonstration so that SWACT members could take the required training from the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). The two courses required for SWACT members to take by 12/31/19 are: DAS – CHRO – 2019 Preventing Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace; and DAS – CHRO – 2019 Information Security: Foundations. Handouts of the iLearn Demo slide show were also provided. (See “Olds_ILEARN FOR SWACT.pdf” attachment below.)



Discussion:

Chair Milliman stated that this is a mandatory training that is pretty customary now for state agencies and has been expanded to include state volunteers and commission members.

❖ **Business from the Commission (formerly NOA)** ❖

Frank Reading said that there would be a new SW Area Manager at the next meeting. There is no SWACT meeting in July.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:30 am.

Next SWACT Meeting: Friday, September 13, 2019, at 10 am in Coquille, OR