

## MEETING SUMMARY- SOUTH COAST UMPQUA REGIONAL SOLUTIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: December 8, 2017

Meeting location: International Port of Coos Bay

### Advisory Committee (AC) members present:

James Seeley\*

Coos County Commissioner John Sweet\*

David Kronsteiner\*

Douglas Commissioner Chris Boice (by phone)

Councilor James Auburn

\*Executive Committee members

### Regional Solutions Team/Agency Representatives:

Alex Campbell, Coordinator, Governor's Office

Kate Jackson, Department of Environmental Quality (by phone)

Mark Usselman, ODOT

Annette Shelton Tiderman, Oregon Employment Department

### Guests:

Sen. Arnie Roblan

Rep. Caddie McKeown

Rep. David Brock Smith

Sam Baugh, South Coast Development Council

Brandi Welchel, CCD (by phone)

### **Minutes from September 15, 2017 Meeting**

David Kronsteiner made a motion to accept notes from the last AC meeting (John Sweet seconded). Passed.

### **2017-2018 Regional Infrastructure Finance (RIF) Project Selection Process**

Alex reviewed the process: responses will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee today to select projects to be presented to the legislature during the short session. This "pre-" round is primarily informational, to create engagement between project sponsors and the team and AC members, and to share the need for funding for quality projects. A more formal application process will take place in 2018, to present recommended projects for presentation to the legislature. \$4 million are currently appropriated; each region will receive a minimum of 5%.

Alex reviewed the 9 projects that had been submitted.

James Seeley noted that although Wild Rivers Coast Alliance had been listed as a supporter of the Fort Euchre Outdoor School, they had investigated the project and found some issues. Rep.

Smith acknowledged that there is a cannabis grow in the area, but it is not in any way associated with the project. He believes the school can support STEM education, which is important to the economic future of the south coast.

Rep. McKeown asked what the relationship between Fort Euchre and Measure 99 (new outdoor school funding). The school would benefit from increased demand, but the Measure 99 monies are not going to fund capital. Sen. Roblan noted that the Gray Foundation has been analyzing the capacity and they believe the infrastructure is not all available, but it is close.

Rep. David Brock Smith said that the Port of Port Orford project was needed to save the local seafood industry. James Seeley noted that the Port had contracted a thorough market feasibility analysis in 2017, which came back positive.

Jim Auburn noted that the former Port of Port Orford Oregon Solutions project had looked at shoaling as well. What is the status. Rep. David Brock Smith said the USACE has funding to do an additional study.

David Kronsteiner noted that the Port of Port Orford and Sea Wall (Coos Bay) replacement projects had the strongest ties to economic development.

Commissioner Boice stated that the AC should support projects with a strong connection to the adopted regional priorities.

Alex suggested the AC consider advancing: (1) the Port of Port Orford Seafood Innovation Center; (2) City of Coos Bay Sea Wall Replacement; and (3) Brookings Airport Access and Industrial Park Planning. Commissioner Boice made a motion to support that list (James Seeley seconded). Further discussion was invited. Sen. Roblan noted that he believes the legislature is looking for strong economic development ties and leveraging other resources. David Kronsteiner noted that there may be some unresolved permitting issues with the sea wall project. *The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Chetco Bar Fire Recovery Council**

Alex reviewed the work of the Chetco Bar Fire Recovery Council and the primary recommendations. Agency and Governor's Office staff are reviewing the recommendations to identify existing resources and any new resource needs. Rep. David Brock Smith noted that Business Oregon has already provided funding to City of Brookings to evaluate sediment impacts on drinking water.

### **Elliot Forest**

Alex reported that Department of State Lands is working on a contract with Oregon Consensus to bring together an "Advisory Team." The chief charge of the group is to develop a recommendation for the State Land Board for a financial plan to collect the necessary resources

to complete the purchase/de-coupling of the Elliot State Forest from the state common school fund.

### **Tidegates**

Commissioner John Sweet reported that Association of Oregon Counties and others will be hosting a public meeting to hear from local stakeholders about tide gates. The meeting will be Thursday, December 14 at the county annex building in Coquille, 1 PM to 4 PM.

### **Gorse Oregon Solutions Project**

Jim Seeley reported that the Declaration of Cooperation is complete and has been signed by thirty parties. This is really only step 1. The next phase will be mobilizing to action, with an eye towards a long-term effort.

### **Sudden Oak Death**

Rep. David Brock Smith reported that Sen. Merkley is working on securing funding in the federal Continuing Resolution and that the Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee has submitted a letter to Ways & Means requesting full funding of the strategic plan.

### **Housing Issues**

Alex shared that the State's request for applications for workforce housing projects will be released next week. It is a pilot providing incentives for directly involving employers in developing housing.

Sen. Roblan noted that there will be a public meeting Dec. 14 at the Coos History Museum to introduce the county housing task force survey team. The meeting is 4:30 to 5:30 PM.

Rep. David Brock Smith shared some of the mechanisms of the legislation he sponsored in the last session of the legislature to provide tax abatements to providers of housing for individuals with moderate incomes.

James Seeley reported that Bandon Dunes Resort is working closely with City of Bandon to develop additional workforce housing.

Sen. Roblan expressed some frustration that the building code work on tiny houses is not complete.

### **Project Gem**

Sam Baugh reported that the project has run into some issues with their plan to deal with waste water until a outfall to the bay is approved. The property remains under escrow. They will likely concentrate on securing state approval for the outfall to the bay expeditiously.

### **Committee Roundtable**

David Kronsteiner shared that Phase 1 of the Beaver Slough project is now complete. The state dredge (The Laura) is currently at work at Port of Garibaldi.

Commissioner Sweet reported that the first segment of the mountain bike trail building project that was partly funded with “RIF” monies for youth workforce experience is complete and a ribbon cutting ceremony was held.

### **Public Testimony Was Invited—None Made**