South East Area Commission on Transportation
Regional Partner with
South East Regional Alliance
Grant, Harney, and Malheur Counties

BOARD MINUTES
July 22, 2019
Grant County Regional Airport, John Day, OR

Board Members:
Grant County: Nick Green
Harney County: Kenton Dick
Malheur County: Dan Joyce
At Large Positions: Angie Jones, Transit

State/Regional Agencies:
Craig Sipp, ODOT
Sean Maloney, ODOT
Ken Patterson, ODOT
Michael Barry, ODOT
Tom Strandberg, ODOT
Billie Jo Deal, ODOT
Courtney Crowell, Regional Solutions

GEODC Staff
Judy Moore

Guests:
Andy Perry, Anderson-Perry

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Dan Joyce. Self-introductions were made; quorum present.

Jim Hamsher made motion to approve minutes.
Angie Jones 2nd
Motion Carried Unanimously

Guest Speaker: Marijuana Legalization and Transportation Safety Trends, Billie Jo Deal, ODOT:

- Main goal of transportation safety division is to reduce traffic fatalities & injuries
- Across the US, 94% of accidents are caused by human related errors
- Goals to 2025 for Region 5:
  - Decrease fatalities & injuries
  - Motorcycle safety
- Strategies:
  - Resources, meetings, education, transportation safety committees, create partnerships, provide mini grants, safe community coordinators
• Program updates:
  o Work zone overtime projects 2019-21; work zone safety contracted with OSP
  o Drive Education in SEACT region, is only offered through Malheur County ESD
  o Child passenger safety technicians
  o Working on localized Transportation Safety Plans in each county
    ▪ Grant County September 17th
    ▪ Harney County September 18th or 19th
  o Malheur County Transportation Safety Commission is starting up again
• Recreational marijuana sales topped over $11 million in the 1st week that it was legalized
• Estimated risk for fatal accident is 16x’s greater when mixing cannabis with alcohol than with just using cannabis alone
• Challenges are:
  o Education- the perception around marijuana use and driving.
  o Lack of law enforcement

**Guest Speaker: Trip Check Local Entry Update; Brent Atkinson, ODOT:**
- Changed login process to make it easier for the user
- You can create a future event that will show on Trip Check
- Goal is to give travelers a complete picture of road events throughout the cities & counties

**Regional Updates:**
Local Program Update – Mike Barry
- The application for Small City Allotment grant is due soon. You can have one grant open but not two
- As the Fund Exchanges are completed, a summary of the project will need to be done and sent to Mike
- ADA working being done in Burns on D Street and Grand & on the Hwy
- Ontario project going out to bid this week
- Bids are coming in high-think about doing scalable projects

**Design & Construction Projects-Sean Maloney**
In Construction:
- I84 Deck Repair on the bridge crossing over the Snake River, due to be completed this fall
- Vale chip seal planned for August
- US20 Hampton to Burns a chip seal to be completed mid-August
- I84 Cabbage Hill-installing power to be completed next year
- I84 E bound Ladd Canyon to be completed next year
- State wide safety improvement project - I84-median cable barrier to be completed next year

**21-24 STIP 150% Draft List-Sean Maloney, ODOT:**
- A formal public outreach this fall, gathering comments and make final adjustments
- Adoption with OTC in June
- FHWA for final approval by Sept-Oct of 2020
OTC & Region Updates – Craig Sipp:
Regional Update:
- Construction going on everywhere, continue to focus on work zone safety
  - Auto flagging devices
  - Temp rumble strips
- Cabbage Hill work zone for safety merging traffic several miles before you get to the construction
- Review the draft STIP list and start gathering comments and send them to Tom

OTC Director Update:
- Paul Mather appointed Deputy Director
- National Consultant is doing the director search
- HB2017 OTC has the authority to select the new director in coordination with the Governors’ office.
- Over 200+ inquiries, narrowed down to 40 candidates, from that only a few will go through the full interview process
- A new director could be hired by this fall
- Tammy Baney is rotating off OTC next month will be her last meeting

OTC Update:
- Recognized and gave awards to the motor carrier division and the communication/media division received which received 3 awards
- Celebrated ODOT’s 50th Anniversary

Legislative Update:
- HB2017 housekeeping fixes
- HB2007 clean diesel bill; will apply to the Portland and Tri-County area. Affects the year or vintage of the equipment
- Continue to promote OreGo program
- HB3452 Designated US26 across the state as the POW/MIA Hwy
- SB558 Allows cities to have local authority to reduce speeds within the city limits
- HB2017 allowed for 54 new positions, 42 are directed for project delivery
- Conversation around combining 2 transit funds.
- 2020 Oregon Transportation Safety Performance plan will now include:
  - Overtime for Law Enforcement
  - Pet Safety
  - Safety Corridors
- Discussion was held regarding obligating Federal funds and making sure they get spent
- Looking at increasing ODOT’s electric fleet
- Expansion of snow park at Mt. Hood Meadows
- OTC approved Treasure Valley’s Multi Model Facility for funding of $26 million with conditions

Regional Solutions – Courtney Crowel
- The reload facility
- The Juntura Road project is under construction
- The Eastern Oregon Boarder Board had a few legislature proposals that died in committee, they are looking at how to continue to push their policy ideas. They are finalizing 10 projects geared around economic development
- The Oregon Tora-fraction project in John Day co-located at Malheur Lumber. The air permit was finalized the end of June. Hope to be in production this fall.
- Upcoming IOF in the City of Umatilla
• Three entities apply for USDOT Bills grant program, City of Pendleton, City of John Day and CTUIR. Regional Solutions team will write letters of support for all of them.
• The Wallowa Lake Dam Rehabilitation project received $14 million
• The Basalt Bank project in Umatilla & Morrow Counties area received $1 million
• The Regional Infrastructure Fund, a grant program that funded regional projects, the legislature decided to defund the program. The Regional Solution Advisory Committee will continue to work on priority projects. Both Advisory Committee meetings will be meeting in August.
• Randy Jones, from DEQ is returning to the Regional Solutions Team
• In the process of hiring a new Regional Solutions Director
• Length restrictions on Hwy 395 has become an issue. The RST has $500,000 to start an initial design project to fix approximately 20 curves from Pilot Rock to Dale on Hwy 395. The goal will be to completely eliminate the length restriction on Hwy 395.

Tribe/City/County Updates:

Burns-Paiute Tribe – Kenton Dick:
• PTAC held a meeting in June at the Tribal Gathering Center
• Submitted 3 grant applications for the transit program
• Natural Resources staff has been talking with ODOT about putting in a wild life crossing on Hwy US20 between milepost 201-205.
• Working on a trail project going up to the new camp cemetery, about ¼ mile long

Grant County Economic Development – Allison Field:
• In contact negotiations for the CDBG grant for the Meredith House
• Funding package Lane Creek to replace 5 cabins that are in disrepair
• Working with a local individual to host the 1st Fiber Festival this weekend

City of Prairie City – Jim Hamsher:
• The wet spring benefited the water project but slowed the process of the sewer project. The sewer project will be done this fall.
• A new cell tower will be installed across from the saw mill. It'll be completed this fall.
• The construction on the water project will begin in the next few months

Update of Juntura Road – Doug Ferguson:
• Currently in the excavating stage, still looking at completing it by this fall
• The foam asphalt could possibly be done by mid-August

Transit Update – Angie Jones:
• Statewide Improvement Fund (STIF) OTC voted on them a month early, they approved all grants applications
  o Malheur County awarded $307,899 for vehicle purchases
  o Harney County awarded $124,000 for inner-city weekly trips between Bend & Burns-discretionary
  o Grant County awarded all 6 grant applications for
    1. A new bus shelter at Grant Union High School
    2. Phase II of the property expansion
    3. Hardware & Software of the buses
    4. Weekly John Day to Ontario route
5. Umatilla County will purchase passes for county residents to ride People Mover bus from Pendleton to Walla Walla for free
   - The deviated fixed route that was started in January is going really well
   - Having trouble finding drivers
   - Looking for extra money for bus stop signs

City of Hines – Kirby Latham:
- Two Small City Allotments in progress, one is almost complete and the other will be completed in a month or two.
- Getting started on the water improvement project
- The old LP property was bought and is now a pellet mill. Producing dry alfalfa pellets. Goals to increase to green alfalfa & wood pellets. Increasing workforce to 80 employees
- A 50 bay RV storage unit will
- A laundry matt will be opening in a week or two
- The High School Key Club raised $5,000 for the city parks, the city matched it.

City of John Day – Nick Green:
- Working on 4 transportation projects
- Applied for funding for 4th avenue repair
- Applied for a $16.8 million build grant, it’ll be a public private partnership with City of John Day, Iron Triangle, Oregon Trail Electric and OTC for broadband

Business:
- Reviewed the vacant seats still needing to fill
- Working on guest speakers for future meetings, please let Sean Maloney know if you have any suggestions
  - Have a presentation on the Juntura Rd project

Next meeting:
September 23rd, Ontario
ODOT Region 14 Office, Ontario, OR

Meeting Adjourned: