



Roads Advisory Committee (RAC)

MINUTES

BENTON COUNTY ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC) September 18, 2018

Avery Large Conference Room

360 SW Avery Ave., Corvallis, Oregon

Meeting called to order at 3:00 pm by Chuck Kratch.

Members Present: Ed Gerding, Keith Hastings, Dennis Jordan, Chuck Kratch, George Long, John Luna, Kenny Reynolds and Rick Robinson

Guests: Jackie Robinson and Tim Dehne (Candidate for Commissioner)

Staff Present: Laurel Byer, Kathy Goss (Recorder), George Looney, Gary Stockhoff and Jim Stouder

I. Introductions:

- Dennis Jordan: New member who now lives in North Albany. Lived in Portland until he retired in March. He graduated from OSU. "It looks like it will be challenging and fun to be a member."
- Tim Dehne: Currently lives in Corvallis.

II. Approval of August 21, 2018 Minutes: Ed moved to accept the August Minutes; Keith seconded. Motion carried.

III. New Business

- Engineering Monthly Activity Report: Laurel Byer reviewed the report.
 - Starr Creek Road Extension: Will finish the road on the BLM property this year; the southern half of the project will be done next year. Rock will be put down starting tomorrow.
 - Gibson Hill: Will combine the overlay and sidewalk construction with the City of Albany. It will be completed in 2020.
 - Albany Bike Path: Design effort has been stalled for the last year. Discussion followed about the impact of the bike path on the farmers' property and traffic.
 - Marys River Bridge: Hard surfacing started on Monday
 - Tum Tum Bridge: Hard surfacing will start this week.
 - Federal Fund Grant Applications for Bridges: Jim Stouder took ODOT on a scoping tour last week to Hayden Bridge, Irish Bend Bridge and Dodge Island Bridge. Final project selection will occur in March 2019.
 - Safe Route to Schools: Applications are due on October 15th.
- Road Dept. Work Program Update: Jim Stouder
 - Traffic Program: The two people who ran the striping equipment for a number of years have retired. This year the new crew did a wonderful job, especially with the center line. They striped Lincoln County, Corvallis, Sweet Home and Toledo without any claims. The County has one more day of striping to be completed.

- Paving Markings: Slowly converting from paint to plastic. Several have been done over the last 5-6 years, including the city of Monroe.
- Sign Department: Chris Baillie is the new foreman. He is doing a great job, especially working with Engineering. Laurel has worked closely with Chris for the curb warning signs to be updated due to federal requirements. Inventory is great and on schedule for replacement of signs. George Long said he appreciates the improvements made in South County.
- Agency Reports: Gary Stockhoff reported that AAMPO and CAMPO continue to discuss the money from HB 2017 and grants. Both organizations work well with adjoining counties to get the most out of their money.
- TSP Update: Laurel Byer shared the timeline of events.
 - There were several workshops during July. A Spanish only workshop was held in Monroe in August; five families came including their children. It was coordinated with the Health Dept. and was a really good meeting.
 - Process: Consultant has all of the feedback and is currently working on drafting the plan.
 - Stakeholder meetings will take place after Thanksgiving.
 - In December, the information will be taken to the BOC; it will be adopted in February.
 - Individuals are still able to comment on the proposed TSP plan. She encouraged members to review it and give additional input.
- 2018 Road & Parks Tour – Nov. 8th: Jim Stouder
 - 53rd St: Will drive through the roundabout and the right-of-away for the future overpass.
 - Walnut: New chip seal on a high traffic road
 - West Hills Rd.: Chip seal that was put down four years ago
 - Wooded Knolls: New fog seal was applied
 - Priest Road: New reconstruction
 - Beazell Education Center: The old barn has been restored. Lunch will be provided there.
 - Future Projects: Bike path on Chapel Road and the intersection at Country Club Dr.
- HB 2017 Road Fund: Gary Stockhoff
 - A complete set of handouts can be found on ODOT's website.
 - It's important to see if the amount of money ODOT predicted is actually being received.
 - Every city and county has to provide a report for accountability and transparency.
 - The items most important to our County are roads, bridges and local control.
 - It's not a matter of having enough equipment, but enough staff to operate the equipment.
 - Chuck would like to bring back the wish lists, priority lists, etc. for input and review. If available by next month, can share the information with the Commissioners during the tour.
- Potential Discussion on RAC Mission/Operation: Chuck Kratch/Gary Stockhoff
 - BOC asked Vance Croney, County Counsel to review all advisory committees. He is in the process of meeting with the staff of the committees. He will give that info to the BOC in the next month. Is he meeting with the chairs of the committees? Gary didn't know but is willing to pass on any additional information.
 - John Luna wanted to discuss this issue because he has been on the Committee for about a year and a half. Most of the time has been spent being informed about various reports. There has been very little opportunity to perform what is on the Mission Statement, i.e.

budgets and initiatives. There is also the cost of staff members' involvement for the two hour meeting. He doesn't remember any meaningful discussions.

- Kenny Reynolds agrees, but he is not willing to tell Jim or Laurel how to do their job because of the constraints they have that the private sector doesn't have. He thinks the best thing the Committee can do is have representatives from various cities in the County to come up with suggestions to make staff aware of issues they may not be aware of.
- Rick Robinson: Josh Wheeler changed the focus of the group, so members weren't able to give as much advice.
- John would like to have more research and experiments, in particular, on gravel roads.
- Chuck: The Committee needs to allow a transition from Josh to Gary and staff.
- Rick: Research can be done on gravel roads, but won't know the roads unless there is someone experienced on how the gravel roads actually work because every road is different. "Hands on" is totally different and Jim has that experience. What works in a book is totally different from what really works on the ground.
- Ed Gerding has worked with John and agrees with conducting more research. There have been some experiments with Lignin vs. Earthbind. He feels more experiments should be done. Evergreen is an example with a chip seal over a gravel road. What else can we do to help staff?
- Jim said he shared his stabilization program with Gary. The program has been in process for the last three years, using eight different products with different rock quarries and different size rocks. He has used information RAC has suggested and has included it in his experiments. He confirmed staff hears the Committee's input and uses it.
- Ed would like to have Jim share more about the results of his experiments.
- John: Last year during discussions about the new money coming in, there was talk about road stabilization – is it still coming?
- Gary said sometimes road stabilization is an art rather than a science. Jim is great at it. His desire is to have Jim pass all of his knowledge onto others before he retires.

- Other:
 - Appreciation Dinner for Committee members is on Tues., Sept. 25th. It's an opportunity for the Commissioners to say "thank you for your participation". Chuck encouraged members to attend.
 - PERS Increase: George Looney went to a budget presentation two weeks ago. There will be about a \$4 million dollar increase County-wide. Health insurance is also going up. The fortunate part for Public Works is additional resources will be coming. Other departments don't have those resources.
 - New Employees:
 - Mike Johnson is a Civil Engineer with structural background having more experience with buildings rather than bridges.
 - Laurel is really excited about the future. Interviews were conducted on Monday for an additional engineer.
 - Jim has 11 staff members. He is trying to hire one more.
 - Gary is still looking for a new Facilities Manager. An offer was made to a great candidate, but he decided to go to work for OSU. We are currently interviewing again.

- Future Meetings:
 - Average Daily Traffic (ADT) reports
 - Pavement Condition Index (PCI)
 - New ODOT Manager for January/February Meeting
 - David Dowrie from the Budget Committee. Chuck encouraged Gary to have lunch with him. David is a great supporter of roads and Public Works in general.

IV. Next Meeting: October 16, 2018

V. Adjournment at 5:09 pm.