

Minutes of Meeting
November 2, 2023 9:00 AM
3012 Island Ave.
La Grande OR
Virtual MS Teams

Members and Alternates present:

Commissioner Shane Alderson, Nolan Perkins, Commissioner Jeff Wenholz, Karen Pettigrew, Aaron Palmquist, Commissioner Dan Dorrان, Ben Burgener, Tom Fellows, Commissioner Paul Anderes, Robert Strobe, Doug Wright, Kyle Carpenter, commissioner Susan Roberts, Justin Northern, Dani Schulte, Mavis Hartz

Guests Present:

Dan Larman, Kim Curley, Courtney Crowell, Brandon Hammond, Kathleen Cathey, Andy Lindsey, Brian McDowell, David Van Atta, Justin Walker

ODOT Staff:

Sheri Folsom, Michelle Owen, Ken Patterson, Angie Jones, Tom Strandberg, Sean Maloney, Grant Matlock

Opening Meeting:

- Commissioner Dan Dorrان called the meeting to order
- Roll call of voting members – Quorum present
- Introductions: Guests introduced themselves
- Announcements: N/A
- September Minutes Approved.

Public and/or Stakeholders Comments: If Any:

Standing Items & Reports:

OTC/Regional Updates – Ken Patterson

- ✓ Region Manager, Ken Patterson, traveled around the region attending the maintenance crew winter operations meetings
- ✓ Region 5 is currently recruiting for vacant positions. While some maintenance crews are going into winter shorthanded, as a whole, the districts are staffed with more employees than the 22-23 winter
- ✓ Region 5 will be holding some positions vacant for budget savings
- ✓ The Jordan Valley/Basque crew are understaffed due to recruiting difficulties and will not have a staffed night crew working
- ✓ The region's budget reduction plan was reviewed and discussed

24-27 STIP – Ken Patterson

- ✓ There will be less Discretionary funding than we have had in the past
- ✓ Large amounts of the funding will go to ADA projects from the STIP
- ✓ Strategic outcome program – utilize \$70M in the 27-30 STIP for projects
- ✓ After the OTC meet, we will have a better idea of how money will be distributed i.e. Fix It, Enhance, Bridges, etc.
- ✓ Draft letter with comments is due by Monday, November 6th

Local Program Update: Michelle Owen

- ✓ Shout out to locals for projects
 - a. Hermiston-N 1st place-HB2017, Penny Ave-IOF, West Park Elementary SRTS project
 - b. Irrigon-HB2017-ped project underway-RRFBs and sidewalk
 - c. Columbia Development Authority is beginning design of their HB2017 arm depot road project
 - d. Belt Park Greenway-valuating proposals
 - e. Umatilla River Trail-new OCP-great project site visit!
 - f. Holbrook bridge going out for procurement
 - g. Thorn Hollow still progressing
- ✓ Update from the ODOT Local Agency Program quarterly meeting, ODLAP manual work-consistency among regions and programs
- ✓ Update from funding on 27-30 STIP-SFLP potential again for Local Bridge program
- ✓ Will continue to send out NOFOs

RST Update – Courtney Crowell

- ✓ Laura Cline is the new DEQ representative
- ✓ Oregon Solutions Project: Wildlife Crossing
- ✓ Wallowa Lake Dam project continues to move forward. \$23-\$28M towards the project
- ✓ Echo transportation related issue – Sean Maloney, Rich Lani and Courtney Crowell spend a day visiting with officials to discuss ongoing flooding issues stemming from the 2019 flood

Transit Update – Angie Jones

- ✓ Region 5 transit providers and their financial management staff are being required to virtually attend upcoming Grant Management and Financial Management trainings
- ✓ Morrow County and Kayak are in preparation to stand up their Boardman fixed routes. Morrow County is scheduled to start their (2) new fixed routes in December. Kayak will start their new Boardman Route in March 2024
- ✓ City of Milton-Freewater will end their purchase service contract with Kayak for fixed route services within the City. The County will take over the contract for purchased services with Kayak beginning 1/1/2024
- ✓ City of Milton-Freewater will retain their Section 5310 taxi ticket program for seniors and persons with disabilities
- ✓ The transfer of services in Baker City to CCNO with the taxi ceasing operations appears to be going well
- ✓ Kayak is being recognized at the National Rural and Tribal Assistance Program National Conference in December 2023

New Business

Strategic Action Plan Update (SAP) – Mary McGowan

- ✓ The SAP was discussed with emphasis on the following:
 - Why was the plan created
 - What were the key accomplishments from 2021 & 2022
 - The 24-28 strategic priorities
 - Both internal and external engagements
 - Anticipated OTC approval in January 2024

For full presentation see attachment



SAP Presentation .pdf

Meeting adjourned 12:00pm
Next NEACT meeting January 4, 2024