

TILLAMOOK COUNTY ROAD ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CRAC)

DATE: May 12th, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Bob Reed, Bill Howard, Marlin Clark, Ray Robinson, Ray Streeter, Larry Kiser and Jack Brooks.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Curt Schonbrod and Gloria Gass

STAFF: Aaron Suko/PW Director, Pat Oakes/Engineering Project Supervisor, Bob Willhite/Operations and Jeanette Steinbach/Recorder

GUESTS/PUBLIC: Dora Norwood and Gus Meyer - TBWC

Item 1 Call meeting to order, review agenda: Meeting called to order at 3:03pm. Added speed zone issue.

Item 2 Review minutes of 05-12-03: Jack Brooks motioned to approve the minutes, Ray S. seconded, unanimously approved.

Item 3 Road Department Status:

- | **Report on Maintenance & Repair:** Bob reported that the crews are currently working on potholes, mowing, road spraying and shoulder work. It was noted that blackberry spraying occurs in the fall
- | **Review the 2003-2004 Paving List:** Bob handed out the 2003 overlay list that does not include the Bay City, Laneda, Trask or McCormick Loop projects. It was noted that because of lack of funds the budgeted 3.370 miles does not come close to the 14 miles/year that need to be paved to bring the county road system in order. \$330,000 has been budgeted for paving which includes the list, all other projects and pothole patching. Jack motioned to accept the list; Bill Howard seconded, unanimously approved.
- | **Report on discussion with City of Manzanita and City of Bay City:** Aaron indicated that a commitment letter was received from the City of Bay that if repairs are done to Warren Street and 4th Street from D to Main Street they would be accepted as City Roads. The plan is do the overlay after the City has done the water main repairs. The City of Manzanita has hired HLB & Associates to do the design work on Laneda Road. A memo of understanding between the Road Dept. and the City is being worked on whereby ownership can be transferred to the City after the improved portion is completed and what the county would do in support of the project. Previously it was informally agreed that placement of the paving would be the county's portion of the project, but the consultant has suggested that the county to do the demolition work instead. The plan is to have a meeting to finalize the county's portion of the project. The cost would be the same. Discussed existing encroachment structures on the Laneda Road right-of-ways.
- | **Further discussion on overwidth tractors:** Aaron reiterated that Marlin and Ray S. would serve on the Agriculture Committee and Bob R. and Curt to serve on the Forestry Committee. The BOC have been contacting the Forestry and Farm industry for representation in these sub-committees.

The hope is to have a sub-committee appointed by next week. Numerous complaints have been received about the deterioration of the road and the mess that is left on the road. Ray Streeter approached George Allen, President of the Association Board. They are planning on broaching this topic in their newsletter. He also spoke to one of Averill's sons and they are also aware of the problem and feel a solution is needed. Ray suggested that having pilot cars on oversize vehicles over 10' may help, but he also warned that this must be done soon before more farms use these OS tractors. Marlin said he spoke to Todd Leuthold and Soil & Water. They recognize that some farmers are using these OS tractors. They suggested that too many imposed regulations would affect other folks who are not the cause of the problem. The farmers are paying too many taxes. They said that high-pressure tires and school buses also cause a lot of the problems. Marlin suggested inviting the farmers to the next CRAC meeting. Aaron reiterated that ORS exempts animal husbandry and farm equipment operations from the usual restrictions as well as the financial liability. This is a serious matter incase an accident happens - who would be responsible? Discussed in detail the reasoning behind overwidth tractors, i.e. more productivity, changing from dry to wet material. Examples were given of overwidth tractors that were observed causing unsafe conditions.

- | **Chip Seal Update:** Bob Reed asked for an update on the program if 6 miles per district was chip sealed as planned. Aaron said that if funding were available it would come out from the asphalt and rock line item. The chip seal program proposed by Commission Hurliman who was proposing a voluntary taxation participation from the special districts. Voluntary taxation participation has not been acquired yet. This program is not budgeted for 2003/04, as additional funding has not been forthcoming.

Item 4 Project Discussion:

- | **Sandlake-Galloway Road:** Pat reported that final burning is being done. Bob and Pat met with the project engineer on site to review work beginning in the summer. The Project Engineer will be introduced at the Monday BOC staff meeting.
- | **Blaser Bridge:** Bids are due May 20th to be opened by the BOC May 21st. Phase II contract being worked on with the design consultant for construction engineering support. The road will be closed during construction.
- | **Earl Bridge:** Received a preliminary design proposal that is being reviewed, this is slated for summer construction by road crews.
- | **Gist Road:** Culvert replacement/Fish Passage project. Final plans received from the Estuary Partnerships consultant this may be done 2004 due to funding.
- | **Blaine 2 Project:** Still awaiting legal descriptions from Federal Highway before R-O-W acquisitions can be done.
- | **On-call Engineering Services:** RFP out to hire two on-call consultants, proposals due May 16th, 2003.
- | **Fish Passage Projects (see attached handout):** Letter reviewed that was attached to the agenda. Pat plans on submitting this to the BOC for approval after receiving CRAC's feedback. Aaron said this would be an aid for people working on these types of projects so that they are aware

of the issues involved. Gus Meyer said that Samson Creek estimated at \$95,000 and Green Creek Culverts estimated at \$60,000; the design work was fully funded from outside the county funds. We are planning on obtaining 22 letters of commitment of support before Public Works gets involved in any project. Guy Meyer explained the grant process to the members. Pat said that each project has different requirements and time commitment. Guy said the plan is to work together as a partnership with all the agencies involved coming together to find a solution that would be suitable to all. Jack motioned to accept the draft as submitted, Larry K. seconded, unanimously approved.

Whalen Island Park: Bob Willhite reported that the projected started last week. The rock and grubbing of the parking area is nearly completed. Aaron said that the State Parks would reimburse the Road Department per the Intergovernmental Agreement that was approved by two of the Board of Commissioners. The State will pay for the materials for the intersection of Hwy101/Sandlake Road. Ray S. asked for elaboration on the nay vote by one of the BOC. Aaron felt that the Commissioner would have preferred if the State Parks contributed more to the intersection at Sandlake Road as part of their project. The intersection is part of the road system and is not safe, and since State Parks agreed to contribute to the materials it would help with the out of the pocket expenses. Aaron said that with the wetland issues, the old trees that were sectioned off would have cost the State Parks a lot of money. The Road Dept. was able to come up with a cost saving solution for all agencies involved. The State Park Day Use area and the intersection with the County Parks Dept. will be completed by tomorrow. The intersection at Sandlake Road will be constructed in early June. Paving to be completed prior to June 30, 2003. The County Parks will have camping available. The power is all being put underground in conjunction with this project.

Item 5 Budget Presentation Discussion: Updated budget packet handed out. Aaron reviewed the revenues with the members. This budget to be adopted mid-June. STPF revenue increased \$20,000. The general fund budget was short \$1.6 Million so as a result the Road Department inter-county administration fee was raised from \$140,000 to \$200,000, the Non-Union employees and election officials forego COLA increases and two positions were eliminated from Emergency Management so that the budget could be balanced. A cost plan done by a consultant 2 years ago indicated that Road Department was at 60% of its actual cost to the County, this increase brings it to approximately 90%. The additional monies for this expenditure resulted in a reduction in the rock and aggregate, fuel, repair and maintenance, utilities, code enforcement and engineering consultant's expenditure line items.

Marlin passed out a handout on suggested revenue ideas. He stressed his concern that the Road Dept. is operating with insufficient funds. He feels that this department should operate as a business. Revenue needs to be sought out but not by taxation. Bob Reed commended Marlin on the work that went into his report. Aaron thanked Marlin for his recommendation and Gus for his recommendation that was given to him in April. He has requested the County Counsel to review the road utility fee assessment that is being done by the City of Tualatin to determine if it is feasible on a county level.

Aaron noted that during a presentation given by the Forestry Department indicated that in their Annual plan they have 5 miles of new road, 80-100 miles of road to be improved and 5-10 miles to be closed. The money to fund this is taken right off the top of the 30% that is distributed to the county general fund and other taxing districts. Aaron said he senses a reluctance with the Commissioners to go that route. Commissioner Hanneman suggested we tread lightly with the Forestry Dept. because the local economy is based on this industry and they have other pressures that they have to deal with. Jack Brooks stressed that this is a desperate situation for the Road Dept. and should be looked at for a revenue source. Aaron suggested that the members bring their opinions and concerns to the Commissioners. Aaron handed out a "Pothole problem still a priority" an article published in the Oregonian 04/28/03 to all the members.

Item 6 Public Comment: Dora stated that the overtime figures budgeted went from \$4,900 to \$6,230 to \$21,000. Aaron explained that the sum is carried over because if there is a storm event this amount would be utilized. Dora noted that Doug Moncrief/ODOT Area Manager is retiring. She said that he was part of the Traffic Safety Committee that was able to accomplish quite a few safety-related projects, i.e. the road by Burden's, intersection on Burton-Fraser Road and the Rockaway Beach project. Bob Reed agreed with Dora's perspective and said it was a shame that the grant that supported the staff person who organized the committee was dissolved. Bob said that on speaking to Nancy Emerson she hoped that the committee would start meeting again. Aaron reiterated that suggestions are welcomed from any committee and that all ideas are important so that they can be implemented if improvement is needed. He explained that the overlay on Hwy 131 is an OTIA funded project, the City of Tillamook funded the Burden's job through a grant. All of these funds were obtained from outside the county. The Pedestrian crossing by the Friends Camp was funded by private money. Dora suggested inviting the new ODOT representative to the CRAC meeting. Gus Meyer is seeking opportunities to bring grant money into the county to fix failing culverts. A priority system list is needed from Public Works in conjunction with the Fish Passage Team to work up a list to present to the Watershed Council so grants can be obtained. Aaron said that the Road Dept. does not have a culvert management system, which would make it difficult to make a priority list. Gus appreciates the issue but in the long run this would save the Road Dept. money.

Bob Reed received a call from Gary Altman from Pacific City who put up some slow signs on Brooten Road on the county road right-of-way. Pat said that he had received a call from him regarding his signs that were removed and are being returned to him. The signs were unauthorized and not justified. That area was reviewed by ODOT 3 years ago. Pat indicated to him that if the signs were placed on private property as long as the visibility issue was covered that the Road Dept. has no issue with it.

Item 7 Next meeting, date and agenda: June 9th, 2003 at 3:00pm. Aaron said that an item on the agenda would be to discuss developing a policy on stepping up enforcement of offenders of the No Spray and No Mow agreements.

Item 8 Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 5:13pm