

TILLAMOOK COUNTY ROAD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: May 10, 2004

MEMBERS PRESENT: Curt Schonbrod, Jack Brooks, Marlin Clark, Ray Streeter, John Gettman, Bruce Hagerty and Bekki Gardner

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bob Reed, Ed Werner and Alternate Gary Hercher

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

PUBLIC/GUESTS: Gus Meyer, Dora Norwood, Gary Altman (portion of the meeting) and Victor O.

Item 1 Call meeting to order, review agenda: Meeting called to order at 3:00pm.

Item 2 review and approve minutes of 04-12-04: Jack moved to accept the minutes as written, John seconded, unanimously approved.

John discussed obtaining OWEB funding to repair Anderson Road and asked if the Watershed Council could be involved. Aaron said that the Road Dept. would fund the design and then a decision would be made on the funding possibilities. This design could also be adapted to other road culvert issues. Fish passage issues would also be a consideration in the decision process.

Curt welcomed Bruce Hagerty.

Item 9 Public Comment: Gary Altman shared his concern over the speeding on Brooten Road. He has contacted several agencies with no results. Dora suggested that Gary take this issue to the Traffic Safety Committee Meeting 05/17/04 12pm at the Transportation Office. Pat said this is an enforcement issue and should be addressed to the Sheriff's. Gary would like speed bumps on the road. Ray Streeter asked if there were any accidents on that stretch of the road, Gary said he is not aware of any. He mentioned that his Neighbor's cats have been killed. Aaron suggested that Gary bring his issue to the Traffic Safety Committee because it is broad based and they would be able handles this matter.

Item 3 2005 Budget Deliberation report: Aaron reported on the budget hearing. The request for the \$100,000 O&C Lands revenue to be given to the Road Dept was denied on the basis that the General Fund needs the money more than the Road Dept does. The \$100,000 was removed from the Asphalt and Culverts expenditure line item. This also now does not provide any significant repairs on the Trask River Road. The Intercounty Administration cost that went up last year from \$140,000 to \$200,000 is for support services provided by other departments of the County. He asked for elimination or lowering of this figure since the cost plan numbers are not being applied to all the departments, just the departments that are not funded by the General Fund monies. This would state that the general fund functions are more important than other departments who have other revenue

resources. There is no recognition for overall services that the County needs to provide, it then becomes a matter of distinction between lines of funding i.e. funded by General Fund or outside funding sources. Aaron reported that it was stated that the Treasurer had received new software that would be able to give a more accurate cost analysis, but it does not seem that there is an agreement to even-up the application of the fee. Curt asked if the service provided is worth \$200,000. Aaron said his major concern that it is not being applied uniformly throughout the county, and it is only being applied to certain departments that have outside funding resources. Curt suggested that the Treasurer or the BOC get invited to talk to the committee on how the cost plan is applied and why not for all the departments. The BOC has approached the State Forestry to see if any monies from the State Forestry could be applied to specific roads. They are two factors of concern. State Forestry is concerned about setting precedent that would allow other counties to feel they could do the same. The BOC are also concerned about the impact on the general fund distribution and special taxing districts and the schools. The School district may not be an issue because the state education is funded at a certain level, and in recent years the proceeds from the State Forestry have not exceeded the basic level of funding. This money in recent years has gone to the State general fund and then being provided to the schools. They would have to do this no matter if the State Forestry was distributing monies to them. One of the Commissioners is optimistic that we could get funds this summer. Aaron indicated that he does not share this optimism because of the levels of concerns that would result in an agreement.

Item 4 Road Department Repair Projects Report

- | Pavement Overlay List: Previously discussed
- | Trask River Road Needs: Previously discussed
- | McCormick Loop Road: Aaron provided a history of the issue on this road for the benefit of the new committee members. The surface was deteriorating and as a result the office was receiving numerous phone calls. This matter was brought to the CRAC, which then subsequently formed a subcommittee. Marlin Clark and Ray Streeter represented CRAC. The farm equipment is exempt through the ORS from the usual vehicle codes - i.e. brakes, light, width and for the most part weight. The Commissioners could pass specific limiting rules that would allow them to limit this type of equipment in instances to protect the road and the safety of the public. Ray Streeter said that the trucking industry was willing to adhere to new regulations but the Farming industry did not want any more regulations. To deal with the condition of McCormick Loop Rd - the portion from Beeler Farms up to Grand View Heights - the cut was widened on top of the hill, and the fill on the lane coming up the hill was widened and pavement patched. This has stood up through the winter. In the spring the road base was widened onto Beeler. The plan is to complete it this summer with widening of the road base and pavement patch up to Grand View Heights and do a full pavement overlay of .5 miles. John Gettman suggested that this committee pursue an ordinance with BOC to limit farm equipment on the Road. He suggested that the staff draft an ordinance for review by CRAC. Aaron reiterated that his concern is the width of the equipment, and the Farmer was willing to narrow the equipment but the Manufacturer won't honor the warranty.

Item 5 Status of Ongoing Projects:

- | Laneda Road - City of Manzanita: Bob reported that the project has started. The 1st lift is done on 3 blocks, but because of the weather preparation work is being done on another area. He hoped to have it completed by the 1st week of June. Aaron explained that Laneda is the main street in the City of Manzanita and is a County Road. After several attempts to obtain monies to improve the street, the City of Manzanita got a bond passed to improve the road. The City asked for some assistance from the County. The BOC agreed that the Road Dept. would supply the manpower and the equipment to place the asphalt.
- | Sandlake-Galloway Road: Pat reported that this is a Federal Highway Administration project. Completion being slated for late 2004.
- | OTIA III Bridge Replacements: The BOC has executed the funding agreement with ODOT. Monies would be available July 2.
- | Gist Road Culvert Replacement Project: This is funded through grants. Bid opening 05/12/04 at 9:30am.

Marlin expressed his concern about the funding level of the Road Dept. In the past he has come up with different ideas, but they have not been well received. Curt said that the bottom line is that general funds are not being made available to the Road Dept. The option is to put it on the ballot, but with the last attempt defeated with a wide margin, it may not be a very good option. The CRAC needs to decide whether to attempt the Property Tax again. He does not think a Gas Tax would work because of the high gas prices. Curt suggested looking into the administration charge of \$200,000 which over 5 years amounts to \$1,000,000 and talk to the BOC about eliminating it. Aaron suggested also revisiting the Funding Workshop dated July 02 and researching in detail potential revenue sources. 50% of the Road Dept. budget is Personnel cost, while the General fund's Personnel cost is 72% of the budget. Aaron indicated that 2005 would be the best year to start talking about additional funding resources, and to discuss the expiration of the Federal Safety Net Legislation, which comprises about half of the budget. Aaron said that revenue, if obtained, from the Forestry would be for dedicated roads only. Gus suggested that the CRAC write a letter to the BOC in support of the efforts to obtain funds from the Forestry.

Item 10 Adjourn: Aaron asked the committee to decide on future agenda items before scheduling the next meeting. He suggested that a meeting be held 2 months apart until the fall if there is not anything pressing. Future agenda items to be discussed include:

- | Need to define the committee's role especially if there is a consensus that funding is not available.
- | Road Department Programs: If any information were needed, the staff would be happy to provide.
- | John recommended that based on the research that he has done on Cochran Road it should be transferred to the Oregon Dept. of Forestry. He recommends it because there are no private land around that road in Tillamook County. Aaron said that a list was formatted on the roads that

lead to Forestry Roads, which included Cochran, Trask River, God's Valley, East Beaver Creek and Foss.

- | Local Access Road: Tillamook County is one of the few county road departments that do basic maintenance on LAR, and with the limited funding this needs to be discussed. Aaron said that ORS chapter 368.031 states, "A local access road that is outside a city is subject to the exercise of jurisdiction by a county governing body in the same manner as a county road except as follows: A county and its officers, employees or agents are not liable for failure to improve the local access road or keep it in repair. A county governing body shall spend county moneys on the local access road only if it determines that the work is an emergency or if: The county road official recommends the expenditure; The public use of the road justifies the expenditure proposed; or The county governing body enacts an order or resolution authorizing the work and designating the work to be either a single project or a continuing program. " The provision basically states that the road funds should not be used on LAR unless it follows the three criteria. Previous ordinances/orders have stipulated that a certain amount of repair would be done on LARs.

Dora said that the Native Plant Society used to encourage the saving of the Hollyhock at the side of the roads. She said that Jon Oshel supported this effort. At the corner of Trask River east there is a patch of hollyhocks that she would like to be preserved because they are diminishing. Aaron suggested that the Soil and Water Dept be contacted. Gettman concurred that the Soil and Water deal with invasive weeds. Curt said that the Native Plant Society could remove them from the roadsides. Dora said that the plants are best kept where they grow. Aaron said that he has no great desire to have any more encumbrances on the roadway shoulders and ditch maintenance program - he would be happy to support anything that would not impact the condition of the roadway.

The next meeting set for July 12, 2004 at 3pm. Meeting adjourned at 4:45pm.