

COLUMBIA COUNTY
Transportation and Road Advisory Committee
August 17, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Order:

Rosemary Lohrke called the Columbia County Transportation and Road Advisory Committee (CCTRAC) meeting to order at 10:12 am. on Thursday, August 17, 2023, in Healy Hall.

Present:

TRAC Members: Pat LaPointe, Sabrina Moore, Rosemary Lohrke, Karl Webster, and Nita Greene
Columbia County Staff: Michael Russell, Public Works Director, Grant DeJongh, Public Works Assistant Director; Julie Wheeler, Admin Assistant II

Introductions:

No introductions made since all in attendance knew each other.

Minutes:

The minutes from the May 18, 2023, meeting were approved. Sabrina Moore made the motion with Karl Webster seconded.

Open Forum for Guest Comments:

- No comments were given.

Old Business / Updates: Michael Russell & Grant DeJongh

- Emergency Relief Projects (2015 Storm Event)
 - Meissner Road Slide
 - The location of this repair is between Clark Road and Anliker Road. This project is complete.
 - Fernhill Road Slide
 - The location of this repair is between Townsend and Ferncrest Road. The punch list items are being reviewed and then it will be complete.
- Culvert Bundle – Apiary Road MP 12.2 & 17.4; Bennett Road
 - Apiary Road MP 12.2
 - Made culvert size bigger. Went from a 24” to a 36”.
 - Boring was done yesterday, August 16th.
 - The cost increased by \$60,000.
 - The road is fully closed while the work is being completed.
 - Apiary Road MP 17.4
 - The bridge deck is in place.
 - The Rainier side of the project is good. Vernonia side cracked, therefore the road will be closed for another three weeks, reopening Sept. 9th.

Old Business/Updates, Continued:

- Rosemary inquired about the Weyerhaeuser bypass road. This route was used the first week and then closed to everyone except for Weyerhaeuser contractors and employees. They had wanted to charge us if it was to be used by the general public.
- Bennett Road Culvert Replacement
 - The road is currently closed while the culvert is being replaced. The project is on track to be completed in the timeframe originally determined.
- Fern Hill Culvert project will be done at a later date.
- Scappoose Vernonia Road bridge at MP 2 will occur next summer.
- Millard Road project will occur next summer.
- Scappoose Vernonia MP 19.98 Bridge B-10
 - Some repairs on this bridge were completed by our crews last November.
 - Another bent needs to be repaired. This won't happen until summer of 2024.
 - Sabrina asked why ODOT wanted the bridge closed. Rotted pilings were the issue. Once one of them were taken care of that was out of the water, it was then deemed safe enough for loads.
- CZ Trail Bridge at Scappoose Vernonia MP 8.7
 - This project was going to be worked on with ODOT. It will have to wait until winter to accomplish.
- Fishhawk Lake Bridge
 - The original plan was to do bank armoring. Regulatory agencies are saying that rock shouldn't be placed at the bend of water.
 - Repairs made last summer are holding up.
 - This bridge will continue to be inspected by us. It's placed right in the bend of the river, making issues to it more likely to happen.
 - Since the repairs made originally were of an emergency nature, permits weren't required before proceeding with the work.
 - Sabrina asked if not balling everything together, there's a cost saving. She suggested keeping project permits separate so that they get through the bureaucratic red tape a lot quicker.
- Bonnie Falls Repair
 - Surveying will be completed this month.
 - Rosemary asked what's our expectation to accomplish. Mike says it will continue to move. Improvements being made should last another five to six years.
- Apiary Road Bump at Oak Ranch
 - The area has been dug out. The base issues have been addressed. Today the crew will be paving it.
- Review of Grant Funded Project
 - Attached is a memo with all of the information.
- A discussion concerning erecting guardrails on Cater Road where clear cutting has taken place up to the edge of the road was had. A good candidate for a guardrail would be on the curve near the Stone Road intersection.
- Nita brought up having a deposit being paid by logging companies before their operation begins. Pictures of the condition of the County roads should be taken before logging and then any repairs needing to be made after operation is completed could be made using these funds.

Old Business/Updates, Continued:

- Per Sabrina, money from mileage fees should cover expenses. This is assessed on all haulers, not just loggers. It wouldn't be right to just single out one industry.
- Sabrina mentioned that roads are falling apart due to substandard road quality.
- It was suggested that Public Works checks with Washington County to see what they do.
- ODOT Safe Routes to School:
 - Columbia Boulevard is benefitting from this program. We will also be doing a culvert replacement on that road.
 - City of Scappoose
 - There are gaps in sidewalks on County roads. We've obtained a sidewalk grant to address these issues. There will be a list of identified areas that need work.
- Little Clatskanie River culverts will be replaced with a bridge on Apiary Road (MP 8.4).
- Fleet Management:
 - The program will be rolled out this fall with the crew.
 - Mechanics are already using the program to track repairs.
 - We will be getting tablets for each of the shops.
 - There will be two months training on the system. The crew will be conducting pre-trip and post-trip inspections on the system along with admitting vehicle maintenance requests.
 - November is month one of training on the system.
 - Sabrina would like to keep feet to the fire to get this started. This is something that has to happen. There will always be something that will interrupt a start, so a hard date needs to be set. Per Sabrina, money is walking out the door the longer we don't get this program implemented.

Round Table Discussion:

- No issues brought up for discussion.

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 16, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Wheeler