

COLUMBIA COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION AND ROAD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 24, 2025, 10 am

MINUTES

- ❖ **Call to Order-10:15 am** **Chair- Rosemary Lohrke**

- ❖ **Notes from the March 20, 2025, meeting were distributed but not approved. No quorum.**

- ❖ **Sign In / Introductions –** **Chair – Rosemary Lohrke**
 - Present: Tim Hancock (CCPW), Mike Russell (CCPW), Grant DeJongh (CCPW), Julie Wheeler (CCPW), Rosemary Lohrke (citizen, chair)

- ❖ **Open Forum for Comments –** **Members and Guests**
 - None

- ❖ **Updates/Discussion -** **Mike Russell, PW Director**
 - Projects Updates
 - Scappoose-Vernonia Road MP 2 – East Fork Nehalem Bridge Replacement – Going to bid for this project in November. Work will begin in FY2027, next summer. A grant was obtained for the majority of this work. We still have over \$2,390,000 available. Our match is 10.27%. The latest estimates to complete the replacement is over \$4,000,000,
 - Other bridges that have serious structural issues are 2 on Beaver Falls Road and 1 on Clatskanie District Road – all in the Clatskanie district.

 - Tim Hancock, PW R & B Mtee Superint.**
 - 2025 Chip Seal – Project starts August 11th. Roads projected to be chip sealed are Scappoose-Vernonia Road (MP 2 – MP 6, 9 – Raingarden Lane); Beaver Falls Road (Depot to Quincy-Mayger); Quincy-Mayger (Beaver Falls to Kallunki) – chip seal will be a partnership with Clatsop County (supplying equipment, labor, expertise) – Columbia County will provide some labor and materials
 - The plan is to have road activity-centered crews and get away from solely in-district work. The ditching crew earlier this year was the pilot program for this sort of crew structure. Implementation of more activity-based crew assignments will begin in October.

- Mike Russell, PW Director**
- Budget Update
 - Presently we’re okay.
 - There are statewide shortfalls. Many cities, counties, and the State itself are having budgetary issues.
 - The Road Department would like to formulate a 3-5 year projection. We want to be prepared for our overhead going up and our funding going down.

❖ **Updates/Discussion**

- Budget Update (continued)
 - Our FY2026 projected revenue amounts are over budgeted. We're taking a second look and will be adjusting accordingly to be more accurate.
 - We have two job vacancies, Lube Service Worker and Engineer Tech I currently vacant. To save money, we will not be filling these at this time. Our goal is to preserve the positions we currently have and to see how the economy and our budget is before spending more funds on personnel.
 - A 5-year projected budget will be developed. TRAC members will be assisting in creating this.
- Committee Vacancies
 - There are currently three vacancies on the committee

❖ **Round Table Discussion**

Chair & Members

- None.

❖ **Next Meeting** – October 16, 2025

Chair

❖ **Adjourn** – 10:55 AM

Chair