

Meeting Notes Format

Access and Transportation Issue Team

December 14, 2001

Redmond Library

Members Present: Terry Morton, Mollie Chaudet, Steve Jorgensen, Kate Kimball, Ray Hartwell, Ron Wortman, Alan Unger, Brian Ferry, Bruce Hunt, ML Norton, Clay Penhollow, Gary Farnsworth, Larry Zakrajsek, Cary Penhollow, Sarah Thomas, Chuck Schonneck, Terry Eccles, Mark Devoney, Walt Schloer, Phil Paterno.

Members Absent: Jeff Boyer, Rick Hinman, Libby Johnson, Larry Miller, Darrell Pieper, Bill Zelenka

Agenda Item #1 - Interests of Membership - Handouts were distributed for completion by members, followed by discussion.

Mollie explained that the collaborative process involves other interest groups that are proceeding concurrently with a planning process. The South Redmond Collaborative Planning Group and the Millican Group. Our process will integrate with these interests.

This was followed by a discussion of members interests.

Steve Jorgensen - a representative of Deschutes County is involved in County Transportation Planning and has an interest in existing right of way (row) issues, including access and safety. Also concerned with emergency access routes through public lands to subdivisions. Steve is involved with the La Pine Airport Feasibility Study and will work with the Land Ownership Team for the consideration of this issue.

Kate - wants to see the plan serve to minimize fragmentation and lands and wildlife habitat. Wants to insure that access and utility needs can co-locate to reduce proliferation.

Ray Hartwell - wants to insure that access needs are reconciled with environmental preservation and seeks to minimize human impacts.

Ron Wortman - wants to design the plan to streamline the processing of future row cases.

Alan Unger - Recognizes transportation planning as a challenge for the City of Redmond. The location of the airport and railroad present a major obstacle for access routes around and through the city. He believes vision and planning will reduce the problems.

Brian Ferry - has an interest to protect and maintain wildlife and fishery resources.

Bruce Hunt - would like to see the plan serve to expedite row processing and allow CEC to respond to maintenance and construction needs. Growth demands require heavier electrical loads with larger systems and wider row widths and clearing areas. Shares a personal interest to work for continued access to public lands for recreational purposes.

ML Norton - described the growth demands on CEC and the need to construct new lines and upgrade existing systems. Pointed out the incorrect statistical information in the AMS Area Profile and described the growth of Central Oregon in larger terms.

Clay Penhollow - wants the plan to recognize the importance of gathering and cultural areas and the treaty rights that have been established to protect these interests.

Gary Farnsworth - is interested in preserving the quality of life in Central Oregon. Transportation safety is a primary concern. He wants to see a balance of transportation needs and land use on public lands as well as on a local, regional and state level. He believes we can develop vital communities by working with community solutions through the Governors Quality Livability Objectives. Three specific interests include, the Millican Road, South Redmond and the needs for an aggregate source for building and maintaining roads for public safety.

Larry Zakrajsek - recognizes the pressures of urbanization and the impacts on public lands and facilities from the development of private lands. He sees that routes and facilities are being proposed for uses that were never considered in their original design. He feels there is no process that would allow the County to accept roads through public lands to isolated pockets of development.

Carry Penhollow - has an interest to maintain water quality as growth expands and wants to minimize trespass.

Terry Eccles - is interested in continued access to public lands and in managing ATV opportunities that are not conflicting with other uses. Terry inquired about the specific BLM process needed to close roads.

Sarah Thomas - recognizes that the economy of Crook County depends upon the development of an alternate route for Hwy 27 that would extend to Hwy. 20, near Millican. She pointed out the constraints of the existing route and the advantages of the alternate location. Sarah felt that it would be important to have an economist on the team. Mollie replied that there is a Socio-Economic Team and Mary Sue Carlson of the Governors Office can provide that element of expertise.

Chuck Schonacker - is interested in maintaining the canal rights of way through public lands and wants to protect water quality. He describes the widespread problem of dumping in the canal system and the associated pollution.

Walt Schloer - is interested in assuring that the plan provides for the continuity of the transportation system particularly as it relates to BLM and FS roads.

Mark Devoney is involved directly with the South Redmond Collaborative Plan and supports the statements and objectives of Gary Farnsworth.

Phil Paterno - represents the interests of BLM and serves to facilitate the activities of the Issue Team to provide for community needs for transportation and access in a manner that is balanced with resource needs.

Interests that may not be specifically represented could be addressed in four ways:

1. Recruited directly by a member of the team,
2. The interest may be represented on another team and integrated with this team,
3. Personal contacts by our team members as specific issues unfold,
4. The availability of public access to our website.

Our team is the largest issue team with 21 members. A team that is too large will have difficulty functioning.

This was followed by a discussion dealing with the perceived lack of representation by landowners on the part of some members of the team. It was mentioned that landowner interests were represented by Darrel Piper and Jeff Boyer.

Recreation interest was thought to be a possible gap in our team membership, however it was pointed out that Terry Eccles, Bruce Hunt and Brian Ferry would represent this interest. Mollie explained that the Recreation Team is addressing recreational access needs and their work will be integrated with the work of our team.

Brian Ferry raised some concerns about the requirement of BLM to provide some level of access to private land holdings.

Ray Hartwell feels that the definition of access can include many levels and in some areas access may involve hiking several miles. He also had concerns about the BLM row process and wants a better understanding of how it works.

There was discussion about the recreational opportunity of driving for pleasure and the economic considerations associated with recreation, especially in areas with limited economic opportunities like Crook County.

Allan Unger can see a need to provide for recreational opportunities that may be evolving in the future and the need to recognize that new technology is creating additional access needs. There are also access issues to utilities such as cogeneration plants that will need to be addressed. The expansion of airport runways and clear zones is an issue as well as airport imaginary surfaces associated with anti-terrorism concerns. He suggested that we consider long range planning needs in terms of 20 or even 50 years. Steve Jorgensen has had experience in developing the Deschutes County 20 Year Plan.

Terry Eccles raised a point about forecasting needs. Mark Devoney explained that he manages the Forecasting Unit for ODOT and would be able to integrate our issues with forecasting projections. Ray Hartwell would like to see us think about a 50 year vision for managing public lands and wants to insure that the vision represents the best interests of the public lands and not a consolidation of special interests from other planning efforts.

There was a discussion about a need for a person to serve from our team as a liaison with the Land Ownership Team.

There was a brief discussion of the Preliminary Issues, Decisions and Preliminary Range of Alternatives that were described on Table E-1 of the AMS document. Due to time constraints, members agreed to review the issues during the next few weeks to prepare for the work planned at the next meeting.

A poll was taken to determine a convenient time for the Large Group Meeting that is being planned for late January. The Large Group consists of members from all Issue Teams and is intended to identify shared interests and goals as well as to explore criteria for evaluating alternatives. The other teams are being polled and a date that is convenient to most of the member will be scheduled. The following dates were proposed with the numbers indicating those who are unable to attend on those dates:

Friday, January 25, 2 with conflict,
Saturday, January 26, 12 with conflict,
Monday, January 28, 2 with conflict,
Tuesday, January 29, 2 with conflict

The next meeting is scheduled for 9am, Monday, January 7, 2002
Redmond Library

Agenda

Continue Discussion to Clarify Issue Descriptions. We will complete and finalize the recommendations to the proposed changes of the Issue Descriptions.

Identify areas of important integration.

Identify gaps in the Area Profile. Should BLM redefine the problem ?

Discuss Desired Conditions. They will lead to the alternatives.

Discuss Ground Rules for Meetings.

Schedule for future meetings.

The meeting will be followed by a discussion of the BLM right of way process. Those interested in participating should plan for 30 minutes to 1 hour.

