

**YAMHILL COUNTY
ROAD IMPROVEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

Thursday, May 13, 2021

PUBLIC WORKS ZOOM

6:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF PRESENT
Gordon Cook, Chair Jeff Brown Michal Wert Adam Zabinski Rocky Losli Bruce Hubbard Tony Roos	Dave Hanson	Mark Lago, Director Casey Kulla, Commissioner Catherine Lindberg, Recording Secretary

Opening of Regular Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair, Gordon Cook.

Roll Call

Members were present as noted above.

Approval of November Minutes

Approved as circulated.

Sheriff's Report

None.

Commissioner's Report

- Commissioner Kulla addressed the committee about the mercury TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) restrictions and concerns for the Upper Willamette Basin. Currently, there is too much mercury in Oregon waters—a consequence of air pollution drift from Asia, and run-off from roads, storm water and soil erosion—which impacts fish and the humans who consume them. Cities and counties must develop storm water plans by September of 2022 to reduce mercury contamination by 80-90%, with the ultimate target of 95% reduction.
- Member Tony Roos suggested this could be a project for the next GFU Senior Design Team—to perform before and after testing in culverts for mercury levels running off county roads. Then the team can determine what native plants could alleviate erosion.

Director's Report

- Sierra Santa Fe Corp. submitted the successful low bid, of two received, on the department's chip seal project. Currently at the "Intent to Award" stage, the project is expected to begin in August, and cost approximately \$160K less than Public Works had estimated. Considerations for the left-over funds include chip-sealing more roads, or doing collaborative projects with neighboring cities or counties.
- The director showed photos of ditching on Agee Lane to demonstrate the county's planned ditch reclamation activity. Hydro-seeding will be applied in the new ditches to reduce erosion.
- Vegetation update: interns have been using county-furnished iPads to track the growth of native plant populations, protected species and invasive Italian Thistle and Garlic Mustard. They're also adding

utilities and culverts to their database. Public Works is now using iPads in the mowing equipment to try to monitor locations of significant species. Steve Kindel believes it has been a success, saying that Scotch Broom is under control for the first time in 14 years.

- Contract spraying is behind schedule.
- Susan Aldridge-Markham (member of RIAC technical advisory subcommittee on roadside vegetation management) has been doing outreach to vineyard owners to inform them of the intent and need to eradicate noxious weeds as part of road maintenance.

Unfinished Business

- After discussion, motion was made by Michal Wert that Philip Higgins be recommended to the BOC as the new member on RIAC. Motion seconded and carried.

New Business

- North Valley Road update: Kittleson engineers have been working to determine the best alignment with Ribbon Ridge and Albertson. They have found some slide-prone areas where the concern is that changing the alignment in these areas could activate a slide. Any widening must include a consideration for bicycles, and there will be issues with filling in wetlands and offset mitigation.
- The railroad crossing on Briedwell has been repaired. It was a cooperative effort between Public Works and the railroad, where Public Works sawcut the asphalt, paid for the precast pieces to align with the tracks, and the railroad did the installation. The process cost about a quarter of what the repair would have been if Public Works had a contractor done it, and the model keeps the asphalt from being pushed by traffic up against the tracks.

Additional Items

- Member Rocky Losli expressed concerns regarding speeding on North Valley, Chehalem, Kings Grade and Albertson. He suggested that Public Works should reduce, and post, speed zones at 35 mph.

Next Month Proposed Agenda

Update on 2020-21 RIAC priorities (dot exercise)

Weekly work tasks example

North Valley Road Update

Willamette Expressway

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. on motion by Rocky Losli, seconded, carried. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. May 13, 2021 in the Public Works building unless notified otherwise.