

Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

2:00 p.m. (Mountain Time)

Conference Call Number: 541-896-1824

Members Present:

- Lynn Findley, Board Vice President
- Greg Smith, Officer of the Board
- Kay Riley
- Corey Maag
- John Qualls
- Toni Parish

Staff:

- John L. Braese
- Julie Hicks

Regular Board Meeting Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 pm with special guests present.

- Malheur County Commissioner Larry Wilson

Discussion and Action: Update on Oregon Transportation Commission meeting

Board member Corey Maag handed the meeting over to the Officer of the Board Greg Smith to discuss the recent discussion with Connect Oregon.

Smith informed the board the Oregon Department of Transportation has submitted a listing of milestones related to the project and requested due dates and approximate cost of the milestones be returned by August 9, 2019. The milestones consist of six areas:

- Scoping and planning milestones
- Right-of-way and land acquisition milestones
- Final plans/engineering documents milestones
- Permits milestones
- Construction contract award milestones
- Project completion milestone

Smith stated he will meet with Rail Pros, Anderson Perry and other staff on Thursday to develop plan to address milestones and return the document to ODOT by the due date. One document is completed, board members will receive a copy.

Smith warned the board that due to size of project, he has been informed the state's prevailing wage law will be in effect.

The Oregon Transportation Commission will meet August 27 to review and approve the milestones. The commission has requested the project sponsors to meet quarterly with the commission.

Discussion and Action: Land Purchase

Smith informed the board County Counsel Stephanie Williams will meet with the attorney representing Jim Farmer to address the real estate conversation on August 14, 2019. Smith requested two members of the board to be present in the meeting.

Discussion and Action: Weekly meetings

Smith advised the board the need for weekly meetings with a set time and location. Those who can attend in person are encouraged, but calling into the meeting is also acceptable. Commissioner Wilson recommended the Goodfellows building. Staff will coordinate.

Discussion and Action: Accounting process

Smith requested authorization to look at alternatives to present bookkeeping/accounting services. Board Vice President Lynn Findley supported the idea of looking at other services and praised the work done previously. Findley said the project was entering a new phase and different procedures looked to be needed. Due to these different procedures, a possible change should be explored.

Discussion and Action: Resignation of Jeremy Leathers

Smith announced Board Member Jeremy Leathers has submitted his resignation due to career move to the east coast. The finding of a replacement, if needed, will be turned over to Board President Grant Kitamura.

Adjournment:

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Greg Smith, Officer to the Board