

Flathead Road and Bridge Advisory Committee
Advisory Committee Meeting
January 14, 2010 – **7:00 PM**
Solid Waste District Board Room-County Landfill

1. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Charles Lapp-Chairman, Karl Schrade, Tom Sands

Committee Members Absent: Mike Schlegel-Vice Chairman, Dave Hilde

Staff Present: Public Works Director- Dave Prunty, Operations Manager- Guy Foy
Administrative Assistant- Mike Pence, Recording Secretaries Karen Rogers and Patti
Vernarsky, Planning and Zoning Director Jeff Harris

Public Present: None

2. Introductory Remarks: None

3. Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes-Action Required

Tom Sands moves to approve the minutes from October 8, 2009 meeting, Karl Schrade seconds the motion. All in favor; motion passed, minutes approved.

4. Action Agenda – **No Items Requiring Action**

5. Directors Report

e. Transportation Plan

Dave Prunty requested from Charles Lapp to move the agenda item e to the beginning so Jeff Harris could update the committee on the report.

Dave Prunty explained the papers distributed to the committee that these were the comments from the consultants draft from the last two joint meetings with the Planning Board and this committee. He continued that the red wording shows the changes to be made and the black wording is the responses and discussions of why the changes were made.

Jeff Harris stated there are additional comments besides the committees and engineers from Lynne Brett, Tom Sands and Kristin LeClercq included more towards the back of the packet. He stated these are not final comments but the consultants are moving forward and there is still one more model that needs to be run by MDT including recommendations changes on map. He stated there were a lot of discussion on the growth policies and objectives and requested

the consultants rewrite that section. Jeff explained the transportation plan is not regulatory document; it is a planning document, and having the consultant explain this in the document.

Charles Lapp asked if the Kalispell transportation plan be used in conjunction with the county's transportation plan. Jeff Harris replied that Kalispell's consultants were overly aggressive with their growth scenarios and population projections. He believes the county's population projections are much more conservative and more realistic. He stated that if the area in question is inside Kalispell's transportation plan but within the county's jurisdiction and MDT recommends the usage of the Kalispell plan then the county is going to respond in the negative for the usage unless the city is going to annex the property.

Charles Lapp asked about the LaSalle connector on Conrad Drive. He asked if Shady Lane, Willow Glen & Conrad are all state roads wouldn't this fall under MDOT jurisdiction. Dave Prunty had not heard anything about the connector; the only plans for changes were the intersection Anderson Lane and Conrad and also the 3 way intersection at Shady Lane and Conrad.

Karl Schrade asked how much weight including in plan have on MDT. Jeff Harris stated if the county has a good project on one of the state roads, this would have more weight in state priorities because the state decides on the capitol improvements. He stated there would be a better opportunity if such projects were included in the plan. Dave Prunty commented that the commissions can voice their opinions and comments on projects. Charles Lapp commented on a meeting where Jim Lynch spoke to upgrade a road to figure on at least 10 years for the improvement. Mike Pence stated he has not seen where the commissioners have an impact on MDT decisions.

Dave Prunty asked Charles if he felt another plan would be better or to just work off the changes. Charles Lapp replied that a discussion had been made about a possible video conference down the road with the consultants instead of paying for their travel time. He felt it would still be important to meet to get a feel where the planning board and road committee want to go.

Tom Sands would like to see the draft and have time to study the plan before meeting with the consultants. Karl Schrade agreed the committee should have the information available before meeting with consultants.

a. Criteria for Dead End Roads

Dave Prunty wanted to update the committee about the criteria for the dead end roads. He said that included in the packet were the changes in red sent to the County Attorney's. He stated the draft was discussed at the regular

meeting and the attorney's are fine with verbiage. Questions had risen as to whether these criteria should be a policy or resolution. Dave stated if the criteria is accepted through resolution then a draft needs to be created and sent to the County Attorney for clean up on the legalities. He stated another resolution will be submitted for the list of roads which will be reviewed on an annual basis. He said the Road Department will submit the list of road and the Commissioners would approve or not approve each road. Commissioners would like to see this resolution done in the spring and form a letter to send out to every property owner informing them of the removal of the maintenance on the roads.

Dave got the impression from Dale Lauman and Jim Dupont that they understand and support where the road department is going with these dead end roads. Charles Lapp asked if more roads can be added and if the plow drivers would give feedback on the roads they maintain. Dave Prunty replied yes. Charles Lapp asked about adding Kaufman Lane. Karl Schrade questioned Conn Road being closed and not being plowed. Guy Foy replied this is not to stop maintenance but just for plowing as all the residents have a way out, and this area drifts constantly.

b. Approved Road Standards Book

Dave Prunty stated these are the approved road standards book for the committee. Karl Schrade asked since the designs require a civil engineering determination, should the county consider hiring an engineer. Dave Prunty stated this had been discussed but he has some concerns, because in the standards the department is to review and approve plan sets. He felt there would be more money involved than just a salary. Tom Sands asked about the agreement the County has with Peccia as the engineer for the County, if there was a contract. Dave Prunty replied there is no master services agreement that the agreement is on an as needed basis. Mike Pence stated the agreement is on a per project basis. Tom asked if it is a surveying for engineering contract. Dave replied the surveying contract is in place, but the engineering agreement is done on an as needed basis per project. Tom stated a two year contract should be put in place. Requests were made about placing on the agenda for February's meeting the contract for engineering services.

c. Gravel Road Rehabilitation Projects for 2010

Dave Prunty explained the list of rehabilitation projects by utilizing the transportation plan and the road maintenance plan to come up with this spreadsheet. He stated the county met with Ryan Mitchell and reviewed this list, and his two year work plan is based on mainly on ADT. He wanted to clarify that these roads are not reconstruction or rebuilds they are rehabilitation projects. He stated our overall goal is to get the shoulders built,

a crown in the road, add a layer of six inches of crush, widen the roads, take care of the drainage, ditches, culverts, etc, and basically get the roads in decent shape.

Tom Sands asked if this list the top six or seven roads. Dave Prunty stated the staff sat down and picked the roads that were known to be in trouble with a fairly high ADT. Tom Sands questioned the traffic count on Prairie View and if this count came when Church Drive was under construction.

Karl Schrade asked about the detail of this spreadsheet because on Tetrault there is only about 1½ mile that needs to be reconstructed. Guy Foy stated these roads are not reconstruction; these are for the basic on drainages and widening. Dave Prunty stated sure there are areas that are not going to get touched on these roads. Tom Sands asked if the areas can be isolated for this list for the actual areas that need to be worked on. Dave Prunty said absolutely, as the time gets closer the areas will be narrowed down for the rehabilitation.

Dave stated that McMannamy Draw will be added to the list. He said it was not included in this list at the time, because the county had already been working on getting a rebuild done on this road for the last two years. He stated he recommended to the commissioners to cancel the rebuild as it is not going to happen due to the landowner problems, so it will now just be put on the rehabilitation list to just add gravel and reshape the road, instead of the total rebuild that had been proposed.

Charles Lapp asked about dead end roads and question where could the snow plows turn around. Discussion was held about reviewing these areas where roads narrow down and the problems of the snow plows turning around.

Dave Prunty stated the county will get to a finalized sheet to bring before this committee for their recommendations and then take that list to the commissioners. Dave asked the county will keep working on this spreadsheet and bring it back next meeting, stating that some of this might have to wait until spring break up comes as roads can change.

d. Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) Projects for 2010

Dave stated the applications to receive money to help with roads to benefit National Forest roads. He stated we have received funds for North Fork and Star Meadows previously. He commented that we have applied for three more different roads; Blankenship Road to have dust abatement placed on three miles, the North Fork Road to be dust abated where gravel had been previously placed, and Mountain Meadow Road to apply gravel with bentonite onto the first two miles. He stated on the North Fork application for

the dust abatement, the plan is to try using mag chloride to see how the mag will perform with the bentonite. He said the last application was not approved which was for an overlay on Star Meadows Road. He felt this road along with the North Fork had already had a lot of resources spent on them.

6. Comments from Committee Members
7. Comments from the Public (15 Minutes Maximum)
8. Adjournment

Karl Schrade made the motion to adjourn, Tom Sands seconded, all in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.