

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

January 24, 2005
3:00 PM

Hearing Room C
Tapes 3 - 4

Corrected 10/28/05

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Joanne Verger, Chair
Sen. Doug Whitsett, Vice-Chair
Sen. Rick Metsger
Sen. Floyd Prozanski
Sen. Bruce Starr

STAFF PRESENT: Judith Callens, Committee Administrator
James Goulding, Committee Assistant

ISSUES HEARD & WITNESSES:

Introduction of Committee Members - Organizational Meeting
Adoption of Committee Rules – Organizational Meeting
Airport System Overview - Informational Meeting
Michael Burrill, State Aviation Board
Charles Riordan, Oregon Department of Aviation
Oregon Department of Transportation Bridge Update- Informational Meeting
Bruce Warner, Oregon Department of Transportation
Paul Mather, Oregon Department of Transportation

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

<u>TAPE/#</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Comments</u>
TAPE 3, A		
003	Chair Verger	Opens the meeting at 3:04 p.m. Asks the members to introduce themselves.
<u>INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS - ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING</u>		
015	Sen. Bruce Starr	Introduces himself to the audience and expresses his interests and concerns regarding issues in transportation.
024	Sen. Metsger	Introduces himself and outlines his district and areas of interest.
040	Sen. Whitsett	Introduces himself and summarizes his background.
047	Chair Verger	Introduces herself and her history with transportation-related issues. Outlines the committee's initial goals. Submits rules to the committee (EXHIBIT A). Asks the committee to adopt the proposed rules.
<u>ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE RULES - ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING</u>		
053		MOTION: Moves to ADOPT the proposed Committee Rules dated 1/25/05. VOTE: 4-0-1 EXCUSED: 1 - Prozanski
054	Chair Verger	Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.
058	Chair Verger	Closes the organizational meeting, and opens an informational meeting.
<u>AIRPORT SYSTEM OVERVIEW - INFORMATIONAL MEETING</u>		
071	Michael Burrill	Chair, State Aviation Board. Makes opening comments in regard

		to the current state of the Oregon Department of Aviation (ODA).
092	Chair Verger	Asks for an overview of the future.
094	Burrill	Responds that transportation is important to any real estate development in Oregon. Notes the need for a strong relationship between the ODA and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT).
120	Charlie Riordan	Acting Director, ODA. Presents EXHIBIT B (written testimony) and begins PowerPoint presentation (EXHIBIT C). Walks through the presentation providing information on aviation and the airport system. Outlines the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS).
185	Sen. Prozanski	Wonders how an airport becomes a NPIAS airport.
190	Riordan	States it is decided by geographic importance, activity and size. Continues with presentation outlining the department's responsibilities.
235	Riordan	Talks about funding and airport improvement projects. Outlines current issues for 2005, to include air cargo, which is the fastest growing segment of the aviation industry.
285	Chair Verger	Asks for clarification regarding economic impact studies.
290	Riordan	Clarifies the purpose and methodology for the economic impact studies.
295	Chair Verger	Asks about growing airports like Medford and Redmond and their economic impact on the community.
300	Riordan	Replies that they will study each airport in turn, looking at them "as a snapshot in time," and finding out what trends are in the community.
325	Chair Verger	Asks if the economic studies will also be done on the seven airports that have commercial airline service.
330	Riordan	Replies that the studies will be done at those airports.
345	Chair Verger	Asks if the economic studies will be done at all the "public" airports.
350	Riordan	Responds that they will. Reviews activity at the seven airports that have commercial air service. Notes that Klamath Falls, Pendleton and North Bend are all in jeopardy of losing some of their services.
390	Chair Verger	Comments on North Bend airport being down to three flights a day at a time when passenger demand has increased. Wonders why airlines would not address growing demand.
400	Riordan	Replies that it is an economic decision.
TAPE 4, A		
005	Riordan	Explains that flight route decisions are based on where the airlines can realize the greatest yield.
025	Chair Verger	States her concern over rural Oregon's ability to obtain investments without having infrastructure in transportation.
040	Riordan	Continues with his presentation on commercial airline service.
076	Riordan	Summarizes a proposed interstate air service development program. Presents information on air cargo, pointing out it is one of the fastest growing industries.
095	Sen. Prozanski	Wonders about smaller airports "buying service" to their communities.
105	Riordan	Responds that it is a practice called "ticket banking." Explains that communities commit to purchasing so many seats so an airline is guaranteed revenue.

141	Riordan	Continues with his presentation, discussing trends like the new Airbus 380, and notes that cargo activity will triple in the next ten years.
156	Riordan	Details the general aviation segment. Discusses security issues in aviation.
180	Chair Verger	Asks if the witness is familiar with the project at the North Bend airport, and whether he has been involved in that project.
190	Riordan	Replies he has not worked personally on that project, which is to get a new terminal building at the airport.
200	Chair Verger	Points out the problems being experienced at the airport. Outlines how community involvement can contribute.
215	Riordan	Concurs with her comments and elaborates on means of improving public/private partnerships.
240	Sen. Prozanski	Inquires about the size of the Airbus 380 and whether it compares in size to the C-5A.
245	Riordan	Replies that it is quite a bit larger.
250	Chair Verger	Asks if the Airbus 380 is built by Boeing
	Riordan	Replies it is built by Airbus in Europe.
260	Sen. Starr	Wonders what is required to build one's own airstrip.
265	Riordan	Replies that the aviation department can come out and inspect the location and it can be built.
270	Sen. Metsger	Inquires about problems with private airstrips and "glide slopes" and being placed in risky areas.
280	Riordan	Responds that airstrips are sometimes built and then adjoining property begins building too near the airstrip. Outlines some of the solutions the DOA can provide.
300	Chair Verger	Reviews past efforts to find funding for roads and bridges. Closes the informational meeting on aviation and opens an informational meeting on the ODOT bridge update.

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BRIDGE UPDATE - INFORMATIONAL MEETING

336	Bruce Warner	Director, ODOT. Notes that the department has been involved in getting the best information they can regarding the need to repair or replace the bridges in the system.
380	Paul Mather	Region 3 Manager, ODOT. Begins PowerPoint presentation on Oregon State University bridge study (EXHIBIT D).
TAPE 3, B		
005	Mather	Continues with presentation regarding bridge options and status.
030	Sen. Prozanski	Asks for clarification on the color coding on slide two of the PowerPoint presentation (EXHIBIT D).
040	Mather	Explains the color coding on the map and their meaning in regards to route stages. Continues presentation with discussion of the objectives of an Oregon State University (OSU) study done for ODOT.
105	Chair Verger	Asks if ODOT has illustrated the differences between the OSU study and the national standards. Expresses the need for "transparency" in the process.
115	Mather	Summarizes how ODOT is applying the new criteria to bridges. Reviews the challenges of maintaining momentum for the program.
170	Chair Verger	Expresses her appreciation for the summary. Asks about freight routes and how they were chosen, and feels that it should be addressed at a future date.

190	Sen. Starr	Notes the lack of detail in the presentation. Wants to see if anything has changed since the OSU study, or how many bridges have been moved into other categories (page seven of EXHIBIT D).
220	Mather	Points out this is the same information given to the interim committee in December, and that he had hoped to have additional information. States he has some draft reports that they are working to complete.
230	Sen. Starr	Reiterates his desire to see more information.
240	Warner	Comments that they would be happy to return and provide information on the freight routes, how they were chosen, and the decision-making process.
290	Warner	Talks about the federal bridge standards and that the OSU study has been an essential new tool for determining bridge strength.
300	Chair Verger	Points out the economic problems with closing bridges to freight. Talks about going on the road on February 11, 2005, and upcoming meeting topics.
325	Sen. Prozanski	Asks about the meeting time on February 11.
330	Chair Verger	Replies she would like to make a stop at the Port of Umpqua. Closes the informational meeting and adjourns the meeting at 4:23 PM.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A. Rules, proposed, staff, 2 pp**
- B. Aviation, Oregon, written testimony, Charlie Riordan, 2 pp**
- C. Aviation, Oregon, PowerPoint Presentation, Charlie Riordan, 32 pp**
- D. Bridges, Oregon, Update on Oregon State University Bridge Study, PowerPoint, Paul Mather, 9 pp**