

Military Economic Advisory Committee
May 18, 2017
SAGE Center Conference Room
Boardman, Oregon

Attendees: Chris Bassett, Kathleen Cathey, Russ Gibson, Bob Guertin, Larry Lindsay, Melissa Lindsay, Carla McLane, Jake Madison, Jeff Maffuccio, Steve Meyers, Kim Peacher, Jerry Rietmann. By Phone: Laura Minor, Dave Phillips, Kellen Tardaewether, Michael Vaughn.

Meeting began just after 9:00 a.m., introductions were made, and meeting notes were handed out for review. Only change to notes is remove "I" from SHPO.

Military Economic Advisory Committee (MEAC) Membership - Discussion regarding lists of appointed members per Board of Commissioners (BOC) and interested parties, with appreciation by military to be brought to the table, and contemplated inviting Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) depending on relative projects. Group as listed is going forward to BOC for appointment, with consideration for potential appointment changes in the future.

Project updates:

Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) - Ongoing conversation with landowners, have deadline coming up in July, but the landowners want to be sure there is protected areas designated and what that will look like. June the Navy will have a better view of what is going on.

Range Air Installation Compatible Use Zone (RAICUZ) Study – Kim Peacher has made some edits to the draft and said that it's getting close to being ready with an August release date for the study still on track. There may be a process for providing information regarding the range/air changes including restrictions on air space usage in rural areas and establish more clarity and greater transparency from the military perspective. Kim will be getting shape file maps out to relevant counties and stakeholders that defines operations with color coded foot print for visual contemplation to foster better understanding of the airspace.

Oregon Trail Interpretation – there are outdated and damaged interpretation signs on the south end of the bombing range that need to be repaired. The kiosk on the south side of the road is in better shape but it's not clear who installed it or who owns the land it sits on. Kim said improvements are on the Navy list, but finding funding has not been accomplished. Carla can reach out to other groups with similar interest in order to contribute funds to help.

Umatilla Chemical Depot (UMCD) Timeline – Government to Government transfer of land will happen this federal fiscal year (7,500 acres). All of the adjusted language has been completed, just working on preparing real estate documents for signature. The property will be transferred from the Army to the Guard Bureau, who will do requisite licensing to OMD. Machine gun range in Boardman is in the process of getting approved with a planned date for 2025; the flight facility is being improved with two airstrips in 2019; Umatilla license has a five-building remodel using state funds and there is another range project in the Umatilla area expected next year; primary focus is Umatilla infrastructure currently; rehabbing wells will cause vacation of easements; transfer of the balance of the property is hopefully going to occur in 2018.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Requirements – (email handout) if the locals requested radar triggered lighting requirements as part of their project it would not conflict with Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) site specific regulations for the upcoming wind projects. The Morrow County Board of Commissioners (BOC) received an update from Captain Moore. Discussed were pre-approved systems with the FAA that can be used, it just has to be officially approved by FAA for permitting.

Items for Good of the Order - Discussion about other things between military and group that should be put on the table included Camp Umatilla economic impact. Carla has reached out to Umatilla and Gilliam Counties to be engaged in these discussions. May bring Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) and Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) to the table for future discussion. Kim will check on the Federally Funded Opportunities (FFO) (grant) process for Oregon for renewable energies and bring information to the table as well as the benefit of the RAICUZ to the community.

Energy Project Updates:

Boardman to Hemingway (B2H) – Still waiting for Record of Decision (ROD) from Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Also waiting for Idaho Power Company (IPC) to provide the revised amended preliminary application, which will be submitted mid-June. Idaho Power will be doing outreach in all six counties to talk about the project with land owners. There will be a review period for amended Preliminary Action for Site Certificate (PASC) application; reviewing agencies can expect to see something within the next month.

Wheatridge Wind – Should have site certificate and final order after next Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) meeting. Green transmission line pilot project in Morrow County was recommended, but still waiting to hear about state leadership. Will need to discuss how it will be implemented or achieve green power with interested parties. Optimistic that there will be an option built in to allow hook-up from those developers who are interested.

Boardman Solar - Moving through expedited review process. The military has requested non-reflective to prevent glare.

Carty II, III & Solar - Portland General Electric (PGE) has suspended review of the amended application.

Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) Rulemaking – Review of public health and safety in progress, but most likely won't move quickly.

Meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.