

W. J. B.

AGENDA COVER MEMO

DATE: March 21, 2005

TO: Lane County Board of Commissioners

DEPT.: Public Works

PRESENTED BY: Sonny Chickering
County Engineer

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: In the Matter of Authorizing the Temporary Closure of Portions of Clear Lake Road, Kirk Road and Orchard Road in Connection with the Fern Ridge Dam Repair Project.

I. MOTION

THAT THE ORDER BE APPROVED AUTHORIZING THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PORTIONS OF CLEAR LAKE ROAD, KIRK ROAD AND ORCHARD ROAD IN CONNECTION WITH THE FERN RIDGE DAM REPAIR PROJECT.

II. ISSUE OR PROBLEM

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District (Corps) plans to undertake the repair of Fern Ridge Dam beginning in June, 2005. The work will necessitate the closure of portions of Clear Lake Road, Kirk Road and Orchard Road. The Director of Public Works is authorized per Lane Code 15.220 to temporarily close a road in the interest of public safety or prevention of extensive damage to County Roads or Bridges, but because these proposed closures may extend at through the end of November, 2005, staff is seeking Board approval of an Order authorizing the closures. If it becomes necessary to close some or all of the road segments for a period in 2006, should the work on the project not be completed, staff will return to advise the Board and seek further direction.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Background

The Corps is preparing to let a contract for the repair of Fern Ridge Dam. The proposed work will include excavation of approximately 310,000 cubic yards of the existing embankment in order to remove and replace the internal drainage system, installation of about 130,000 cubic yards of granular filter material, and reconstruction of the dam embankment with about 200,000 cubic yards of stockpiled previously-excavated material.

The goal of the project is to complete the needed repairs before the start of the 2005/2006 flood control season, beginning in November 2005, and in recognition of the need to restore the flood control, irrigation and recreational benefits of Fern Ridge Dam and reservoir as soon as possible. The expedited repair schedule may allow the reservoir to be open for recreational and irrigation uses in 2006, but there is a possibility that all necessary work will not be completed by November and that the water will need to be maintained at the minimum pool elevation of 353 feet through the spring of 2006.

Due to the expedited work schedule and the need to transport large quantities of excavation and backfill materials in close proximity to the site, it is necessary that portions of Clear Lake Road, Kirk Road, and Orchard Road be closed for public safety purposes and to maintain the level of production by the contractor that will be needed to finish the work within the allotted time. The specific road segments requiring closure are:

1. Clear Lake Road from a point east of Krugur Park Road (MP 7.8) to a point west of Orchard Point Park Road E. (MP 5.6)
2. Kirk Road from about MP 1.75 southerly to the intersection with Clear Lake Road.
3. Orchard Road from about MP 0.85 southwesterly to the intersection with Clear Lake Road.

Because the Corps' bid solicitation documents specify that the project contractor is to work 120 hours per week, the closure will need to be continuous during the construction, including weekends and holidays.

The road segments proposed for closure are located on land owned by the U. S. Government and administered by the Corps. Lane County's right to utilize the land as a County Road was granted by means of a series of easements dating back to 1943, when the original work on the dam and reservoir was commenced. The easement grants reserve unto the government the right to make and modify the conditions under which the easement area may be used, and further state that the United States shall not be liable for any damages to the road, and that no claim or right to compensation shall accrue from any damages or injuries to the road.

Nonetheless, the Corps has applied for a Facility Permit in connection with the construction of the dam repair project. The application seeks permission to close the above-referenced road segments, to use portions of Orchard Point Park (also under lease from the Corps) for staging construction and stockpiling of materials. Clear Lake Road adjacent to the dam face is also to be used for transportation of imported and waste rock and soil materials, both within the project area and to and from outside suppliers and spoils areas. The Corps has agreed to require the contractor to restore impacted County road and park features within the project footprint and to limit traffic over the Long Tom River Bridge (at MP 6.913 on Clear Lake Road) to legal axle loadings only. Plans are for the contractor to install a temporary crossing of the river that will allow the heavier loadings required for off-road trucks and excavators.

Although the necessity for the road closures is a certainty at this time, some details of the proposed construction are still unknown. Public Works staff has evaluated the application for the Facility Permit and is in the process of formulating draft requirements and conditions under which the necessary Facility Permit will be issued. The permit will contain conditions and requirements that are applicable to the protection and restoration of the affected roads and which will address public safety concerns during the construction period.

The following is a listing of known factors to be considered, but which may or may not be addressed in the formulation of the formal Facility Permit requirements.

- o Public notice and signage of recommended detour routes to be used during the closures.
- o Public Service access, including utility companies, mail delivery and trash pickup.
- o Public access to those portions of Richardson Park which will remain useable during the construction.
- o Ambulance and fire apparatus access to and through the work area. County staff has attended a meeting with the Lane County Fire Defense Board at which the Corps made a presentation about the project. Staff will continue to assist the Corps and the affected fire districts in formulating plans for the delivery of emergency services during the closures.
- o Provision of a temporary alternate water supply for firefighting purposes to replace the Corps' hydrant system and if Kirk Ponds are not accessible due to construction operations or stockpiling of materials.
- o Utility relocations, either temporary or permanent, that may be required in connection with the project.
- o Potential obligation to restore major construction access routes if damaged during construction, including Green Hill Road, Fisher Road and Royal Avenue. Subcontractors hauling materials for the project will be limited to legal or posted load limits on all haul routes used to access the project area.
- o Changes in Special Events Permits approvals and conditions, including the Country Fair, Secret House Winery Concerts, bicycle events and foot races, etc.
- o Coordination with City of Veneta and ODOT regarding any impacts from detoured traffic.
- o Necessity to reevaluate Permit conditions and requirements if the permit is to be extended beyond the 2005 construction season.
- o Plans are for work on the west side of the Long Tom river Crossing to be completed first, which will allow an earlier opening of that portion of Clear Lake Road west of the bridge (including the Kirk Road intersection) to be opened much earlier.

As more details become known and prior to issuance of the Facility Permit, staff will continue to meet with the Corps and affected public safety and service providers to develop permit requirements to best facilitate public safety interests given the emergency nature of this project and assuming that closure of the affected road segments is absolutely essential in order to keep the project on schedule and to protect the public safety.

A separate issue related to the proposed work, but not related to the proposed permit conditions, is the increased potential for downstream flooding on the Long Tom River may result in the dam not being able to impound water above the 353 foot elevation. This may result in more frequent and severe property damage downstream from the dam during the rainy season, including possible damage to County roads and bridges.

Road maintenance forces will activate normal flood event procedures to minimize damage to County facilities, and will coordinate efforts, if at all possible, with the Lane County Sheriff's Emergency Management Coordinator should flooding occur.

B. Analysis

Closure of the segments of road as requested by the Corps is essential for the protection of public safety and to facilitate the emergency repair work on the dam by the planned completion date. As more details become known, Public Works Staff will continue work to coordinate with service providers to formulate the Facility Permit requirements that will allow work to proceed with as little inconvenience as possible and in the best interest of public safety given the emergency nature of the project.

C. Alternatives/Options

1. Move approval of the attached Order authorizing the temporary road closures as outlined above, during the period May 15 to November 30, 2005.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION/FOLLOW-UP

Upon approval of the Order, staff will implement the road closures beginning May 15, including arranging for required signage and public notification. A draft of the Preliminary Signage plan is included for information. The final plan will be completed by the County Traffic Engineer prior to issuance of the Facility Permit which will allow operations within County rights of way, and will require advance signing of dead-end situations and will require provision of turn-around areas on Kirk Road and Orchard Road in particular. Required signage will be erected by the construction contractor prior to commencement of work. If it becomes necessary to close some or all of the affected road segments for the 2006 construction season, staff will report back to the Board for further direction.

V. ATTACHMENTS

Map showing project area and proposed closure locations.
Preliminary Signage Plan

**IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY
STATE OF OREGON**

ORDER NO.

**(IN THE MATTER AUTHORIZING THE
(TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PORTIONS OF
(CLEAR LAKE ROAD, KIRK ROAD AND
(ORCHARD ROAD IN CONNECTION WITH
(THE FERN RIDGE DAM REPAIR PROJECT.**

WHEREAS, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) plans to undertake emergency repairs to Fern Ridge Dam beginning in June, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the work proposed in connection with said project will necessitate the closure of portions of Clear Lake Road, Kirk Road and Orchard Road in the interest of public safety and in order to facilitate the completion of the project in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, the portions of said road affected by said project are as follows:

- (a) Clear Lake Road from MP 5.6 to MP 7.8.
- (b) Kirk Road from about MP 1.75 southerly to the intersection with Clear Lake Road.
- (c) Orchard Road from about MP 0.85 southwesterly to the intersection with Clear Lake Road.

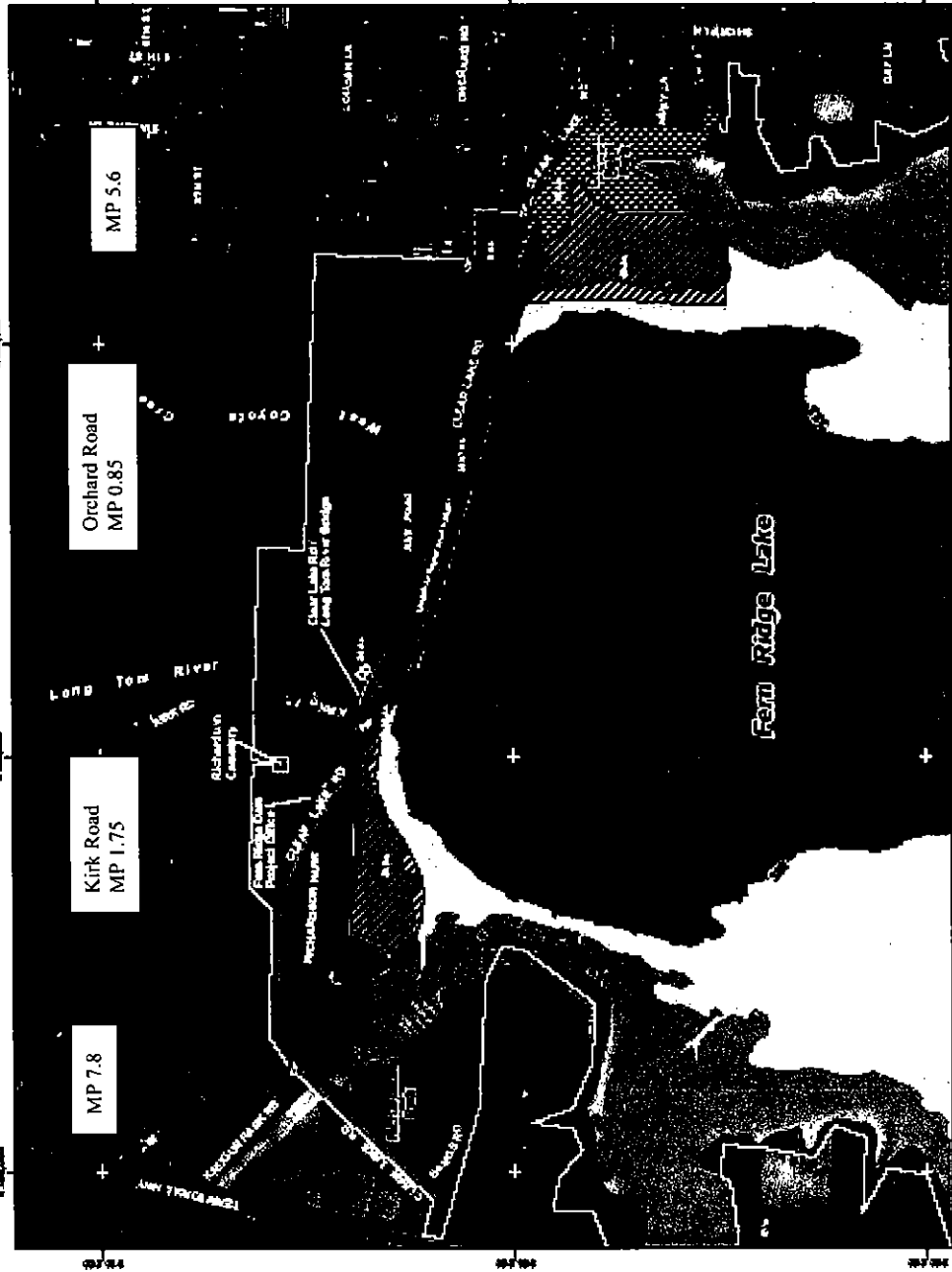
WHEREAS, per Lane Code 15.220, the Public Works Director is authorized to temporarily close a road in the interest of public safety; **NOW THEREFORE**

BE IT ORDERED, that the temporary closure of those portions of County Roads as described above in connection with the Fern Ridge Dam repair project in accordance with Lane Code 15.220 is authorized for the period beginning May 15, 2005, and ending no later than November 30, 2005.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2005.

Anna Morrison, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners

Fern Ridge Dam Emergency Repair



Fern Ridge Dam Emergency Repair
Significant Dam Repair Features

- Road Closure Points
- Staging Area
- Blasting Area
- Dam Repair Area
- Project Boundary
- Pond at Elevation 2537
- Pond at Elevation 2607

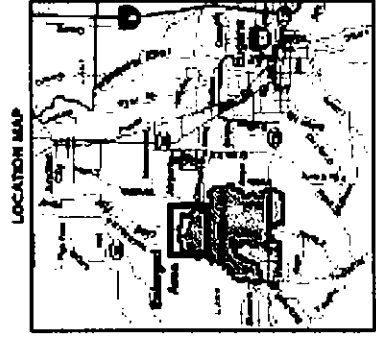
Scale: 1 inch = 100 feet

Plate 1

North Arrow

Scale: 0 1000 2000 Feet

Project: Fern Ridge Dam Emergency Repair
 Date: 11/11/2011
 Drawn: J. Smith



Proposed Road Closures-Fern Ridge Dam Repair Project

