

IOCTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, OCTOBER 10, 2009, JEROME, IDAHO

1. Call to Order: 10:00 am by Doug Jenson, President (Idaho Falls) at the Jerome City Library, Jerome, Idaho. Doug asked everyone to introduce themselves; the 16 in attendance were: IOCTA President, Doug Jenson (Idaho Falls); Lyle Lambert, Eastern VP (Pocatello); Jerry Eichhorst, Western VP & Web Master (Boise); Bill Wilson, Treasurer (Boise); Kay Coffman, Secretary (Boise); Board of Directors, Peg Cristobal, BOD & Historian (Filer), Dell Mangum (Blackfoot). Also: Mary Alice Wilson (Boise), Worth Montgomery (Nampa), Steve Davis (Kuna), Ron & Denise Tugby (Mountain Home), Wally Meyer (Eagle), Pat Rhodes & Jim Payne (McCall), David Valentine (Boise).

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting: Doug emailed the minutes of the April 25 and August 19 meetings to be read prior to the meeting. Motion by Peg to accept the minutes as is, 2nd by Dell and carried. Minutes of the meetings are posted on the IOCTA web site: http://www.idahooccta.org/Meeting_Minutes_Index.html

3. Reports:

A. Treasurer: Bill provided copies of the treasurer's reports for April 25 and August 19, 2009, and copies of the final financial report for the Home Federal accounts and the first financial report for the new Idaho Central Credit Union accounts, and the membership list. The switch from Home Federal to Idaho Central Credit Union (ICCU) was done by Bill on September 3. Bill read the treasurer's report for ICCU, as of 10/07/09, which shows a checking account balance of \$6,039.00, a savings account balance of \$95.00 (a savings account is required by ICCU), and a 09/28/09 CD balance of \$2,429.08. Bill opted for a new CD maturity date of 12/29/10 (15 months), because of the 2.279% annual yield, as opposed to 0.8% for a six month CD. Bill also handed out the membership list showing 138 currently paid members with 13 new this fiscal year (indicated by an "N" after the due date), plus 12 Trail Dust only subscriptions. A discussion about what to do with \$4,000 in the checking account was sided for now. Motion by Dell to accept the treasurer's report as is, 2nd by Jerry and carried.

B. Website: Jerry stated that the web site is up-to-date and there's nothing new to report.

C. Preservation – City of Rocks sagebrush: Doug spoke for Suzi Pengilly, who was unable to attend. The NPS wants to restore the trail back to the way it was 160 years ago by removing the white Carsonite markers and removing sagebrush in the trail with a chainsaw. Also, the county wants to blacktop the access road. After discussions, the consensus was to: 1) Recommend leaving the white markers in place for identifying the trail from the air during wildfires in order to keep bull dozers off the trail (Wally Meyers said that the BLM uses them for that purpose during fire season); 2) OCTA recommends no pavement for several reasons, including more and faster traffic and greater impact on the area from a variety of visitors other than those interested in the features and historical value of City of the Rocks; 3) For everyone to go online where Jerry will include a link and the PDF document to answer

questions and make comments to the NPS 5-Year Plan, addressing the sagebrush and marker removal proposals and other issues. Jerry stated that OCTA has a good rapport with the City of Rocks; Doug left some OCTA brochures there that are on display.

D. MET Training: Leslie Fryman, National Preservation Officer, is here to present MET training. She will compress the 2-day training into this afternoon. Jerry stated that BLM is hiring students to help map the Trail and would like our assistance. He also mentioned that BLM's Stan McDonald transferred to another location and no replacement has been selected yet. Dell reported that his contact at BLM has transferred to Pocatello.

E. Marking: Dell reported that he has done some marking.

F. Gateway Project: The comment period on the proposed transmission line route from mid-Wyoming to the Boise area closed in July and we gave our input. There are several possible routes that are all bad ones as far as the OR-CA trails are concerned. Wally asked why they couldn't follow the same route as the current transmission lines and Doug replied that it's a law now that the routes have to be separated in case of an act of terrorism.

G. Terracon Tower: A Boise company is proposing a 150' cell phone tower project and wants our comment on the impact to the Oregon Trail viewshed. Doug said it would definitely be an impact and he will consult with Leslie about it.

H. Wayan Tower: Another cell phone tower project that's in the works is in the Lander Road area. Dell said that it's about a mile and a half away from the road; Doug said at that distance, with the terrain, it's probably not a problem. Leslie said to consider what else is in the area.

I. Eagle, ID Park & M3 Development: Wally reported that the City of Eagle is building a 2,000 acre park and the Goodale Cutoff goes through it; the City is planning interpretive displays. The M3 development has four miles of the trail through their private development, much of which will be destroyed.

4. Old Business:

A. Scenic Byways: Jerry reported that the Main Oregon Trail Scenic Back Country Byway application that he submitted to the Idaho Department of Transportation has been approved. He showed a poster that will be placed in the three route information display cases and in the interpretive areas; a Kuna company is making the display cases. Jerry added the State of Idaho Back Country Byway link on our web site and said that there are 20 other entities on the web providing information about it. A new booklet will come out this month also. Bill complimented Jerry for all his hard work and accomplishments on this project and Jerry received a round applause from all of us.

http://www.idahoocta.org/Scenic_Byway.html

B. Other Old Business - Idaho Public Television (IPTV): Dell talked about the good coverage OCTA has received from IPTV's production of "Pathways of Pioneers: Idaho's Oregon Trail Legacy" program, which featured Dell and his wagon team following the Oregon Trail last summer and arriving at the OCTA National Convention in Nampa in August. Dell entered his wagon and team in the Eastern Idaho State Fair parade, displaying banners for OCTA and IPTV. Bill said he sent his copy of the IPTV program to National and ordered another copy for himself. Wally said that IPTV has a lot of stock footage from filming the program that could be used to create another program. Mary Alice's compliment to Dell resulted in a round of applause for his efforts and accomplishments. Peggy recommended that IOCTA make a contribution to IPTV in recognition of their excellent coverage of the Oregon Trail. Mary Alice moved that IOCTA donate \$300 to IPTV with a thank you note, Wally seconded and it carried. Bill and Kay will coordinate on sending the check with the thank you note to IPTV.

C. Trail Dust: Jerry complimented Amy for her work on the *Trail Dust*. We now have 60 copies sent by mail, versus 200 copies, and 160 by email. Jerry said he's received good comments on the newsletter and thanked everyone for their contributions to it.

5. New Business:

A. Items from National Board Meeting: Doug reported on the following items from the OCTA BOD meeting on August 18, 2009, in Loveland CO:

1 – Challenge cost share, handled by Lee Croisure.

2 – NPS redoing auto tour routes with Chapter involvement; they hired two new Interpretive Specialists for the projects – one in Salt Lake City & one in Santa Fe.

3 – Kay Threlkeld retired on February 10, 2009, from the NPS; the Santa Fe employee will hand the GIS.

4 – City of Rocks land purchase of 120 acres in the SW corner is completed.

5 – Dave Welch reported that Carsonite markers are available at no cost to OCTA.

6 – National is requiring the OCTA logo on everything we send out; Jerry has a 3MB version that he will add to our web site.

7 – OCTA attorney Camille Bradford advised not signing the waiver for outings, so National is no longer requiring them. They're looking at the ones previously signed as a record of who was on the outings; what happens to those; and how does the insurance policy fit into the issue of risk.

8 – OCTA credit card – sign up for one, use it once, and OCTA receives \$50.

9 – 2010 OCTA National Convention in Elko NV on August 18-22. 2011 Convention in Rocks Springs/Green River WY, August 7-13.

Bill read the following motions that were approved unanimously by the OCTA BOD:

1 – BOD of OCTA supports tribal listening sessions sponsored & coordinated by NPS with cooperation of OCTA.

2 – BOD accepts & endorses the three recommendations of Committee B regarding Conflict of Interest Policy, Whistle Blower Policy & Document Retention & Destruction Policy.

3 – OCTA supports the Southern Trails Chapter effort to achieve National Historic Trail status for the Southern trail.

4 – The convention manual written & submitted by Bill Martin is approved as a guide for future convention planning.

5 – OCTA approved the change in the wording of the Southern Trails Chapter reflecting the territory assigned as the Southern Trails to California.

6 – OCTA Board to write a letter of support for Scotts Bluff National Monument's attempt to create a National Historic Park in western Nebraska.

7 – OCTA BOD supports & encourages efforts of Nebraska State Historical Society, working in conjunction with the Conservation Fund, in seeking to acquire & bring into public ownership & protection approximately 551 acres of land, being the privately-owned portion of the section containing the Chimney Rock National Historic Site in Morrill County, Nebraska, to provide permanent environmental protection for the nationally significant site & would also permit the property to be restored over time to the prairie land of the historic period of the four overland trails on which Chimney Rock was a landmark.

8 – OCTA BOD approved proposed 2009-2020 budget as presented, with projected revenue of \$285,600 & expenses of \$303,000.

9 – OCTA BOD approves allowing up to four years of equal payments to pay for a life membership. The life membership will be awarded after the final payment. The individual will be considered an Emigrant member until final payment.

10 – Resolution on Wind Energy Development in central Wyoming, dated August 18, 2009, is adopted.

11 – Editor contracts for the coming year are awarded as follows: *Overland Journal*, Bob Clark; *News From the Plains*, Candy Moulton.

Doug stated that Loveland was a good place for the 2009 Convention and he found it very interesting.

B. National History Day: Doug is checking on how IOCTA can get involved at the local & State level of the events, perhaps as judges at the competitions and by offering scholarships to 6th & 7th grade students who participate. Doug will find out what the theme is for the coming year; themes are determined 10 years ahead. The State competition will be in Boise on April 10, 2010. It's something to keep in mind when considering IOCTA's budget. Jerry suggested that Doug put something together to present at the Spring IOCTA meeting.

C. NPS Feasibility Studies: Per Wally, the NPS is conducting studies on the trails to consider their suitability for being classified as National Historic Trails. Jerry Krakow, who has been the NPS liaison with OCTA on this, has retired.

D. Volunteer Time/Expense Report & Reimbursements: Jim asked if the practice of donating reimbursements of expenses back to OCTA is still in effect; Doug replied that yes it is, and is an option available to members when they receive reimbursements from OCTA as a result of their output of expenses on OCTA projects. Also, we must always report our time and expenses to Doug for the annual report that he submits for use by Congress for budgeting purposes to the land management agencies involved with OCTA. Jerry has a form on our

web site to use in keeping track of dates, trail activity, volunteer hours, related expenses and mileage. This information must be sent to Doug at the end of the year or in an email after each time something is done in connection with OCTA activities.

http://www.idahoocta.org/Trails_Volunteer_Form.html

E. Tour of CA Trail for Blind Children: Jerry is working to scout out a route on the trail from Montpelier in preparation for a trip next June involving a group of 12-15 blind children. Dell said he is interested in helping and will have an old wagon available for the activity; anyone else who is interested in lending a hand may contact Jerry.

F. Preparation of Trails for Elko Convention: Lyle stated that the Hudspeth Trail and others need to be gone over to make sure they're ready for convention tours. Dell said he is tentatively considering traveling in his wagon from the Parting of the Ways, through the City of Rocks and on to the convention in Elko. It was recommended that he get the Trails West book that shows the trail routes.

C. Officers & BOD's: Jim Payne is a new BOD and Peg is continuing; BOD's serve a three year term. The officers will all continue in their positions until next year, with Jerry considering a nomination for the office of President at that time. Doug will pursue the idea of having a Chairman of the Board by email. The appointed positions will be addressed at the Spring meeting.

6. Closing the Meeting: At 11:55 am, Dell moved to adjourn, 2nd by Bill and carried with the meeting adjourned by Doug. Lunch was at a local restaurant within walking distance, followed by MET training by Leslie Fryman, OCTA National Preservation Officer.