

IOCTA Fall Meeting 2021

Saturday, October 23, 2021 11:15 am
Idaho Pizza Company, Boise, ID

Attending

John Briggs	Lisa Dinwiddie	Maggie Fleming
Nancy Briggs	Paul Dinwiddie	Steve Fleming
Betty Celaya	Jerry Eichhorst	Lynn Houdyshell
Pedro Celeya	Gar Elison	Marge Houdyshell
Sue Clarke	Dawn Fazio	Don Wind
Virgel Clarke	Jim Fazio	

Opening

Jerry opened the meeting at 11:20 am

Minutes of May 6, 2021 Zoom Meeting

Minutes of the May 8th Zoom meeting were sent out to Executive Committee and approved via email. The minutes are posted on the IOCTA web-site.

Financial Report

Balance after May 2021 meeting	\$6,471.31
Deposits	
Membership Dues	\$830.00
Expenses	
Point of Sale withdrawal: Staples	\$37.09
Ending Balance – October 1, 2021	\$7,264.22
Savings Account Balance	\$170.00

Betty Celaya moved that the financial report be approved. The motion was seconded by Lynn Howdysshell and passed by unanimous vote.

Don Wind moved that the Idaho Chapter pay for lunch for today's meeting. The motion was seconded by Dawn Fazio and passed.

Membership Information

Jerry reported that the Idaho Chapter has 131 active members.

Membership Dues	
October 2020 – May 2021	\$480.00
May 2021 – October 2021	\$830.00
Total Membership Dues – 1 year	\$1,310.00
Number of Active Members	131

Lava Ridge Wind Turbine Project

Don Wind reported on Lava Ridge Wind Turbine Project.

- Project area was reduced to minimize impact on Sage Grouse habitat

- Number of wind turbines remained the same
- Area of Potential Effects (APE) was increased from 12 miles to 20 miles based on request from the consulting parties
- Public scoping period was extended to October 20th to allow for additional comments
- The main point of contention with the National Park Service (NPS) is the potential impact on the Minidoka National Historic Site
- Regular monthly meetings with the BLM for Section 106 have been scheduled on the fourth Thursday of each month
 - Additional Consulting Parties have been added to the meetings
- Next steps:
 - Agreement on Key Observation Points (KOPs)
 - Visual analysis performed at each KOP
 - Development of Programmatic Agreement
- A separate transmission line project, the Southwest Intertie Project — North (SWIP-North), has been identified that could negatively impact the Oregon and California trails
 - The LRWP will probably connect to this 500 kV transmission line
 - Crosses the Oregon Trail in Idaho and the California Trail in Nevada
 - SWIP already permitted for construction
 - Maps have been requested; one just received
- BLM Lava Ridge web site:
<https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2013782/510>

IOCTA Points of Interest (submitted to the BLM on September 20, 2021)

Proposed Key Observation Points (KOPs) along the Main Oregon Trail:

- The Milner Interpretive Site (including the Cedar Emigrant Camp)
- Stricker Store/Rock Creek Station (including the Stricker Cabin/Homesite)
- Rock Creek Crossing

Proposed Key Observation Points (KOPs) along the Jeffreys-Goodale Cutoff (along US Hwy 20/26):

Tom Cat Hill – Coordinates: N43°24.292' W113°37.629'

Lava Lake – Coordinates: 43°22'46.92" N 113°43'14.40" W

Lane Grave Sign Project

Don Wind reported on Lane Grave Sign Project. The signs have been printed and ready to be installed. We are working with the NPS to create a MOU with the Idaho Transportation Department for sign installation.

City of Rocks and California Trail

Jerry reported on the chapter outing to the City of Rocks and the California Trail August 19-21.

Day 1 – Cadaver Dogs verify several graves

Day 2 – Drive over Granite Pass

Day 3 – Drive California Trail byway

OCTA Fall Board of Directors Meeting

Jerry reported on the OCTA Fall Board of Directors meeting. It was attended by Jerry Eichhorst and John Briggs. Jerry stated that it was one of the shortest meetings in his memory at only 6.5 hours.

OCTA Annual Convention

Jerry presented a slide show with pictures from the OCTA annual convention held September 13-16, 2021 in Elko, Nevada. Highlights included:

- John Briggs elected as the next OCTA President
- Pre-Convention Tour lead by Paul Dinwiddie and Don Wind
- Speakers, Bus Tours

- Star Hotel Dinner
- Awards:
 - John Briggs - National Certificate of Appreciation (outgoing Director)
 - Jerry Eichhorst
 - Merrill Mattes Award for journalism
 - Social Media Photography Award

Post-Convention Tour

Jerry shared pictures of a post-convention tour of the Toano Road. Several chapter members participated in the 5+ hours of rough, dusty dirt roads.

NEW BUSINESS

Chapter Website

The Chapter website crashed earlier this year. The website is being rebuilt by new Chapter member Charlie Teall. Charlie is a professional web developer. Charlie and his family participated in the City of Rocks outing in August and Charlie joined OCTA/IOCTA immediately afterwards.

The IOCTA website URL is IdahoOCTA.org

Changing the hosting service to the one Charlie uses will save \$40 per year and provide better service and usable backup.

Projects

Massacre Rocks State Park

Massacre Rocks State Park will be updating signage. They have contacted Jerry/IOCTA for assistance.

- Create History of emigrant attacks in the area
- Identify Oregon/California Trail in the area
- Search for possible graves of victims
- Jerry has provided 25-page article on 1851 attacks – more to come

Arco Signage Project

Butte County is interested in creating signage to promote the Oregon Trail in the area. IOCTA has been contacted by Butte County for assistance. Jerry is in contact with the county.

SW Intertie Project

The South West Intertie project is the final link in a proposed 1000 MW firm transmission pathway from Idaho to California. The link between Ely, NV and the Midpoint substation near Shoshone, ID has already been approved and permitted. This project is nearly construction ready and could be online as early as June 2024. OCTA was not aware of this project until it was already permitted.

Will Bagley Passes

Jerry commented on the passing of Will Bagley (1950 – 2021), a historian who wrote detailed accounts of Utah's past. Jerry had a working relationship with Will for several years. Jerry stated that "He has written more books than I have read".

Report volunteer hours to OCTA

Please report your volunteer hours to OCTA. There is a form available on the OCTA-Trails.org web site to enter your volunteer hours. Volunteer hours means a lot of federal funding money for OCTA. OCTA convention is worth 8 hours per day.

OCTA Activities

January 27-30, 2022 – Spring Symposium, San Diego, CA

In partnership with the Mormon Battalion Association.

2022 Convention – Casper, WY

2023 Convention – Gehring, NE

2024 Convention – Oregon? Idaho? The Northwest Chapter has a limited number of members capable of hosting a convention. This may be an opportunity for the Northwest and Idaho Chapters to co-host the 2024 OCTA convention.

Chapter Activities

Possible Chapter activities of next year:

- Spring meeting, May 2022, Burley
 - City of Rocks metal detecting and possibly search dogs
 - California Trail tour over Granite Pass
- Toano Road part 2
- Massacre Rocks area
- Possible spring tour of Jefferys-Goodale across INEL
- Requests/ideas? Contact Jerry

Elections

Due to failing health Bill Wilson is stepping down as a Director. A replacement Director is up for election.

- Lynn and Margie Houdyshell agreed to serve another term as Director
- Paul Dinwiddie moved to nominate Gar Elison for the vacant Director position. Nomination seconded by Dawn Fazio and passed by voice vote.
- The following highlighted directors were elected.

Officers

Position	October 2021	October 2022	October 2023	October 2024
President	Jerry Eichhorst	Jerry Eichhorst		
Vice-President - West	Paul Dinwiddie	Paul Dinwiddie		
Vice-President - East	Don Wind	Don Wind		
Treasurer	Dan Dunne	Dan Dunne		
Secretary	Dave Price	Dave Price		

Director 3 Year Term

Position	October 2021	October 2022	October 2023	October 2024
Director	Betty and Pedro Celaya			
Director	Lynn and Margie Houdyshell	<i>Lynn and Margie Houdyshell</i>		
Director	Bill Wilson	<i>Gar Elison</i>		
Director	Lyle Lambert			
Director	Jim and Dawn Fazio			

Presentations/Speakers

John Briggs – OCTA President

John spent several minutes giving an update on OCTA's fund raising and recruitment plans for the coming year.

Paul Dinwiddie – Chapter Vice President

California Trail pre-convention tour Paul reported on the California Trail pre-convention tour he co-led with Don Wind in September. The 2-day tour included 16 people from seven states. Special recognition was given to Shalene Dickard, Park Ranger at City of Rock National Reserve for the outstanding tour she provided to the group. Jerry Eichhorst moved that the Idaho Chapter purchase a one year National and Idaho chapter OCTA membership in recognition of Shalene's contribution to the California Trail tour. The motion was seconded and passed.

1852 Oregon Trail Quilt Paul brought a quilt made by his great-great grandmother. The quilt backing was made from the wagon cover used when the family travelled from Illinois to Oregon in 1852.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

After lunch a group drove to an area south of the Ada County Oregon Trail Recreation Area to inspect Oregon Trail ruts.

Submitted by Paul Dinwiddie