UMATILLA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

ROAD STATUS REPORT

NORTH FORK MCKAY CREEK ROAD

COUNTY ROAD NO. 1049

MARCH, 2016

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NORTH FORK MCKAY CREEK ROAD STATUS REPORT

<u>GENERAL</u>

The Umatilla County Board of Commissioners received a gate installation request at their October 21, 2015 Board Meeting from Rod Anderson and other property owners to install a gate across North Fork McKay Creek Road. The Commissioners moved and seconded a motion to have County staff look into the possibility of vacating the road. Research found that the portion of the road from the northerly right-of-way line of County Road No. 1050, McKay Creek Road to the east line of the Umatilla Indian Reservation in Section 1, Township 1 South, Range 33 E.W.M., was never legally established and the County has no legal jurisdiction over the road. A portion of the road is situated on land still owned by the Federal Government (Bureau of Indian Affairs) and a portion of it runs across property owned by Rodney and Roberta Anderson.

<u>HISTORY</u>

In 1908, Road No. 639 was established (see attached documents). It began at a point on the line between Sections 1 and 12, Township 1 South, Range 33 E.W.M. on the south line of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and ran southeasterly for approximately 6 ½ miles to a point on the line between Sections 22 and 27, Township 1 South, Range 34 E.W.M. The road is now a portion of County Road No. 1050, McKay Creek Road, though all of the road from its intersection with the south line of Section 19, Township 1 South, Range 34 E.W.M. was vacated in 1991. Also in 1908, Road No. 640 was established (see attached documents). It began on the line between Section 1, Township 1 South, Range 33 E.W.M., and Section 6, Township 1 South, Range 34 E.W.M. on the east line of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and ran northeasterly and easterly for approximately 3 miles to a point near the center of Section 28. The road is now a portion of County Road No. 1049, North Fork McKay Creek Road.

In 1922, Road No. 823 was established from what is now the intersection of the north-south line between Sections 9 and 10 in Township 2 North, Range 33 E.W.M. with Mission road south and southeasterly to a point on the line between Sections 1 and 12, Township 1 South, Range 33 E.W.M. on the south line of the Umatilla Indian Reservation at which point Road No. 639 began (see attached documents). A portion of Road 823 was accepted and improved by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in the 1950's and then transferred back to the County in 1962 (see transfer plat). This portion is also known as Reservation Road P-1, a portion of which includes Mckay Creek Road from its intersection with Sumac Road easterly and southeasterly to a point on the south line of the Reservation at the beginning of Road No. 639.

In 1981 Umatilla County received a letter (see attached) from Philip Sanchez, Superintendent for the U. S. D. I. Bureau of Indian Affairs, outlining a number of roads across the Reservation for which rights-of-way were not authorized. County Road No. 1049 was one of them. In 1982 Michele Hallman, Umatilla County Counsel, wrote a letter (see attached) to Congressman Denny Smith indicating that County staff could find no records for Road No. 1049 (among others) and requested he introduce legislation to establish the validity of the roads. This is the last correspondence on file in the road records and no other records have been found.

<u>ISSUES</u>

At some point a right of way will need to be established across the Bureau of Indian Affairs property (Tax Lot #500, Map 1S 33) giving legal access to Tax Lot #100 (Map 1S 33), Tax Lot #1401 (Map

1S 34), and Tax Lots #6100 & #6101 (Map 1N 34). A right of way or easement will also need to be established across Tax Lot #100 (Map 1S 33) to provide access to Tax Lot #1401 (Map 1S 34) and Tax Lots #6100 & #6101 (Map 1N 34). A survey has been done by the Public Works Department to provide descriptions of the road.



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	5	83°	E 100 695		5827 6422	creek 75' wide course NW
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11 11	1.1	720	200 E 255		1620 1875	
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"	N	45°	E 160		2440	

Thence N 64° E 2820 3350 Schumanna gate t fromN 64° E 495 175 3845 on N 31° E 4020 -N 49° Ε 365 4385 N 31° E 4535 -N 200 4735 cross creek runs NW N 51° E 430 5165 11 N 56° E 535 5700 N 81° E -465 6165 11 N 73° Е 625 6790 -N 48° E 335 7125 11 N 66° E 7325 cross creek runs SW 815 7940 11 S 34° E 60 pine to left marked 6M. 11 S 34° 215 chs Е dist. 11 S 75° E 490 705 -S 88° Е 1400 2105 11 S 70° E 455 2555 cross Bosey Creek N ** S 78° E 360 2915 11 S 74° E 985 3900 cross Johnson creek NW 11 S 57° E 270 4170 11 S 74° Е 250 4420 17 4620 R. T. a fir 10 inch diameter I marked R T 639. S 39° Е 200 I hereby certify that the foregoing Field Notes of Road No. 639 as surveyed by me on the 25 and 26 days of January 1908 are correct. John W Kimbrell County Surveyor REPORT OF BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD VIEWERS IN THE MATTER OF VIWING, SURVEYING AND LAYING OUT COUNTY ROAD NO. 639. TO THE HONORABLE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR UMATILLA COUNTY. lark. 2 M. WE THE UNDERSIGNED Board of County Road Viewers, heretofore instructed to view, survey and locate Road No. 639 submit the following report: Pursuant to an order of the Honorable County Court, we met at office of County Surveyor in Pendleton, on the 24 day of January 1908. We called to our aid L C Rothrock Chainman J E Bennett Chainman Charles Halloway Flagman Elmer Hubbard Marker who were by the surveyor each duly sworn. We viewd, surveyed and located said Road No. 639 as specified in our order. We find said route practicable and would most respectfully reommend the same be established as a public highway of Umatilla County, Oregon. The cost of construction would be an indefinite amount. The damage to property owners by reason of the location of said road would be nothing. John W Kimbrell) Board of County L C Rothrock) Road Viewers, of) Umatilla County, J E Bennett Approved and ordered opened State of Oregon. Feb. 8, 1908 T P Gilliland, County Judge Horace Walker, County Commissioner. H B Lee, County Commissioner. Filed Feb. 3, 1908 Frank Saling, Clerk By R. T. Brown, Deputy FIELD NOTES OF ROAD NO. 637. Commencing at a paint 1241 feet East of the center of S_2^1 Sec. 14, Tp 4 N. R. 28 E set post 30 feet North of Initial Point marked R. 637. 1870 chains West Thence 3870 R. T. Post 40' SW from Terminus marked R. T. North No. 637. I hereby certify that the foregoing Field Notes are correct. John Kimbrell, County Surveyor



Road No 639 639 8 33 and 34 E.W.M. 6



ROAD NOTICE.

To all persons whom it may concern:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a petition will be presented to the County Court of the State of Oregon for Umatilla County, by the undersigned, who are freeholders in said county and state and who reside in the road district or districts where said road is to be laid out, at the November term, 1907, of said county court, to-wit: on Wednesday, the 6th day of November, 1907, at the hour of opening of said court, praying said court to lay out, locate and establish a county road in said county and state commencing, running and terminating as follows, to-wit: Commencing at a point on the section line between Sections One (1) and Twelve (12), Township One (1) South Range Thirty-three (33) E.W.M., thirteen (13) chains West of the Northeast corner of said Section Twelve (12), being near the McKay post office, socalled, in said county and state, thence continuing in a Southerly or Southeasterly direction up McKay Creek on the most feasible and practicable route for a public road and as nearly as practicable along the present traveled road, through the Northeast corner of said Section Twelve (12) and across the Southwest corner of Section Seven (7), and through Sections Eighteen (18) and Nineteen (19) in Township One (1) South Range Thirty-four (34) E. W. M., and crossing the Northeast corner of Section Thirty (30) in said last named township and range, to a point on the line between Sections Twenty-nine (29) and Thirty (30), said last named township and range, to a point fifty-three and one-third (53-1/3) rods South of the Northwest corner of said Section Twentynine (29), thence in an Easterly direction up said McKay Creek on the most practicable and feasible route for a road, still as nearly as possible along the route of the said pres-

ent traveled road, to a point on the line between Sections Twenty-two (22) and Twenty-seven (27), Township Ohe (1) South Range Thirty-four (34) E. W. M. seventeen (17) chains East of the quarter section corner common to said Sections Twentytwo (22) and Twenty-seven (27), said last named point being the termination of said proposed road herein petitioned for and said road to be forty feet in width. 8 THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR UMATILLA COUNTY.

the opening county road No. 639 petitioned for by John M Wynn, et al

Now on this day this matter coming on regularly to be heard upon the report of the board of county road viewers heretofore instructed at the January 1908 term of this Court to view, survey, stake, lay out and report upon said road No. 639 as follows: Commencing at a oint on the section line between sections 1 and 12 township 1 south inge 33 ewm 13 chains West of the ME corner said Section 12; thence unning in a southerly or South Easterly direction up Mc Kay creek on the most feasible and practicable route for a public road and as nearlynas practicable along the present traveled road through the NE corner of said Section 12 and across the SW corner of Section 7, and through sections 18 and 19 in TP/ 1 S. R. 34 EWM. and crossing the NE cor. of Sec. 30, said Tp and Range to a point on the line between Secs. 29 and 30 said Tp. and range 53 1/3 rods South of the INV corner said Sec. 29, thence in an Easterly direction up said Mc Kay creek on the most practicable and feasible route for a road to a point on the line between sections 22 and 27 Township 1 South Range 34 EWM. 17 chains East of the 1/4 section corner common to said Secs. 22 and 27, and to be 40 ft wide as a county road for final hearing, the same having been publicly read on two different days of the same term of court, to-wit: Having been publicly read the 1st time on Feb. 6, 1908 and public read the 2nd time on Feb. 8, 1908. Said Board of County Road Viewers having reported favorably and recommended the establishing of said road as a county road, and the plat and field notes being on file and certified to by the surveyor appointed to survey the same, and it appearing to the court that said road would be of sufficient public utility, it is hereby ordered that said report of the board of county road viewers be accepted and the plats and Field notes be recorded in the Redord of Plats and Feild Notes of Umatilla County

and the Road Supervisor through whose district or districts said road runs be and he is hereby ordered and instructed to open said road for public use.

TPhillenn County Judge Harach Vallescounty Com

County Com

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR UMATILLA COUNTY.

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In the Matter of the Application of Allen Rhodes et al for the Location and Establishment of a County Road.

PETITION.

To the Honorable, the above entitled Court:

We, the undersigned, your petitioners, all of whom are freeholders within Umatilla County, State of Oregon, and who reside in the road district where the hereinafter described road is to be laid out and located, respectfully petition your honorable body to cause to be laid out, located and established a county road in the County of Umatilla and State of Oregon, commencing, running and terminating as follows, towit: Commencing at a point on the line of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, eighty rods South from the Northwest corner of Section Six (6) Township One (1) South Range Thirty-four (34) E. W. M. in said county and state, thence Easterly and Northeasterly across the Oberg premises, socalled, about eighty (80) rods, to a point on the base line between sections Six (6) in Township One (1) South Range Thirty-four (34) E. W. M. and Section Thirty-one (31) in Township One (1) North Range Thirty-four (34) E.W. M., on present traveled road, and thence along said present traveled road Northeasterly an the

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South bank of the North fork of McKay Creek to a point on said road near the dwelling house on the S. L. Morse place, so-called, thence still in the same direction over a point of land and thence again along said South bank of said creek along the present traveled road in a Northeasterly direction about two and one-half miles to that point there-on which is nearest to the center of Section Twenty-eight (28) Township One (1) North Range Thirty-four (34) E. W. M said proposed road to be about three and a quarter miles in length and as near as practicable to traverse the line of an existing road which is in use but which is not a county road, said last named point being the termination of said proposed road herein petitioned for, and said road to be forty feet in width; and thus will ever pray. Dated September 21st, 1907.

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Name.

Name.

Field Notes of Porda No. 640 640 Commencing at a print on Bange line so ports fonthe of the NW corner Sten 6 J18 18346 um Set Stone at initial print marked & 640 Thence South 154 Chains dist A1. · N6106 500 AZ 654 11 " N42°6 400 " A.3 10.54 N 19° 6 400 1454 A 4 « N 1º 6 410 18-6 4 As-N 210 W 232 2096 AL " N 2° 6 210 2306 A7 11 ×151° 6 342 2.648 AS · N7506 625-3273 ×9 N40°6 3 473 6 Yw line bet more & okery 200 910 4183 A 10 These N 20°G 5108 925 : A 11 1 N27°306 525 5-633 AIZ 1 N46° 6 325 5958 A 13 6 10,90 r N420 7048 × 14 E r N310 7418 370 A 15-× N400 0 7738 320 A 16 8000 Post right morties 1. M. " N290 8 262 + N66306 68-0 A 18 " N 43° G 1360 680 A 19 N 850 6. 460 1820 closs crede NW A20 1 D70°6 2450 CLUDS " 5B AZI 630 " N27° 8 2980 centr W/2 Aco 32 A 22 530 " N650 E 420 3400 A23 · 584° B A24 125-3 5 2 5-

A 24 3525 thener ST6° E 3945 A Zs-420 " N65°6 4425 A 2.6 480 N35°6 5605 A 27 1180 11 N4706 A 28 520 6125 4 N 180 8 500 6625-A29 11 N 47° E A 80 6880 255 X 530 G 7130 A 31 250 A. 46° E 7980 ASZ 850 n N 3535 6 a pine to left marked 2 1% 8000 20 10 N35°30' O A 33 690 10 diff-N66° 6 890 A34 200 N37° 6 15-40 A35-650 " N4630 E 380 A 36 1920 " N350 G 270 2190 A37 " N47° 6 340 2530 A38-" NT1º30 6 A39 655 3185 1 N55° & A 40 1040 4225 1 N62° 6 1000 5225 A41 · N 40° 6 320 5-5-4 5-A47 11 N 290 G 330 5875 A43 N180 6 A 44 250 6125 « N6° 6 6230 A45-105-11 N 580 B 6480 250 A 46 · N812° 6 7010 5-30 A 41 1 N 50°E 7660 A 48-650 " N 37° 8 8000 Pinezo to myte Morked 3 M 340 в " × 49° 640 BT Pino 20 fet to nyth y Morked BTNO 640 Thereby certify That He preging Field Notes of Brad 640 is more a by one on He 25th day from 1905 Arbas W Tombell Eousty Surveyor



In the matter of opening County Road No. 640.

Now on this day this matter coming on regularly to be heard upon the report of the Board of County Road Viewers heretofore instructed at the January 1908 term of this Court to view, survey, stake and lay out and report upon said Road No 640, as Pollows: Commencing at a point on the line of the Umatilla Indian Reservation 30 rods South from the NW corner Sec. 5, Tp. 1 S R 34 EMM; thence Easterly and North Easterly acorss the Oberg premises so called about 80 rods to a point on the base line between Secs 5 Tp 1 S. R. 34 EMM., and Sec 31, T. 1 N. R. 24 FWW, on present Staveled mond: thence along said present traveled road Northeasterly on the Sout Bank of the North fork of Me Kay creat to a point near the dwelling house on the site blace. so-called thence still in the same direction over a point of Lann any thence again along sair South part of said creek along the present traveled road in a North Easterly digection about 2 miles to that point thereon which is nearest to the center of

Judicial Day, Set. Febr. 8, M-245 190 8

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Section 28, Tp. 1 M. R. 34 EWM and to be 40ft vide as a county road for final hearing. The same having been publicly read on two different days of the same term of Court, to-wit: Maving been publicly read the 1st time on deb. 5, 1904 and publicly read the and time on 'eb. 8, 1908 and the Board of Courty Road Viewers having reported favorably and recommended the establishment of said sold as a county road and the plat and field notes being on file and certified to by the surveyor appointed to survey the same, and it oppearing to the court that said road yould be of sufficient public utility, it is preby ORDERED that said report be coepted and that the plat and field notes be reacrded in the Record or Plats and Field Hotes For, Unatilla County and that the Road Supervisor through whose District or Districts said road uns be and he is hereby ordered and instructed to open said road for public use. When the damages are paid to Carl Oberg by the petitioners in the sub of (50.00.

In the matter of opening County Road No. 638 petitioned for by Newton Miller, et al.

Now on this day this matter coming on regularly to be heard upon the report of the Board of County Road Viewers heretofore instructed at the J muary 1908 term of this Court, to view, survey, stake. Lay out and report upon and Rom Way Fire

To the Honorable County Court of the State of Oregon, for Umatilla County

WE THE UNDERSIGNED, your petitioners, who are freeholders of said Umatilla County, Oregon, and who reside in the road district, or districts, where said road is to be laid out, respectfully petition your honorable body to cause to be laid out, located, and established a County road in said County and State,

commencing, running and terminating as follows, towit: Commencing at a point on the South side of the Old Oregon Trail highway where the North and South section line between Sections 9, and 10, Twp. 2 N.R.33 East crosses said highway and running thence South 6 and 4 miles, more or less, to the corner of . Sections 9,10,15 and 16, Twp. 1 N. R. 33 E.W.M.; thence West one mile to the corner of Sections 8,9,16 and 17 of the same Twp. and Range; thence South 2 5/8 miles along the Section line to the top of a hill on the North and South line between Sections 28 and 29; thence following the line of the present road as it is now platted and approved by the United States Government across Section 5, Twp. 1 South Range 33 E.W.M.; thence across Section 5, Twp. 1 South Range 33 E.W.M. to the East bank of McKay Creek; thence following up McKay Creek along the most practicable and feasible route for a road through Sections 4, 3, 2 and 1 to the corner of Sections 1 and 12 in Twp. 1 South, Range 33 East on the Twp. line between Twps. 33 and 34, E.W.M., and there terminating at the last named point.

said road to be sixty (60) Feet wide.

We respectfully show that there is a public necessity for said road, in that, said road will reach the post office on McKay Creek and will accommodate and it is actually necessary for the accommodation and use of a great number of settlers along said road and for ingress and egress for a large number of settlers residing South of the termination of said road. And your petitioners will ever pray, etc.

Dated this 17th _____ day of _____ June ____ 19 22 A. D.

NAMES 1011 17

WESTERN AUTO CO., INC. CULP PLAN ASSOCIATED STORE NO. 387 cor cottonwood and water sts. PENDLETON, OREGON

REPORT OF BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD VIEWERS.

In the Matter of the Viewing of the County Road petitioned for by C. M. Wright, et al, commencing at a point on the south $\not a$ side of the Old Oregon Trail, where the N & S. Section line between Sec. 9 - IO, Tp. 2 N, R. 33 E.W.M crosses said Highway, and known as Road No. 823.

TO THE HONORABLE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR UMATILLA CO.

We the undersigned Board of County Road Viewers heretofore instructed to View the said road; report as follows;

We met at Pendleton, Oregon on the 5th day of Aug. 1922, and the Viewers having Qualified we proceeded to View the said road.

We find that the road is all ready opened and established and has been traveled for a good many years so the cost of opening the road will be nothing and as it has been established and traveled the damages to the owners of the land over which the said road is located willbe the sum of nothing.

Therefore we most respectifully recommend that this road he made a Public Highway of Umatilla County, Oregon. as the Public will be benefited in our opinion by making is such.

when E Very (Board of County ugarin And (Road Viewers for (Umatilla County.

I SULUDA MALINA

ROAD NOTICE

TO ALL PERSONS WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

TO ALL PERSONS WHOM IT MAY COL	
Notice is hereby given that a petition w	will be presented to the County Court of the State of Ore-
gon, for Umatilla County, by the Undersig	ned, who are freeholders of said County and State, and re-
side in the road district or districts of the	e hereinafter described route for a County road, at the
	County Court, to-wit: On the 2nd day of Aug 19.22
oraying said Court to lay out, locate and	establish a County road in said County and State, com-
mencing, running and terminating as foll	ows, to-wit:
and running thence south six to the corner of sections 9, thence west one mile to the same township and range; the the section line to the top ween Sections 28 and 29; the as it is now platted and app across sections 28,29 and 33 section 5, Township 1, south Ureek; thence following up M feasible route for a road t sections 1 and 12 in Township line between townships 33 an	10, Twp. 2 Nr. 33 East crosses said highwa and three quarters miles more or less 10, 15, and sixteen Twp. 1 Nr.33 E.W.M., corner of Sections 8-9-16- and 17, of the mee South two and five-eights miles along of a hill on the north and south line bet- nee following the line of the present road roved by the United States Government of Twp. 1 Nr.33 E.W.M.; thence across range 33 E.W.M. to the east banl of McKay cKay Creek along the most practicable and hrough sections 4-3-2-1, to the corner of p 1 south range 33 East on the township d.34 E.W.M., and there terminating at the to be 60 feet wide.
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aid road to be60feet wide Dated this17.thday ofJune C.M. Wright J.D. Owen A.M. Isaac	19.22. P. Motanic NAME E.S. Isaac Swante Anderson
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IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON

FOR UMATILLA COUNTY.

In the Matter of County Road Petitioned for by C.M. Wright, et al, commencing at a point on the South side of the Old Oregon Trial Highway, where the North and South Section line between sections 9 and 10, Township 2 North, Range 33, E.W.M. crosses said Highway.

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ROAD #823.

Now on this day this matter coming on to be heard upon the report of the board of gounty road viewers heretofore instructed at the August, 1922 term of this court to view, survey if necessary, andreport upon said proposed road petitioned be as commenc ing at a point on the South side of the Old Oregon Trail Highway where the North and South Section line between section 9 and 10, Township 2 North Range 33, E.W.M., crosses said Highway and running thence South 6 3/4 miles more or less, to the corner of Section 9, 210, 15 and 16, Township 1 North, Range 33 E.W.M., thense west one mile to the corner of Sections 8, 9, 16 and 17 of the same township and range, thence West 2 5/8 miles along the section line to the top of the hill on the North and South line between Sections 28 and 29, thence following the line of the proposed road as it is platted and approved by the U. S. Government, across sections 28 and 29 and 33 of Township 1 North, Range 33 E.W.M., thence across Section 5, Township 1 South Range 33.E.W.M., to the east bank of McKay Creek, thence following up McKay Creek along the most pracitable and feasible route for a road through Sections 4, 3, 2, and 1, to the corner of Section 1 and 12, in Township 1 South, Range 33 E.W.M., on the township line between townships 33 and 34, E.W.M., and to be 60 feet wide for a county road for final hearing, the same having been publicy read on two different days of the same term of the Court, to-wit: Having been publicly read the first time on September 6 and publicly read the second time on September 7, 1922; said board of County Road viewers having reported favorably and recommended that said road be established as a county road, and that the damage sustained to the property owners by reason of establishment of said road will be

nothing.

And that the Court being of the opinion that said road will be of sufficient utility,

IT IS THEREFORE HEREBY ORDERED that said report of the board of County Road viewers be approved and that the plat be recorded in the record of proceedings of Umatilla County, and that the Roadmaster be and he is hereby ordered and instructed to open said road for public use.

Dated this 8th day of Sseptember, 1922.

22 Lounty Judge. GL Dunne County Commissioner Commissioner.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS ROAD RIGHT OF WAY TRANSFER PLAT PROJECT 800(2) MC KAY CREEK ROADS 13.8 MILES UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION UMATILLA COUNTY OREGON

^ '.being

Date: <u>aug. 16</u> 1962

D.R. Court

CERTIFICATION OF UMATILLA COUNTY

that I am the Judge of the County Court of Umatilla County,

Oregon: that I am satisfied as to the accuracy of the survey

of the road and of the accuracy of this map on which the

survey is represented; that Umatilla County accepts the

right-of-way for the road represented on this map pursuant

to agreement with the Bureau of Indian Affairs dated June

ATTESTED

hereby certify

APPROVAL OF MAP

"This map composed of 1 sheets, of which this is sheet 1, is approved pursuant to the provisions of the Act of February 5, 1948 (62 Stat. 17: 25 U.S.C. 323-328) and Departmental Regulations 25 CFR 161, as amended, and pursuant to the stipulations of the agreement dated Jung MCL between the United States as represented by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the County as represented by the Board of County Commissioners subject to any prior, valid,

- 24. 1955; J

acting Superintendent, form Springs Indian Agency

Warm Springs, Oregon



BOB ILITERA

IN REPLY REFER TO

Land Operations

United States Departments of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Umatilla Agency Post Office Box 520 Pendleton, Oregon 97801

Board of County Commissions ATTENTION: Bud Draper Post Office Box 1427 Pendleton, Oregon 97801 MAR 1 3 1981

Gentlemen:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has recently been examining the validity and authorization of rights of way on the Umatilla Indian Reservation. It has been determined that various road right of ways exists. (See exhibit 'A' for road numbers as given.) Our records show that these rights of way are not authorized pursuant to appropriate federal statutes. Such unauthorized use, absent any showing of payment or other right, may eventually be determined to constitute trespass.

Before pursuing possible legal action, our counsel has advised us to call this matter to the attention of likely defendants. The purpose of this contact is therefore to determine whether any authority exists for the subject right of way which is not reflected in Bureau of Indian Affairs records. Absent any authority for the right of way, we are directed to refer this case to legal counsel for the Department of the Interior.

We would appreciate your contacting us with any information you may have with regard to this matter. The Agency Claims Coordinator for this effort is Dale Lingle and he can be contacted at ext. 457 276-3811 if you need additional information. In view of the Statute of Limitations (28 U.S.C. 2415), we are advised that documentation of these cases must progress in an expeditious manner. Unless you are able to respond by May 31, 1981, we will have to refer the case to the Office of the Regional Solicitor.

Your assistance is appreciated.

Sincerely,

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Enclosure

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MICHELE HALLMAN

ATTORNEY AT LAW 221 SOUTH MAIN, SUITE NO. 3 PENDLETON, OREGON 97801 TELEPHONE (503) 276-1851

February 12, 1982

Congressman Denny Smith Congress of the United States 1207 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

CCL

Re: County Roads on the Umatilla Indian Reservation My File No. 001-017

Dear Congressman Smith: -

I am the legal counsel for the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners. On behalf of the commissioners, I have been authorized to contact you regarding the following.

On April 7, 1981 the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners wrote to your office in an attempt to advise you of a problem that had arisen regarding certain County roads which were located on the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Enclosed is a copy of that letter for your reference.

In response to this letter, you contacted the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C. In their letter to you, which was undated but which we received on May 22, 1981, Mr. James H. Stevens, Acting Director of the Office of Trust Responsibilities stated that as part of a national program to uncover third-party damage claims actionable under the statute of limitations (28 USC 2415), the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Umatilla Agency Office undertook research to determine whether roads on the Umatilla reservation were properly acquired. Federal statute, specifically 25 USC 311-328, requires that proper rights-of-way be obtained for all such roads across federal land.

Mr. Stevens wrote further that the only practical manner in which a determination could be made regarding the proper authorization of these rights-of-way was to inventory all rights-of-way and identify those lacking the proper "clearances." Proper "clearances" were to be determined by the Umatilla Agency and the Portland area office's Title Branch. Then, if proper authorization for

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Congressman Denny Smith February 12, 1982 Page Two

the roads still could not be found, County officials were to be contacted to check for any documentation in their possession.

Over the past six months, Umatilla County has conducted an extensive investigation to determine whether there existed proper authorization for the establishment of certain County roads on the Umatilla Indian Reservation which were questioned by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. I enclose a copy of the list of roads originally questioned by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. This list was submitted to the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners by Mr. Philip Sanchez, Acting Superintendent of the Umatilla Agency, and a copy of the cover letter is likewise enclosed for your reference.

After a thorough investigation by the staff of the Umatilla County Road Department, proper authorization could not be found for the following roads on the Umatilla Indian Reservation:

> Nors Nors 732 735 736 Curl-Homly 737 Pamburn 775 Eagle Creek 666 788 Crawford Hollow 825 Thornhollow 857 858 911 Meacham Creek 932 St. Andrews 934 Mission-St. Andrews-Frontage 939 Received from State 1049 North Fork McKay Creek 692 987 Goad-Peterson

Because the required authorization cannot be found for the above-named roads, Umatilla County would like to avert a possible lawsuit by the Umatilla Indian Reservation against the County for any or all of the following:

> Money damages to compensate tribal members for the unauthorized use of the roads or trespass;

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Congressman Denny Smith February 12, 1982 Page Three

- (2) Ejectment of the County; and
- (3) Any court-imposed requirement that users of the roads must apply to the BIA for rights-of-way to continue using the roads.

Therefore, in order to solve the problem of Umatilla County's lack of authorization for the establishment of the above-named roads, the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners requests that you introduce legislation which would have the following effect:

- The law would bar any claims by the Umatilla Indian Reservation, any enrolled member of the reservation or the United States government for money damages, ejectment or any other remedy based on the County's unlawful use of the above-named roads;
- (2) The legislation would establish the validity of the above-named County roads and would obviate the need for any further, formal procedures to legalize their existence.

I hope that this request for legislation is sufficiently specific to enable your staff to begin work on the proposed bill as soon as possible. If, however, you have a need for further information, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Mr. Carlos Van Elsberg of the Umatilla County Road Department, P. O. Box 1245, Pendleton, OR 97801 (Telephone 276-2962).

> Very truly yours, MICHELE HALLMAN

Michele Hallman

MH:jjc

Enclosures: cc of Commissioners' Letter cc of BIA Letter

cc: Mr. Don Murtha (w/enc) P. O. Box 13089 Salem, OR 97309

> Board of Commissioners P. O. Box 1427 Pendleton, OR 97801

Umatilla County Road Department P. O. Box 1245 Pendleton, OR 97801