

COUNTY ROAD ADMINISTRATION BOARD

JOHN KOSTER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CRAB QUARTERLY REPORT

Issue 37

February – April 2021

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CRABOARD WELCOMES LEWIS COUNTY COMMISSIONER GARY STAMPER

The CRABoard welcomed Commissioner Gary Stamper to the Board. His term began on February 3 and will expire June 30, 2023. Commissioner Stamper is representing medium counties with a population of over 30,000 and less than 150,000. Welcome Commissioner Stamper!

CRABOARD CONGRATULATES JOHN KOSTER AND KAREN PENDLETON ON THEIR UPCOMING RETIREMENTS

John's final day at CRAB will be May 31. He has served as the Executive Director since September 2017. In addition to being a former Snohomish County Council Member, and Washington State Representative and Senator, John served as a CRABoard member from 2007 to 2013.

Karen has served as Executive Assistant at CRAB since August 1992. Her last day will be June 30.

CRABoard Chair Brian Stacy presented John with a plaque and Karen with a certificate thanking them for their years of service to CRAB and the counties and wished them well in their future endeavors.

Thank you, John and Karen, for your dedication, expertise, and commitment to excellence.



BRIAN STACY LEAVING CRABOARD



Chair Stacy announced that he will not be applying to renew his term that expires on June 30. He has been a CRABoard member since 2004 and has served as the Board Chair since July 2017.

John Koster presented Brian with a certificate thanking him for his contributions to and leadership of the Board and wished him well in the future.

Thank you, Brian, for your many years of service to CRAB and the counties.

APRIL 2021 CRABOARD MEETING

In accordance with current Washington State COVID-19 restrictions, the CRABoard held their quarterly Board Meeting via Zoom and with limited in-person participation on April 29 and 30 in the CRAB Board Room.

CRABoard Actions

The CRABoard approved Resolution 2021-002 Apportion RATA Funds to Regions, which authorizes that the accrued amount of \$4,025,840 deposited to the RATA for January, February and March 2021 be apportioned to the regions by the established 2019-2021 biennium regional percentages after setting aside \$19,267 for administration.

Staff Contact: Steve Johnson, P.E. steve.johnson@crab.wa.gov

The CRABoard approved Resolution 2021-003 - To Approve 2021-2023 RAP Projects and Allocate 90% of Estimated 2021-2023 RATA Revenue.

Staff Contact: Steve Johnson, P.E. steve.johnson@crab.wa.gov

The CRABoard approved Resolution 2021-004, issuing Certificates of Good Practice to all 39 counties. *Staff contact: Derek Pohle, P.E. derek.pohle@crab.wa.gov*

The CRABoard approved Asotin County's request for waived reimbursement of an estimated \$1,122,461.87 of expended RATA funds used for their withdrawn Snake River Road project, on the condition that Asotin County commences all phases of construction no later than December 31, 2025, when the MOA with resource agencies expires, and when the environmental permits are expected to expire. At that time, an extension to April 2027 may be granted if the County is able to obtain an extension to the MOA and new permits. At that time, a second extension to April 2030 may be granted if the County is able to show proof of progress on the project. If Asotin County does not commence construction on all phases by April 2030, the County shall pay back all of the expended RATA funds.

Staff Contact: Steve Johnson, P.E. steve.johnson@crab.wa.gov

The CRABoard authorized a call for County Ferry Capital Improvement Program projects at the July 2021 CRABoard meeting.

Staff Contact: Steve Johnson, P.E. steve.johnson@crab.wa.gov

Potential Corrections to 2020 and 2021 MVFT Allocation Factors

Mike Clark reported that with CRAB's transition from Mobility to GIS-Mo, staff anticipated there would be some potential Road Log discrepancies. During the current Road Log audit review, staff found several shared border roads, gaps, overlaps and a few segments with incorrect jurisdictional ownership. The majority within the State of Washington, however, Walla Walla and Asotin County each had a road segment in Oregon.

Chapter 36.75.160 RCW authorizes the board of any county to construct, maintain, and operate any county road which forms the boundary line between another county within the state or another county in any other state or which through its meandering

crosses such boundary. The concern of CRAB staff is that Asotin and Walla Walla Counties have large enough road segments outside of Washington State that they may go beyond the “meandering” as authorized by the legislature. Following discussions with each of the individual County Engineers and Road Log Managers, both counties immediately changed their Jurisdiction Code in Mobility.

Additional analysis of roads between Oregon and Idaho showed approximately 40 miles of roads in numerous counties that were straddling and meandering throughout Oregon and Idaho. These were considered di minimis by staff since they are typically only a few hundred feet in length.

After several internal meetings, CRAB staff contacted Albert Wang, Assistant Attorney General, to provide some legal interpretation. CRAB was not questioning if a county can spend road fund dollars, regardless of the source of money, on the maintenance and operation of border roads, but whether CRAB can include any portion of roads outside of the state in the MVFT allocation calculations that are being spent on the replacement and maintenance of “county roads”, as that term is used in the statute.

Based on Mr. Wang's response: *“This is an interesting question that does not necessarily have a clear answer, but on balance I believe it would be permissible for CRAB to include those portions of county roads that cross into other states when calculating MVFT allocations.”*, CRAB staff provided the CRABoard with suggested actions to address whether the Asotin and/or Walla Walla County road segments are within the Board's opinion of what “meander” means. Some of these actions would necessitate amendment of the Master County Road Log for the calendar years 2020 and 2021, the two years under the current MVFT allocation cycle. Mr. Clark noted that the Board's decision on this matter will also guide staff on potential clarifying language for WAC amendments.

The CRABoard voted to take no action against either Walla Walla or Asotin County based on the County Engineers' actions to remove the segments from their county's Road Log. Staff Contact: Mike Clark mike.clark@crab.wa.gov

Project Request Actions Taken by CRAB Staff

Staff reported that Garfield County's Kirby-Mayview Phase I 2R project remains in the design phase but is nearing construction. The County was recently able to take advantage of available Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding. Due to the increase in outside funding, the County requested a reduction in the RATA allocated to this project. The original RATA asked for this project was \$2,600,000. The revised RATA amount request is \$2,430,000 – a reduction of \$170,000. The amendment has been signed and executed.

Ferry, Cowlitz, Asotin, Skagit, and Grays Harbor Counties were granted two-year construction lapsing extensions, setting a new construction lapsing date of April 16, 2023 for each county.

Klickitat County requested a scope change to extend the limits of their Courtney Road 2R Project. The extension would add 0.85 miles of overlay, with no additional RATA request, and eliminate the gap between the Courtney 2R project and the Courtney RC project. Secondly, with the two Courtney projects becoming adjacent projects, Klickitat County requested that they be combined into a single contract, thereby reducing construction and administration costs. The new contract has been signed and executed.

Lewis County requested a scope change for their Centralia Alpha RC project to shift the beginning milepost by approximately 200 feet. The original scope included realigning a vertical curve and construction of a new turn lane for a campground road approach. During the design of the project, the County has determined that a turn lane is not warranted. However, there is an existing culvert at this location that was not accounted for in the original project scoping. Adjusting the project limits will allow the intended reconstruction project to continue as scoped, without adding the cost of replacing this culvert and related impacts such as Right of Way acquisition and permitting. The proposed adjustment to project length did not affect the original project scoring or placement in the funding array. CRAB has forwarded a letter with a contract amendment for the change in scope for each project.

Mason County has withdrawn their Shelton Matlock Culvert project and agreed to pay back \$52,045.61 in RATA funds spent on the project.

Staff Contact: Steve Johnson, P.E. steve.johnson@crab.wa.gov

CRABoard Positions

Staff reported that the terms currently held by Pierce County Engineer Brian Stacy, Skagit County Commissioner Lisa Janicki, and King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert expire June 30, 2021. All members are eligible to seek reappointment.

Staff Contact: Karen Pendleton, karen.pendleton@crab.wa.gov

WSACE Award Nominations

Staff reported that nomination forms for the WSACE Engineer of the Year and Project/Program Manager of the Year have been sent out. The awards will be presented at the WSACE Conference in June.

Staff Contact: Karen Pendleton, karen.pendleton@crab.wa.gov

Office of the County Engineer Vacancies

- Pacific County Engineer Robert Kimble, PE, resigned effective June 13, 2021. Brook Priest, PE was appointed County Engineer/Public Works Director on April 27, 2021.
- Asotin County Engineer Michael White, PE, was terminated. Walt Olsen, PE, is continuing as Interim County Engineer.
- Lincoln County is actively grooming to fill the County Engineer position currently held on an interim basis by Walt Olsen, PE.

Staff Contact: Derek Pohle, P.E. derek.pohle@crab.wa.gov

Summary of State Auditor’s Reports Findings

	Number	Findings	Management Letters	County Road or ER&R	CRAB Follow-Up Needed
<i>Financial</i>	1	0	0	No	No
<i>Accountability</i>	7	0	1 Lewis	No	No
<i>Fraud</i>	2	2 Thurston Cowlitz	0	No	No
<i>Performance</i>	0	0	0	No	No

Staff Contact: Derek Pohle, P.E. derek.pohle@crab.wa.gov

Current Budget Status

The agency fund balances are under budget as the end of the biennium approaches. Staff has moved some expenses forward from the 2021-23 biennium, and any funds left in the MVFT account will be shifted into RAP and CAPP in order to remain available to the counties. Staff Contact: Drew Woods, P.E. drew.woods@crab.wa.gov

FY 2021 Supplemental Budget

The legislature allocated \$75,000 to CRAB for retirement buyouts and an increase to CAPA, which will result in an extra \$5,175,500 going out to the counties by the end of June. Wahkiakum County has been struggling to maintain their ferry system, and was awarded \$280,000 to assist in those efforts.

Staff Contact: Drew Woods, P.E. drew.woods@crab.wa.gov

2021-2023 Budget

The legislature awarded \$2,000,000 to the Emergency Loan Fund and allocated \$7,563,000 to CRAB’s operating budget. They approved \$1,023,000 to the WSACE for a study of the use of county right of way as a potential source of revenue; updating CRAB’s dashboard, reporting systems and program management software; and continuing fish barrier inventory. Staff Contact: Drew Woods, P.E. drew.woods@crab.wa.gov

The budget for RAP was set at \$55,028,000 and the budget for CAPP at \$37,379,000. The biennial expenditures of \$1,455,000 from the CFCIP were also funded.

Staff Contact: Drew Woods, P.E. drew.woods@crab.wa.gov

Executive Director Recruitment

The CRABoard has chosen WSACE Managing Director Jane Wall to serve as the next Executive Director following John Koster’s retirement on May 31. Her first day at CRAB will be June 1. Staff Contact: Karen Pendleton karen.pendleton@crab.wa.gov

NEXT CRABOARD MEETING

The CRABoard's next meeting will be held virtually and at the CRAB offices on July 29-30, 2021. Meeting agendas are posted five days prior to the next meeting. Current materials as well as past agendas and meeting minutes can be found at:

<http://www.crab.wa.gov/crab/meetings.cfm>

Staff Contact: Karen Pendleton karen.pendleton@crab.wa.gov

CRAB TRAINING

County Engineers' Training

Staff hopes to resume in person classes this fall.

Staff Contact: Derek Pohle, PE derek.pohle@crab.wa.gov

BOCC Training

A virtual Legislative/Executive Authority and the County Road Department Training was conducted on March 10-11 via Zoom, with 75 participants on the first day and 65 participants the second day. Staff hopes to resume in person classes this fall.

Staff Contact: Derek Pohle, PE derek.pohle@crab.wa.gov

Design and UAS Systems Training

No in-person learning has been delivered or scheduled for last quarter. Staff is planning to begin offering in-person training this quarter.

Staff Contact: Brian Bailey brian.bailey@crab.wa.gov

GIS-Mo Training

Initial GIS-Mo classes have been completed. Further training will be accomplished in individual or small group settings as needed.

Staff Contact: Mike Clark mike.clark@crab.wa.gov

INFORMATION SERVICES UPDATE

All of CRAB's major projects are within scope and on budget.



GIS-Mo will officially be three years old on May 1, 2021. It went live on January 11, and initial migration from Mobility scheduled through July 31. Project tracking metrics give 63 average days to completion. With all road logs due May 3, the last county will go live by July 5. This gives a three week gap in the schedule for official oversight, which is scheduled through July 31. CRAB and County staff continue to collaborate and support each other through this major organizational change.

Major Milestones reached:

- The first step into Microsoft 365 (M365) was completed April 18
- Periodic IT Security Assessment preparation is underway
- The IT department is under budget for biennial hardware replacement

Staff Contact: Eric Hagenlock eric.hagenlock@crab.wa.gov, (360)350-6088

The IT staff continues to reorganize their duties. Staff professional development is encouraged and supported. System security continues to be updated and monitored regularly. *Staff Contact: Eric Hagenlock eric.hagenlock@crab.wa.gov 360-350-6088*

DESIGN AND UAS SYSTEMS UPDATES

Design Systems

In 2005, CRAB negotiated with Autodesk, the makers of Civil 3D, to replace Eagle Point, which the counties had been using for 10 years. While Civil 3D is a robust design platform, it has always had holes in its usability. With Design Systems' most recent initiative, we have moved to help the counties by patching those holes. Quux Software's Sincpac tools for Civil 3D provide a suite of tools that improve the functionality of Civil 3D for the end user. CRAB negotiated with the vendor to provide 200 licenses of their product to be distributed statewide to the counties. These licenses are being provided to CRAB at an 85% discount from their standard pricing, including their annual subscription to maintain functionality with Autodesk's ever morphing products. CRAB will provide technical support and training in the use of these tools through our LMS Training Portal.



Staff reported that in the Pinnacle Series Learning Management System, CRAB has completed translation and uploaded assets and a learning path in support of CRAB's Annual Reporting System. Staff is in the process of adding 300+ help documents and videos in support of Sincpac tools for Civil 3D. CRAB has held three LMS scheduled events that attracted 50± users per event. Each event has increased average use following the events.

The platform has 761 registered users and has had 170 unique active logins during the period. Users have accessed 671 assets and 236 learning path courses. Of the assets accessed, 214 were CRAB's custom content in support of GIS-Mo, RAP Online, CARS and Sincpac. Using imputed averages for assets and courses, CRAB provided approximately 151 person-hours of training.

Approximately 16% of the users logging into the system in the fourth quarter responded to a survey sent out in early January to solicit feedback on Pinnacle's content and usability. The results of the survey reflected that 79% of respondents found the LMS improved their skill. A question regarding content revealed that about 40 percent of content that the users wanted to learn already resides on the system. This indicates that users may need added training to utilize the search engine effectively. Other requests for content will be considered based on value to the users and CRAB's ability to produce the desired content. *Staff Contact: Brian Bailey brian.bailey@crab.wa.gov*

Unmanned Aerial Systems



In February, Brian Bailey traveled to Benton County to provide a demonstration of the quadcopter and the process for collection of topographic data. He met with staff from the GIS, Design and Survey Groups to fly their Badger Pit stockpile. Following the flight, he processed the flight data and prepared a ground model which was used to generate a volume of the stockpiles on the site. He discussed specifications of the best equipment to fit their needs in order to implement their own program.

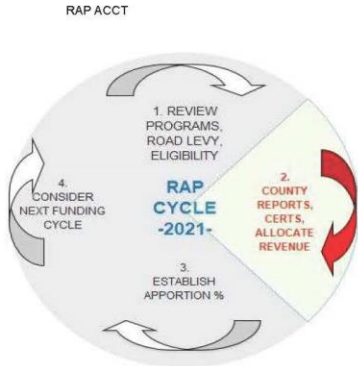
Kitsap County has requested a demonstration of the quadcopter for the purpose of public involvement. They would like to video a completed project from the air to highlight the improvements to the community.

CRAB has been in contact over the past few months with Airworks, an aerial data processing company in Boston, Massachusetts to discuss the advance of the use of unmanned aircraft in the process of automated pavement rating. Pavement rating is currently done, for the most part, by an inspector physically driving a road and recording defects based on manual input and their training in pavement rating criteria. As you can imagine, each person may have a different view of the defects and as a result rate them differently. Airworks has already developed an autonomous system to convert aerial orthophotos into planimetric data that can be used in design. Staff believes that system can be trained to identify road defects and apply a standardized rating to them. This could in turn be used to create a level un-biased pavement rating system. Over the next few months, staff will work with them to develop a project scope.

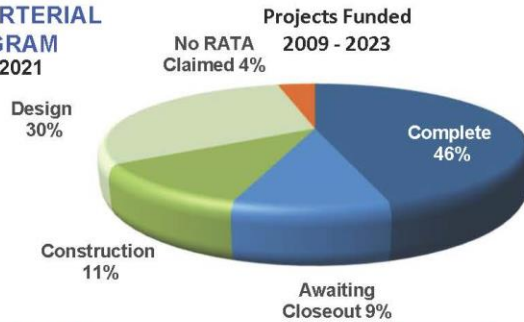
CRAB has acquired some new equipment for the quadcopter. Staff has upgraded to quadcopter to collect accurate survey grade data using global positioning systems that will improve accuracy to 2-3 cm horizontally and 5 cm vertically. This system includes a 20-megapixel camera to improve image quality. Staff has also acquired a thermal camera for the quadcopter. With the addition of this camera, CRAB will combine it with the existing zoom camera to demonstrate to the counties the value of unmanned aircraft in collection of visual inspection data for bridges and structures.

Staff Contact: Brian Bailey brian.bailey@crab.wa.gov

RURAL ARTERIAL TRUST ACCOUNT (RATA) ACTIVITY AND BALANCE SUMMARY



RURAL ARTERIAL PROGRAM April, 2021



PROJECT STATUS:

Billing Phase	'83-'09	'09-'11	'11-'13	'13-'15	'15-'17	'17-'19	'19-'21	Upcoming Biennium '21-'23	TOTAL
Completed	1002	37	2	37	15	8			1101
Awaiting Closeout		1		7	3	7	2		20
Some RATA paid	1	1		6	23	25	35		91
No RATA Paid						2	6		8
TOTAL	1003	39	2	50	41	42	43	0	1220

FUND STATUS:

Anticipated Revenue to end of '19 - '21 Biennium:		
Fuel tax receipts and interest through June, 2019		607,140,559
Estimated fuel tax receipts, interest and CW Transfers July 2019 thru June 2021		38,097,465
	Total estimated revenue	645,238,024
RAP Expenditures to date:		
To Completed Projects		569,585,277
To Projects in Design or Under Construction		43,131,159
Administration		12,912,404
	Total RATA spent	625,628,840
RAP Obligations:		
RATA Balance on Active Projects		88,870,229
RATA \$ yet to allocate to Partially funded projects -		31,068,238
Requests for reimbursement - pending		20,703
Estimated remaining administration through 2019- 2021 biennium		172,402
	Total RATA obligated	120,131,572

QTR 1 - 2021 RATA ACTIVITY:

REVENUE MONTH	BEGINNING BALANCE	MVFT REVENUE	INTEREST + Cash Rcpts	PROJECT PAYMENTS	#	ADMIN CHARGES	ENDING BALANCE
January	\$12,464,458.85	1,238,133.49	\$10,283.28	(325,008.56)	10	69,434.16	\$13,457,301.22
February	\$13,457,301.22	\$1,490,300.69	\$8,938.64	(1,128,743.31)	45	(45,347.22)	\$13,782,450.02
March	\$13,782,450.02	\$1,269,052.09	\$9,132.15	(805,126.99)	26	(43,354.15)	\$14,212,153.12
TOTALS:		\$3,997,486.27	\$28,354.07	(2,258,878.86)	81	(19,267.21)	

4/16/2021

Staff Contact: Steve Johnson, P.E. steve.johnson@crab.wa.gov