1. Welcome
Barry Russell welcomed everyone in attendance. Dave Pelham also extended a welcome, noting how important the Rural Health Science Institute (RHSI) is for the college and community. The goal is to train local residents for local jobs. Barry asked attendees to think about a vision for what the RHSI can mean for the region, not just Yreka.

2. Introductions
All those present introduced themselves by giving their name, title, and the name of the agency they work for.

3. Overview of Activities
Barry discussed the Title III grant which was recently awarded to College of the Siskiyous. As part of this grant, an endowment is being established. The goal is to have a $1 million
endowment at the end of a 5-year period. One half of the interest earned through this
endowment could be used for programs.

COS currently offers CNA and LVN programs. A $500,000 grant was received from the
Chancellor’s Office for a LVN to RN Step Up program. A representative from the Board
of Registered Nursing recently made a site visit, and did not find any areas of non-
compliance. The goal is to start a generic RN program once the RHSI building is
complete.

As a result of the community forum meeting held in March, a list of programs that could be
offered at the RHSI was available for review. Barry noted that any programs that are
offered will need to be population based with good sustainability. A list of health TOPS
codes was also in the meeting packet to help generate ideas for possible new programs.

Diane Norco asked about the possibility of a research component at the RHSI. Research
will not be a focus, but is a possibility with a partnership for another agency.

4. Overview of Research
The Regional Health Occupations Resource Center was designed to help colleges start new
programs. Linda Zorn shared some labor market information which was generated from
three sources: their own research, EDD, and national labor market information. There will
be much more distance education in the future, which will require area colleges to work
together and create partnerships. Linda gave examples of other programs using distance
education and the successes they have had. Research findings confirm that most job
openings are in nursing. National data is very similar. Other growth areas include
rehabilitation, long-term care, medical assisting and management. Linda noted that the
radiology technician and medical lab technician programs are expensive, and could have a
problem with sustainability. She suggested offering pre-health programs at the RHSI, then
using distance education for specific programs. Students will come from out of the area for
nursing, but not necessarily for more specific programs.

Human services training was discussed, as well as the emphasis areas in this program.

Barry reiterated the importance of creating partnerships. It will be important to provide
resources for students that require a bachelors degree or higher without them having to
leave the area. Linda discussed a regional round robin approach to offering certain
programs on a rotational basis. LeAnn Maupin noted the problem with lab components via
distance education. Gary Naseth described the 1+2+1 programs at OIT, noting that
students have a full-year externship during their senior year. Many students remain at their
externships sites, which are located throughout the country.

5. Lunch
Lunch was served.

6. Strategies for Cooperative Efforts
One proposal included having students complete their freshman year at COS for general
education requirements, attend OIT for the next two years, then complete their externship
during their senior year. This would be possible for the radiology and nuclear medicine
programs at OIT. Applied psychology is another program that could possibly be offered
through distance education.
LeAnn described the application process for enrollment in the medical imaging program. This is based on a weighted GPA, as well as a written essay and interviews. Terri Armstrong noted that the application process for the dental hygiene program is very similar. The application process for nursing at the OHSU is competitive. A program is available online for RNs to complete their BSN. Barry has spoken with University of Pacific regarding the pharmacy tech program and developing a partnership with COS.

7. **Overview of Building Project**

Dan Prideaux reviewed with the group the project team for the RHSI, as well as the establishment of community relations with the City of Yreka. He then described the timelines for the building. The goal is to begin construction in June 2008, with completion in 2009. He strongly urged that there not be a delay because of the increase in the cost of construction. A recommendation from Gary Naseth was to involved faculty extensively in the planning, and to add 10 to 20% more than we think is needed. Linda suggested thinking long-term. The building recently built at Butte College is already too small. All agreed that the infrastructure for distance education should be included.

It was also suggested that a team from COS tour other similar facilities while still in the planning stages.

8. **Setting Initial Building Parameters**

The initial focus of the RHSI will be nursing. Hi-fidelity simulation labs are being planned. It was noted that only 25% of clinical training can be replaced with this lab training.

Other suggestions included:

- An observation room (suite)
- Video conferencing control room
- Dedicated computer lab for nursing students
- Faculty offices (consider privacy)
- Library (this will be either in the new building or on the Yreka campus)
- Student support services and career counseling
- Small seminar/meeting rooms
- Social space for students
- Food set up
- Parking
- Storage space
- Administrative offices
- Faculty work room
- SMART career center (would not necessarily have to be in new building)
- Make the whole building wireless

Linda noted that careful planning should be done when selecting furniture.

The number of classrooms will depend on the number of classes being admitted to programs. A limiting factor will be clinical placement.

Housing for students and visiting faculty coming from out of the area was discussed.

Source rooms and receiving rooms for ITV require different set ups. Discussion will need to take place with participating colleges.
Some of the classrooms will be generic, and programs can share skills labs.

9. **What’s Next?**
Barry will keep in contact with this group as plans progress. He noted that time is of the essence. Contact information from this group will be distributed, as well as notes from this meeting.

All those present were thanked once again for their participation and input.