

Columbia River Gorge Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2015

Fort Dalles Readiness Center
402 East Scenic Area Drive, The Dalles, Oregon

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Gorham Blaine
Bowen Blair
Lynn Burditt
Keith Chamberlain
Lorrie DeKay
Dan Ericksen
Carl McNew
Jim Middaugh
Antone Minthorn
Rodger Nichols
Damon Webster

MEMBERS ABSENT

Don Bonker
Janet Wainwright

STAFF PRESENT

Nancy Andring, Administrative Assistant
Terry Cullen, Principal Planner
Michele Dailey, GeoInformatics
Jeff Litwak, Counsel
Merissa Moeller, Extern
Darren Nichols, Executive Director

AUDIENCE PRESENT

Bailey, Ken – Orchard View Farms
Berry, Marc
Burkhardt, Jeanette – Yakama Nation
Chang, Phil – Senator Merkley's office
Cornelison, Peter – Friends of the Columbia Gorge
Davenport, Jessica – Skamania County Planning Department
Foley, Maria – Mt. Adams Chamber of Commerce
Hardham, John – Skamania County EDC
Herrera, Joe Ben – Yakama Nation
Johnson, Oren
Jurjevich, Dr. Jason – Population Research Center at Portland State University
Kiona, Gregg – Yakama Nation
Klaus, Andrea – Port of The Dalles
Koike, Sandra – Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
Koch, Paul – Port of Cascade Locks
Lawrence, Steve – Mayor, The Dalles

LeVee, Ilene
Liburdy, Kevin – City of Hood River
Madsen, Joel – Mid-Columbia Housing Authority
Martin, Dr. Sheila – Institute for Portland Metropolitan Studies
Odell, Turner – Oregon Consensus
Runyon, Rod – Wasco County Commissioner
Sauter, Dave – Klickitat County Commissioner
Sharp, Bill – Yakama Nation
Stallman, Kristen – ODOT
Thiemann, Phyllis
Wimned, Nan (spelling)
Wood, Polly

Others were present during the day.

AGENDA

Call to Order and Roll (9:11 AM)

Chair Chamberlain called the meeting to order and Nancy Andring called roll.

Welcome from local officials (9:12 AM)

Steve Lawrence, Mayor, The Dalles
Rod Runyon, Commissioner, Wasco County Commission
Andrea Klaas, Executive Director, Port of The Dalles

Approval of Minutes for January 13, 2015 Commission meetings (9:21 AM)

Commissioner Middaugh moved to adopt the January 13, 2015 meeting minutes. Commissioner Ericksen seconded the motion. Commissioner Blair made a motion to amend the motion to make a correction on page 3 of the minutes. Commissioner Middaugh amended his original motion to make the correction and moved to adopt the January 13, 2015 meeting minutes. Commissioner Ericksen amended his original second. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Opportunity for Treaty Tribe Nations to address Commission (9:23AM)

As part of the Government to Government consultation process the Commission welcomes input from treaty tribe members on any issue on the agenda and any other matters.

No report to give.

Oregon Population Forecast Program (9:23 AM)

Dr. Jason Jurjevich, assistant director of the Population Research Center at Portland State University provided an overview of the Oregon Population Forecast Program and offered context for planning and coordination of population forecasting in the Columbia River Gorge, which the Center will begin July 1, 2015. Dr. Sheila Martin, director of the Institute for Portland Metropolitan Studies, highlighted her work addressing the importance of regional collaboration and governance in the bi-state region.

Presentation by Dr Jason Jurjevich.

<http://www.pdx.edu/prc>

Hood River, Wasco and Sherman Counties – out by March 2016

Multnomah County (different district) – out by July 2017

Q&A between Dr Jurjevich and Dr Martin presentations. Questions from Commissioners Webster, Middaugh, Blair, Nichols and Executive Director Darren Nichols.

Presentation by Dr Sheila Martin.

Additional Q&A by Commissioners Minthorn, Blair, Middaugh, Ericksen and McNew.

Urban Area Policy Assessment - Project Update (10:24 AM)

Turner Odell representing Oregon Consensus, PSU and Ruckelshaus Center, University of Washington provided an update on their work to interview interested parties in and around the Gorge. Questions from Executive Director Darren Nichols.

Opportunity for Public Comment (10:39 AM)

No public comment requests received.

Tribal Nation representatives recognized by Chairman and invited to speak.

Gregg Kiona, Yakama Nation Cultural Resource Center provided comments on several issues.

Break (10:43)

Discussion of Oregon and Washington Legislative Bills (10:55 AM)

The Commission discussed pending bills in the Oregon and Washington legislatures that relate to the Gorge Commission, including Oregon HB2039/Washington HB1954 and Washington HB1453. **(see attachment A)**

Each proposed bill discussed separately.

Washington HB1453. Q&A and comments by Commissioners Nichols, Middaugh, Burditt, Webster, Ericksen, Blair, Chamberlain.

Motion-Support Washington HB1443 with the following modifications.

- Describe purposes of the NSA;
- Clarify what new projects in the Columbia River Gorge means; and
- Modify/clarify proposed amendments to NSA plan.

1-Commissioner Blair made the motion.

2-Commissioner Ericksen seconded the motion.

The motion passed 9-1 with Commissioner Middaugh voting no and Commissioners Wainwright and Bonker absent.

Oregon HB2039/Washington HB1954. Q&A and comments by Commissioners Middaugh, Ericksen, Nichols

The remainder of this agenda item was temporarily tabled at 11:51 AM to address time sensitive item-Proposed Agreement with Klickitat County (see detail further down in the minutes).

Item continued at 1:21 PM.

Continued discussion about HB2039/Washington HB1954.

Q&A by Commissioners Chamberlain, Ericksen, Blair, Burditt, Middaugh, Nichols, Blaine, McNew, Webster.

Motion:

Move to positively support the proposed bills and add the Commission's recommendations to the bills at a future date.

1-Commission Middaugh made the motion.

2-Commissioner Ericksen seconded the motion.

Both withdrew their motions after further Commission discussion.

Staff will come back with recommendations on how to amend the bill based on Commission dialogue and known issues, including fixing administrative problems created by the Act, addressing funding resource problems and whether it should be one overall task force or two, as proposed.

Proposed Agreement with Klickitat County (11:51 AM)

The Commission heard from staff and Klickitat County officials outlining a proposed agreement **(see attachment B)** to enable the County to assist the Commission staff with the review and analysis of development applications in the Klickitat County portion of the National Scenic Area. David Sauter, Commissioner, Klickitat County Commission and Executive Director Darren Nichols presented jointly. Q&A and comments by Commissioners Nichols, Blair, Ericksen, McNew, Dekay.

Motion: Approve the agreement with the correction of a typo in paragraph V. to add word 'not' [supervise].

1-Commissioner McNew made the motion.

2-Commissioner Dekay seconded the motion.

The motion passed 10-0 with Commissioners Wainwright and Bonker absent.

Lunch (12:11PM)

Port of Cascade Locks Bridge Plan Presentation – Paul Koch (12:55 PM)

Paul Koch from the Port of Cascade Locks presented an overview of the port's recent plan to maintain and upgrade the Bridge of the Gods between Cascade Locks, Oregon, and Stevenson, Washington. Request for a Commission liaison to meet monthly with Cascade Locks economic development committee. Commissioner Gorham Blaine volunteered for this. Q&A by Commissioners Blair, Middaugh, Ericksen, Blaine.

Off the Agenda Item (1:12 PM)

Phil Chang, Field Representative, North and Central Oregon, US Senator Jeff Merkley. Introduced himself and provided an overview of some services they can offer for their constituents. Asked Commission about any federal issues they would like him to hear. Q&A by Commissioners Nichols, Blair, Minthorn.

Agenda picked up back at the Legislative Bill discussion from this morning's meeting. (1:21 PM) That finished at 2:15 PM.

National Scenic Area Manager's Report (2:15 PM) Commissioner Burditt reported on subject matters that included:

- Personnel issues
- Budget
- Strategic plan

- Fire management and implications to work program
- Resource issues, timing, restrictions
- Regional employment recruiting
- Recognitions
- BPA Bonneville to Hood River Transmission Line Rebuild
- HCRH

Gorge Commission Executive Director's Report (1:30 PM) Director Nichols reported on:

- Klickitat County Development Review status report
- Introduction, Legal Ex-Tern
- Thanks to Commissioners and Staff

Other Business (2:00 PM)

- Reminder - Friday, February 13, 2015 Commission workshop. (Commissioner Chamberlain)
- FYI: Two bills in WA1449 and SB5087 related to coal and oil transport and a group meeting at Metro in Portland on coal/oil transport safety. (Commissioner Middaugh)

Break (2:45 PM)

Executive Session to Discuss Current Litigation and Litigation Likely to be Filed (2:54 PM)

The Commission held an executive session with its Counsel to discuss current litigation and litigation likely to be filed pursuant to Commission Rule 350-11-006(1)(g). The Commission did not make any decisions in executive session.

Adjourn (3:34 PM)

Approved 3.10.15