

**Columbia River Gorge Commission  
Governance Structure Workshop  
February 13, 2015  
Scheduled 09:00-16:00**

Port of Hood River Conference Room

***MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE***

Gorham Blaine  
Bowen Blair  
Lynn Burditt, Ex-Officio  
Keith Chamberlain  
Lorrie DeKay  
Carl McNew  
Jim Middaugh  
Antone Minthorn  
Rodger Nichols  
Damon Webster

***MEMBERS ABSENT***

Don Bonker  
Janet Wainwright  
Dan Ericksen

***STAFF PRESENT***

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

***AUDIENCE PRESENT***

1 present in the audience at the start of meeting.  
Lang, Michael – Friends of the Columbia Gorge

***AGENDA***

**Welcome (Keith Chamberlain; 9:07 AM)**

Commissioner Chamberlain provided an overview and history leading up to the decision to have this workshop today. Discussion today will be focused around 'governance'.

**Overview and Introductions (9:24 AM)**

Laurel Singer, Oregon Consensus introduced herself and Dr. Craig Shinn and Dr. Rick Mogren from the Center for Public Service at Portland State University.

Commissioner Jim Middaugh raised a process point of order regarding the public notice of this meeting. Discussion about protocol about noticing workshops and training sessions. Staff and the Commission confirmed that the meeting was properly noticed consistent with Commission Rules.

Review of the upcoming agenda. Today's workshop will focus solely on governance. Governance is an important foundational piece.

Commissioner Bowen Blair had concerns about the scope of the agenda. Commissioner Rodger Nichols added comments. Laurel Singer facilitated the conversation.

Thinking of the CRGC as a whole, what would you like its legacy to be? What would it be known for? Individual notes-What would you like to really move forward on?

Commissioners Chamberlain, McNew, Webster, Blair, Nichols, Dekay, Minthorn, Burditt, Middaugh and Executive Director Darren Nichols added thoughts, comments and discussion.

Discussion about alignment of views regarding this question and questions about what some of those mean to individual participants. Commissioners Nichols, Middaugh, Burditt, Chamberlain, Dekay, Blair, McNew and Executive Director Darren Nichols.

### **Framework for Governance (09:55 AM)**

Dr. Craig Shinn gave an overview of this agenda item.

Dr. Rick Mogren described "A Values-based Model of Governance". (PowerPoint presentation)

Dr. Craig Shinn gave an overview of 4 typical models of governance.

Q&A. Commissioners Blair, Burditt, Middaugh and Executive Director contributed questions and comments.

### **Break (10:29 AM)**

### **Review of Current Bylaws (10:36 AM)**

Jeff Litwak, Legal Counsel, Gorge Commission, provided an overview of the current bylaws.

Q&A. Commissioners Nichols and Middaugh contributed.

### **Roles & Responsibilities of the Executive Director, Commission Chair, and Commission Members (10:47 AM)**

Laurel Singer described this agenda item and the approach. 3 groups created. One for each position. Each group separated and was assigned 1 of the 3 roles. Each group went through the responsibilities, added new ones, modified existing ones and tagged ones where there was complete agreement, need for further discussion and no agreement.

Laurel Singer reconvened the group and facilitated discussion. The individual groups' results were aggregated by role into those responsibilities that were new, those that were modified and those which had no agreement. All Commissioners and the Executive Director participated.

Commission took a break about 11:30 AM and Laurel Singer uploaded the comments so they could be viewed on screen. The Commission reconvened about 12:00 PM and worked through lunch.

Commission was divided into the 3 groups again to go through each task. Take those tasks for each of the 3 roles and classify them with 1 of the following: autonomous action allowed, no report back needed; autonomous action allowed with report back required; consultative action required

with consultation before action is taken; no action permitted can be taken until the Commission makes a decision about it first.

After discussion with the Commission, Laurel Singer asked each Commissioner to identify the one most pressing issue facing the Commission in 45 seconds using the PRES example – Point, Reason, Example, and Summary. Each Commissioner expressed their most important issue. Clarifying questions and statements by Commissioners Middaugh, McNew, Blair, Chamberlain, Minthorn, Nichols and Executive Director Darren Nichols. Laurel Singer facilitated dialog where everyone finds agreements and where there is 'clash'. Polling done. 80/20 Principle applied. Commissioners agree.

### **Break (1:40 PM)**

Laurel Singer summarized the needs identified in the PRES exercise.

Laurel Singer asked everyone to do a final process check, and she went around the room asking each of the participants. Discussion about where to go next. Dr Craig Shinn and Dr Rick Morgan added some comments and questions. Further dialog with the Commissioners.

Consensus to do some next step planning. Commissioner dialogue about what are the logical next steps.

Laurel Singer recounted her overview of the track and progress of the group since the session started this morning.

### **Break (3:20)**

### **Wrap Up (3:33 PM)**

Short term steps identified for the upcoming months.

Check in with each of the groups to see how they feel at the end of the meeting.

Thoughts on how to update the three Commissioners who couldn't make it to the meeting. Some additional Q&A and comments.

### **Adjournment (3:40 PM)**

Approved 3.10.15