

Columbia River Gorge Commission

Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2018

White Salmon Fire Hall
119 NE Church Street, White Salmon, Washington

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bowen Blair
Don Bonker
Lynn Burditt
Keith Chamberlain
Sondra Clark
Dan Ericksen
Robert Liberty
Antone Minthorn
Rodger Nichols
Janet Wainwright
Damon Webster

MEMBERS ABSENT

Bridget Bailey
Lorrie DeKay

STAFF PRESENT

Nancy Andring, Administrative Analyst
Jessica Gist, Natural Resources and Land Use Planner
Jason Hildreth, GIS Analyst/Land Use Planner
Joanna Kaiserman, Land Use Planner
Jeff Litwak, Counsel
Krystyna Wolniakowski, Executive Director

AUDIENCE PRESENT

Brewer, Angie – Wasco County
Burkhardt, Jeanette – Yakama Nation
Chaput, Pete
Cornelison, Peter – Friends of the Columbia Gorge
DeKay, Lloyd – Community Partners
Heath, Delvis – Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Hess, Jurgen
Irish, Sherri
Johnson, Dennis
Keister, Larry
Lang, Michael – Friends of the Columbia Gorge
Leon, Peter – Wishram Community Council
Lindblad, Mo-chi – Klickitat County Planning
Lingley, Terra – Historic Columbia River Highway, ODOT
McGrew, Molly – Yakama Nation Tribal Council
McCoy, Steve – Friends of the Columbia Gorge

Park, Ken – White Salmon Enterprise
Peters, Alan – Skamania County Planning
Post, Ashley – White Salmon City Council
Poucher, Dave – Mayor, White Salmon
Rasmussen, Andrew
Roberts, John – Hood River County
Stampfli, Steve
Tillinghast, Tova – Underwood Conservation District
Tippel, Tammara – Mt Adams Chamber
Webb, Ali – Oregon DAS-CFO
Zurcher, Peter

Others were present during the day.

Call to Order and Roll (10:00 AM)

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

Welcome (10:03 AM) White Salmon Mayor Dave Poucher welcomed the Commission.

Approval of Minutes for February 13, 2018 Commission meetings (10:10 AM)

Commissioner Ericksen moved to adopt the February 13, 2018 meeting minutes. Commissioner Webster seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote, with Commissioner Liberty abstaining because he was not present at the meeting.

Opportunity for Treaty Tribe Nations to address Commission (10:13 AM)

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 treaty tribe members spoke to the Commission.

Opportunity for Public Comment (10:13 AM)

The following provided public comment to the Commission on items not listed on the agenda:

- Jurgen Hess spoke to the Commission about climate change, wildfire (see attachment A)
- Steve Stampfli spoke to the Commission about Shell Rock Mountain as a unique geologic feature (see attachment B)
- Michael Lang spoke to the Commission about the Skamania Lodge 25th Anniversary story in the Skamania Pioneer (see attachment C)

Information Item*: “Gorge 2020” Update (10:35 AM)

Staff provided a brief summary of the February public meetings and an update of the “Gorge 2020” process.

- Michael Lang commented on the public meetings (see attachment D)

Information Item*: Klickitat County Development Reviews from A to Z (10:45 AM)

Staff described the development review process steps, highlighting common issues that arise when employing the Management Plan and Klickitat County Ordinance. Several County Planning Directors were present and were invited to add their comments.

- Steve McCoy spoke to the Commission about the development review process

Information Item: Underwood Conservation District-Klickitat County (12:01 PM)

Tova Tillinghast, Underwood Conservation District Manager, provided an overview of the mission and regional role of the Conservation District. Tova highlighted landowner assistance programs and planning support that can support the work of the Commission. She introduced a new Memorandum of Agreement/Partnership with the Commission to assist landowners in Klickitat County with assessing resources on their properties in the National Scenic Area and developing voluntary stewardship plans. This work with landowners can improve the Commission's land use application and review process.

Lunch (12:30PM)

Executive Director's Report (1:15 PM) Director Wolniakowski reported on:

- Staff changes – Krystyna announced that Jason has accepted a position with Washington DNR in Olympia. Recruitment for that position will start next week.
- New GIS capabilities at the Gorge Commission – Jason shared some of the projects he initiated and completed during his tenure with the Commission.
- Plans for climate science and policy panel follow-up
- “Gorge 2020” topics for upcoming Commission meetings

Information Item: Riverside Bridge Park Project, City of White Salmon (1:35 PM)

Mayor Dave Poucher presented information about the Riverside Bridge Park project.

National Scenic Area Manager's Report (1:53 PM) Commissioner Burditt reported on:

- Eagle Creek Fire burn area efforts
- USFS Climate Change website and vulnerability assessment
- General updates

Other Business (2:20 PM)

- Commissioner Bonker mentioned his new book
- Commissioner Wainwright reported out for the Outreach and Communication Committee
- Director Wolniakowski introduced Ali Webb, Oregon Department of Administrative Services, Chief Financial Officer

Adjourn (2:27 PM)

Approved 4.10.18