

Columbia River Gorge Commission

Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2015

Skamania Lodge

1131 SW Skamania Lodge Way, Stevenson, Washington

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Gorham Blaine (9:43)

Bowen Blair

Don Bonker

Robin Shoal sitting in for Lynn Burditt

Keith Chamberlain

Lorrie DeKay

Dan Ericksen

Robert Liberty

Carl McNew

Antone Minthorn

Rodger Nichols

Janet Wainwright

MEMBERS ABSENT

Damon Webster

STAFF PRESENT

Nancy Andring, Administrative Assistant

Terry Cullen, Principal Planner

Michele Dailey, GeoInformatics

Ray Joseph, Planner

Jeff Litwak, Counsel

Krystyna Wolniakowski, Executive Director

AUDIENCE PRESENT

Albaugh, Pat – Skamania County EDC

Brown, Keith – Friends of the Columbia Gorge

Clark, Anthony

Cornelison, Peter – Friends of the Columbia Gorge

Keister, Larry

Irish, Sherri

Lang, Michael – Friends of the Columbia Gorge

LeVee, Ilene

Repar, Mary

Robbins, Teresa – Cape Horn Conservancy

Tsongas, Dr. Theodora – Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility

Williams, Michael – Washington State Department of Transportation

Others were present during the day.

AGENDA

Call to Order and Roll (9:08 AM)

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

Welcome from local officials (9:09 AM)

Skamania County Commissioner Chris Brong welcomed the Commission and provided remarks.

Approval of Minutes for September 8, 2015 Commission meetings (9:26 AM)

Commissioner Blair moved to adopt the September 8, 2015 meeting minutes. Commissioner Dekay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote with Commissioners Webster and Blaine absent.

Opportunity for Treaty Tribe Nations to address Commission (9:27 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 representation present.

Opportunity for Public Comment (9:28 AM)

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

Peter Cornelison, Friends of the Columbia Gorge.

Executive Director's Report (9:29 AM)

- Klickitat County Planning Update - Commissioner McNew made the motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Amendment to Agreement Relating to National Scenic Area Development Review in Klickitat County, Washington and Commissioner Nichols seconded the motion. Discussion by Commissioner Ericksen. Motion passed 11-0 with Commissioner Webster absent (see attachment A).
- Government to Government Summit summary and follow up needed. Discussion by Commissioners Minthorn, Blair, Ericksen, Chamberlain.
- Bi-State Legislative Forum summary. Discussion by Commissioners Liberty, Wainwright, Bonker, Blair, Chamberlain, Ericksen, Nichols. (see attachment B)
- Washington State Audit. Discussion by Commissioners Blair, Chamberlain, Wainwright, Ericksen.

Break (10:25 AM)

Discussion on FY 2016-2017 Integrated Work Plan Development Process and Priority Setting (10:47 AM). Krystyna Wolniakowski, Executive Director reported on the Integrated Work Plan Development Process and Priorities including existing workload and list of critical tasks. (see attachment C) Discussion by Commissioners Chamberlain, Bonker, Ericksen, Liberty, Wainwright, Blaine, Blair, Nichols, Minthorn.

Discussion on Commission's Resolution/Fossil Fuel Trains—Next Steps (11:53 AM)

Public comment received by:

Keith Brown, Friends of the Columbia Gorge (see attachment D)

Teresa Robbins

Larry Keister

Peter Cornelison, Hood River City Council (see attachment E)

Dr. Theodora Tsongas - (see attachment F)

Michael Lang, Friends of the Columbia Gorge (see attachment G)

Mary Repar

Discussion by Commissioner Liberty. The discussion was continued to after the lunch break.

Lunch (12:21 PM)

Discussion on Commission's Resolution/Fossil Fuel Trains—Next Steps Continued (1:12PM)

This agenda item started before the lunch break. Discussion was continued and included Commissioners Chamberlain, Bonker, Blair, Wainwright, Liberty, Blaine, Ericksen, Dekay, Nichols, McNew. (see resolution - attachment H and letters from the USDA - attachment I)

National Scenic Area Manager's Report (1:40 PM) Robin Shoal, USFS sitting in for Commissioner Burditt reported on:

- Staffing changes
- Wildfires
- Budget issues

Discussion by Executive Director Krystyna Wolniakowski, Commissioners Blair, McNew, Ericksen.

Other Business (1:49 PM)

- Commissioner Chamberlain - election of officers coming up in November.
- Commissioner Dekay - 1Gorge update.
- Commissioner Blair - Herbicide use along I-84 in NSA.
- Commissioner Liberty - Meeting in November - location?

Adjourn (1:50 PM)

Approved 11.10.15