

Columbia River Gorge Commission

Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2015

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

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Gorham Blaine
Bowen Blair
Don Bonker
Lynn Burditt
Keith Chamberlain
Lorrie DeKay
Dan Ericksen
Robert Liberty
Carl McNew
Antone Minthorn
Rodger Nichols
Janet Wainwright
Damon Webster

MEMBERS ABSENT

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

Barney, Casey – Yakama Nation Cultural Resource Program
Blaisdell, Beth
Cornelison, Peter
Keister, Larry
Irish, Sherri
Gorman, Kevin – Friends of the Columbia Gorge
Lackey, Will - Oregon Department of Transportation
Lang, Michael - Friends of the Columbia Gorge
LeVee, Ilene
Leon, Peter – Wishram Community Council
Mabey, Ray
Nating, Craig
Newell, Sally
Peters, Alan – Skamania County Planning
Repar, Mary

Scott, Michelle – Enterprise Newspaper
Stallman, Kristen, Oregon Department of Transportation

Others were present during the day.

AGENDA

Call to Order and Roll (9:06 AM)

Chair Chamberlain called the meeting to order and Nancy Andring called roll. All Commissioners present except Commissioner Bonker. Commissioner Bonker arrived at 9:11 am.

Welcome from local officials (9:07 AM) No one scheduled for this agenda item.

Approval of Minutes for October 13, 2015 Commission meetings (9:07 AM)

Commissioner Liberty moved to adopt the October 13, 2015 meeting minutes. Commissioner Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed 11-0 with Commissioner Bonker absent.

Opportunity for Treaty Tribe Nations to address Commission (9:08AM)

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.

Casey Barney, Yakama Nation Cultural Resources Program provided comments.

Opportunity for Public Comment (9:10 AM)

The following provided public comment to the Commission on items not listed on the agenda: Dave Berger; Peter Leon; Mary Repar.

Oregon Department of Transportation presentation (9:21 AM)

Will Lackey, Statewide Vegetation Management Coordinator and Ray Mabey, Maintenance Services Manager gave a presentation (see attachment A) on ODOT Vegetation Management.

Questions and comments were made by: Commissioners McNew; Liberty; Blaine; Nichols; Blair; Webster; Wainwright; Burditt; Chamberlain; Bonker; Ericksen; Kristen Stallman, Oregon Department of Transportation.

Break (09:57 AM)

Cumulative Effects: Management Plan Remand for Natural and Cultural Resource (10:26 AM)

Krystyna U. Wolniakowski, Executive Director provided a summary of the remand to-date (see attachment B1 and B2), and recommended that the Commission extend this item for 30 days to address a pending meeting and comments with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Questions and comments were received by: Commissioners Nichols, Liberty, Chamberlain, Burditt. One month time extension assented to by Commission without vote.

Draft 2015-2017 Workplan Presentation and Discussion (10:36 AM)

Commissioner Chamberlain noted a change to this agenda item and said that public comment will be accepted.

Krystyna U. Wolniakowski, Executive Director made a presentation (see attachment C) about the draft work program.

Questions and comments were made by: Commissioners Chamberlain, Blair, Nichols, Ericksen, Liberty, Wainwright, Burditt, CRGC Attorney Jeff Litwak, Commissioners Minthorn, Bonker, Blaine.

Public comments were made by: Peter Leon, Michael Lang, Larry Keister, Sally Newell, Mary Repar.

Lunch (11:51 AM)

Continuation of Draft Workplan Discussion

No continuation of this item. This agenda item concluded in the morning session.

National Scenic Area Manager's Report (1:04 PM)

Lynn Burditt, ex-officio Gorge Commissioner and Manager, USFS Columbia River Gorge Commission presented a report of Forest Service activities including:

National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (see attachment D)

Personnel updates

Facebook site and community engagement

2015-2020 Forest Service Strategic Plan

Forest Service Gorge Recreation app

USFS/BPA-power line rebuild from Hood River to Bonneville

USFS/ODOT-transit plan in the Gorge

Oregon Solutions project to address congestion issues in the near term for HCRH

HCRH Lindsay Creek to Starvation Creek Trail connection including design stage/Mitchell Point

HCRH & Eagle Creek 100th Anniversary

Questions and comments by Commissioners Blair, Chamberlain.

Gorge Commission Executive Director's Report (1:51 PM) Director Wolniakowski reported on:

Gorge Commission committees

Legal Lot of Record

Bi-State Legislative Policy Summit (see attachment E)

Marijuana regulation (will be on the next agenda)

Urban Growth Boundary

Questions and comments by Commissioners Wainwright; Liberty; CRGC Attorney Jeff Litwak; Commissioner Webster, McNew, Liberty.

Election of Commission Officers (2:15 PM)

Commissioner Nichols moved to suspend Roberts Rules of Order voting for sequential order of voting; to vote for a slate of candidates, not one at a time, and stated that nominations require no second.

Commissioner Wainwright seconded the motion.

Motion passed 12-0.

Commissioner Chamberlain opened the floor for nominations for Chairperson.

Commissioner Ericksen nominated Commissioner Chamberlain.

Commissioner Wainwright nominated Commissioner Blair.

Commissioners Blair and Chamberlain provided comments.

Commissioners Nichols, Blaine, Chamberlain, DeKay, McNew, Minthorn, Bonker, Ericksen, Wainwright provided questions and/or comments and/or responses to questions raised by Commissioners.

Chair Chamberlain called for a roll call vote for Chair. Nancy Andring called roll.

Commissioner	Voted for Commissioner:
Blaine	Blair
Blair	Blair
Bonker	Blair
DeKay	Blair
Ericksen	Chamberlain
Liberty	Blair
McNew	Chamberlain
Minthorn	Blair
Nichols	Chamberlain
Wainwright	Blair
Webster	Blair
Chamberlain	Chamberlain

Results: 8 votes for Commissioner Blair; 4 votes for Commissioner Chamberlain. With four votes from each state (Oregon-Commissioners Blaine, Blair, Liberty, Minthorn and Washington-Commissioners Bonker, DeKay, Wainwright, Webster), Commissioner Blair was elected as Chair of the Columbia River Gorge Commission for the term January 1 – December 31, 2016.

Commissioner Chamberlain opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chairperson.

Commissioner Wainwright nominated Commissioner Bonker for Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Nichols nominated Commissioner Chamberlain for Vice-Chair. (Commissioner Chamberlain declined.)

Commissioner McNew nominated Commissioner Nichols for Vice- Chair.

Nominations closed.

Comments provided by Commissioner Bonker, Nichols, Wainwright, Chamberlain.

Chair Chamberlain called for a roll call vote for Vice-Chair. Nancy Andring called roll.

Commissioner	Voted for Commissioner:
Blaine	Bonker
Blair	Bonker
Bonker	Bonker
DeKay	Bonker
Ericksen	Nichols
Liberty	Bonker
McNew	Nichols
Minthorn	Bonker
Nichols	Nichols
Wainwright	Bonker
Webster	Bonker
Chamberlain	Nichols

Results: 8 votes for Commissioner Bonker; 4 votes for Commissioner Nichols. With four votes from each state, (Oregon-Commissioners Blaine, Blair, Liberty, Minthorn and Washington-Commissioners Bonker, Dekay, Wainwright, Webster) Commissioner Bonker was elected as Vice-Chair of the Columbia River Gorge Commission for the term January 1 – December 31, 2016.

Comments from Commissioners Wainwright, McNew.

Other Business (2:58 PM)

Commissioner Dekay-Gorge Night Out. Comments by Commissioner Wainwright.

Executive Session (2:59 PM) No recording. The Commission held an executive session pursuant to Commission Rule 350-11-006(1)(g) to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of the commission with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed. Out of executive session at 3:38 PM. After opening the doors to the meeting room, Chair Chamberlain announced that the Commission made no decisions during the executive session.

Adjourn (3:38 PM)