

Columbia River Gorge Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2017

Fisher's Landing Transit Center, Rose F. Besserman Community Room
3510 SE 164th Avenue, Vancouver, Washington

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

Robert Liberty

STAFF PRESENT

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

AUDIENCE PRESENT

Brewer, Angie – Wasco County
Heath, Delvis – Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Irish, Sherri
Keister, Larry
Klaas, Andrea
Lang, Michael – Friends of the Columbia Gorge
LeVee, Ilene
Marti, Brad
Peters, Alan – Skamania County Planning
Robbins, Theresa – Cape Horn Conservancy
Stallman, Kristin - ODOT
Steinke, Alona
Steinke, Don
Stone, Tyler – Wasco County
Tsumpti, Raymond - Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Walsh, Charles
Others were present during the day.

AGENDA

Committee Meetings (9:00 AM)

- Outreach
- Communications

Call to Order and Roll (10:03 AM)

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

Approval of Minutes for December 13, 2016 Commission meetings (10:04 AM)

Commissioner Nichols moved to adopt the December 13, 2016 meeting minutes. Commissioner DeKay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Opportunity for Treaty Tribe Nations to address Commission (10:04 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.

Delvis Heath, Warm Springs Chief, spoke about the formation of the Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission as a voice for all four Treaty Tribes. He described how the Warm Springs ceded lands and Reservation came to be, and spoke of the importance of first foods.

Raymond Tsumpti, Warm Springs Tribal Council, addressed the Commission.

Commissioner Minthorn added to Mr. Heath's comments about the history of the Warm Springs Tribe.

Opportunity for Public Comment (10:22 AM)

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

- Michael Lang, Friends of the Columbia Gorge: Update on introduced OR legislation regarding rail oil transport. Senate Bill 7 and House Bill 2131 would require clean up and emergency response fees, insurance for derailment and spill incidents. Mr. Lang requested Commission attendance for March hearings on these bills. Another bill has been introduced in Oregon to require state land leases for oil terminals to be built.

Action Item: Public Rulemaking Hearing on New Rule Adopting Legal Descriptions for Urban Areas (10:27 AM) Commission Planner Jason Hildreth and Commission Counsel Jeff Litwak presented the final legal descriptions for urban areas designated in the National Scenic Area Act and the proposed rule adopting the legal descriptions and discussing their use. (see attachment A1-A3) The Commission published notice of the proposed rule and rulemaking hearing in the Washington State Register (WSR No. 16-24) and the Oregon Bulletin (Vol. 56, No. 1, Jan. 2017). Public comment and Commission discussion followed the presentation.

- Michael Lang, Friends of the Columbia Gorge provided oral and written comments (see attachment B). Staff responded to one of Mr. Lang's comments, explaining that the congressional and USFS maps were ambiguous around West 13th Street in The Dalles and appeared to show the urban area boundary to the west of West 13th Street, dividing developed lots. In addition, there were notes on the maps referring to the urban growth boundary. The Commission staff thus interpreted the maps as including all of the lots on the west side of West 13th Street as in The Dalles Urban Area.

- Ilene LeVee commented that The Dalles should be allowed to expand to the west, given current development at The Discovery Center.

Commissioner Nichols moved that the Commission adopt the rule as proposed and provided in the staff report. Commissioner Wainwright seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous voice vote.

Gorge Commission Executive Director's Report (11:09 AM) Director Wolniakowski reported on:

- Gorgeous Night Out in Olympia February 15, 2017 and in Salem March 9, 2017.
- Status of hiring a new NSA Planner.
- American Planning Association meeting in Hood River on March 17, 2017.
- Update on the 2017-2019 Budget Process – tentative hearings for Oregon in March.
- Jeff Litwak passed around his new book on interstate compact law and noted that there were many examples from the National Scenic Area.

Committee Reports (11:19 AM)

Outreach and Communications Committees presented information about the outcomes from the morning discussions.

National Scenic Area Manager's Report (11:22 PM) Commissioner Burditt reported on:

- Tish Creek Bridge replacement this spring – likely to have extensive trail maintenance needs this season
- FLAP grants – HCRH projects
- Hiring freeze expected for 90 days with some exemptions for LE, fire, and seasonal hires
- Law Enforcement Officer hired from Willamette NF, starts next week
- Pile burning in Catherine Creek area
- Your Pass Now – smartphone pass for USFS access pilot program in the NSA and National Parks

Other Business (11:32 AM)

Commissioner Minthorn requested a future Commission presentation or conference on Tribal sovereignty, particularly given better mutual understanding of the benefits of partnership efforts. He suggested an attorney (e.g. Dan Hestor) and Tribal Council members who have seen examples of these successes. Commissioner Minthorn will work with Director Wolniakowski on this.

Executive Session (11:43 AM)

The Commission met in Executive Session pursuant to Commission Rule 350-11-006(1)(g) to consult with its Counsel concerning its legal rights and duties in current litigation. No media persons attended. After reopening the meeting, the Chair announced that the Commission made no decisions during the executive session.

Lunch (12:30PM)

Workshop Item: Scoping for Management Plan Review (1:02 PM) Commission staff presented preliminary results of its two January 2017 community listening sessions held in Hood River, Oregon and North Bonneville, Washington, for the "Gorge2020" Management Plan Review. The following persons provided public comment:

- Michael Lang – Friends of the Columbia River Gorge
- Don Steinke – Clark County resident
- Alona Steinke – Clark County resident (see attachment C)
- Kristin Stallman – OR Department of Transportation
- Charles Walsh – local resident
- Angie Brewer – Wasco County
- Andrea Klass – Port of The Dalles
- Tyler Stone – Wasco County

Other Business (2:23 PM)

- Gorgeous Night Out in Olympia was rescheduled within the past hour for March 23, 2017 due to possible inclement weather.
- Commissioner McNew encouraged outreach to Senator King for a Tribal planner and outreach to Hispanic communities.

Adjourn (2:26 PM)

Approved 3.14.17