

Columbia River Gorge Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2017

Metro Regional Center, Chambers Room
600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, Oregon

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Gorham Blaine
Bowen Blair
Lynn Burditt
Lorrie DeKay
Dan Ericksen
Robert Liberty
Antone Minthorn
Rodger Nichols
Janet Wainwright

MEMBERS ABSENT

Don Bonker
Keith Chamberlain
Carl McNew
Damon Webster

STAFF PRESENT

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

AUDIENCE PRESENT

Barney, Casey – Yakama Nation Fisheries
Bennett, Martha – Portland Metro
Collins, Jake
Cruz, Sean Aaron – 1000 Nations
Frkonja, Jeff - Director, METRO Research Center
Hudson, Charles - CRITFC
Kloster, Tom – Trail Keepers of Oregon
Lang, Michael – Friends of the Columbia Gorge
McCoy, Steve – Friends of the Columbia Gorge
Pitt, Louie – Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Reid, Ted – METRO Principal Regional Planner
Shaddox, Daniel
Shoal, Robin – USFS NSA
Stallman, Kristin – ODOT
Waste, Steve - USGS

Others were present during the day.

AGENDA

Committee Meetings (9:00 AM)

- Assessment
- Tribal

Call to Order and Roll (10:04 AM)

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

Welcome from local officials (10:05 AM)

Martha Bennett, Chief Operating Officer for Metro welcomed the Commission. She spoke to the common goals and challenges that Metro and the Commission share and the relationship between the two agencies.

Approval of Minutes for February 14, 2017 Commission meetings (10:23 AM)

Commissioner Ericksen moved to adopt the February 14, 2017 meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammar corrections. Commissioner Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed on a voice vote with Commissioner Liberty abstaining.

Opportunity for Treaty Tribe Nations to address Commission (10:25 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.

Louie Pitt, Jr from Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs updated the Commission on various efforts related to rail safety and responsibility. Thanked Gorge Commission for hosting a meeting to discuss the issue. Treaty Rights education is important; the tribes gave 10 million acres to the United States – important to distinguish ownership from occupancy and sovereignty of economic uses off reservation lands. Affordable housing crisis experienced by all four treaty tribes and social programs are needed. Efforts to increase cooperation with federal agencies. Remember that plan review matters – how are we doing? Looking for ways to support us with legislators, budgets, and participation. Communication is critical.

Opportunity for Public Comment (10:41 AM)

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

- Michael Lang, Friends of the Columbia Gorge, provided a handout and update related to oil train legislation in Oregon. (see attachment A1-5) Mr. Lang requested a letter of support for HB 2131 and SB 7 from the Commission.
- Tom Kloster, Trial Keepers of Oregon, provided a handout and an overview of the organization. (see attachment B)

Gorge 2020 Management Plan Listening Session Summary Report (11:05 AM)

Jessica Gist, Natural Resources and Land Use Planner, presented the comments received during the three public Listening Sessions and provided an update on other outreach methods. Krystyna Wolniakowski, Executive Director, summarized comments received during the City Council and County Commission meetings to date. (see attachment C1-2)

- Michael Lang – ensure that Plan Review is data driven and based in what has happened since the last review. Realized through listening sessions that there is a huge need for

education about the Management Plan and NSA policies. Requested reaching out to metro areas and national population.

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission: Current Columbia River policy efforts (11:40 AM)

Charles Hudson, Intergovernmental Affairs Director, provided a brief history and update on critical river management policies and agreements. He provided a summary of their engagement in regional, national, and climate change initiatives. He invited all to Celilo Village for the annual Salmon Festival on April 9th and Columbia Gorge Discovery Center in The Dalles on April 12th.

Lunch (12:10 PM)

Urban Growth Management Processes and Analyses in the Portland Metro Region (1:15 PM)

Ted Reid, Principal Regional Planner and Jeff Frkonja, Director, Research Center, provided an overview of their work at Metro regarding urban growth boundaries.

Committee Reports (2:30 PM)

Assessment and Tribal Committees presented information about the outcomes from the morning discussions.

Gorge Commission Executive Director's Report (2:53 PM) Director Wolniakowski reported on:

- Klickitat County Development Review update and annual work plan revision
- Tenneson Engineering contract for remaining legal descriptions for exterior and SMA boundaries
- Forest Service grant status
- Preparing for the 2017-2019 proposed budget hearings
- Gorgeous Night Out Events in Salem on March 9 and Olympia on March 23
- Update on Union Pacific case

National Scenic Area Manager's Report (3:02 PM) Commissioner Burditt reported on:

- New administration transition process and status update
- Hiring freeze update
- Updates – smart phone pilot program, Tish Creek Bridge replacement, trails work, flooding, wildflowers, volunteers and environmental education

Other Business (3:21 PM)

- Commissioner Blaine asked to discuss HB 2131 and SB 7. Chair Blair requested a staff review and drafted letter of support with reference to the resolution. Commissioner Blaine moved to pursue this. Commissioner Wainwright seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.
- Thank you to Gorham Blaine for his service on the Commission

Adjourn (3:35 PM)

Approved 4.11.17