

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION AGENDA

4:30pm, CBAB, 601 State Street, Hood River, OR - 1st Floor Conference Room

MINUTES

Chair Oates called the work session to order. Present: Commissioner Perkins, Commissioner McBride, Commissioner Benton, Counsel Davies and Administrator Hecksel.

Hood River County Future Financial Sustainability Discussion

Chair Oates noted that at the last meeting the commission had consensus they would not be going back for an ask in November 2019.

Hecksel noted that after the last meeting Commissioner Joplin wondered if the work group should get back together to work on messaging between now and when/if the commission goes back out to the voters for a money ask.

Perkins thought that might make sense. Oates said his concern about not going out in November would be lag time and the message is lost and keeping the work out there would be good. Hecksel said exactly the reason he is bringing this up. Perkins feels it is important to keep pushing messaging and then when a plan is in place put it out there.

McBride – feels that is all good. Mark Weiner stated in one of the meetings he held that the open houses the county held was good and those should continue. While Rich feels there is value in that it would have been nice to see more people show up to those. McBride instead of hoping the right people show up at a forum perhaps we should invite people like the restaurateurs to a work session. That group said they felt there were better ways to do it and other options, so lets invite them to participate and see what their ideas are. We could ID other groups as well. He would see more value in that if we are more proactive and invite groups for several meetings.

Benton – all of that sounds good. He is also more interested in utilizing one of the 2 consultants to move in a direction and wants to hear from the other commissioners how they felt with the presentation and the info that Mr. Wiener sent out.

Oates impressed with Mr. Wiener and feels the comments are spot on and understands our situation. He would like to work with him if the BOC agrees to work with him.

Consensus to work with Mr. Mark Weiner if he is available and interested when he returns from his trip in early August.

Pacific Power PSPS Power Outage Update – Barb Ayers, Emergency Mgmt. Coor. and Trish Elliott, Health Director

Barb Ayers, Emergency Management Coordinator – noted we heard about the possibility of this in late May. Concerned about the impacts and lack of coordination if this happens and the inability of emergency services, citizens and businesses of the county to function.

Barb noted that all HRC, Rowena and Mosier would be impacted – we are working with Wasco County on how to manage if this were to happen. If these outages were to happen we are not equipped, nor do we have a plan in place to deal with the fallout.

A group has been gathering and meeting with Pacific Power on this possibility, and asking if they would wait a year to put things into motion to allow us time to get organized and have a plan in place to address concerns brought on by their plan of shutting power off to the communities if they deemed a fire threat was imminent.

We are one of two regions Pacific Power is piloting this in HR/Wasco County and Southern Oregon. The outages could last hours to days.

Hood River Elec Coop could also be impacted because they wheel through some of the Pacific Power lines. CL would not be affected because they get their power from Bonneville.

This has been instituted in CA on the heels of a terrible wildfire in Northern California.

Commissioner Perkins noted there is an article provided The New Yorker wrote an article on the Paradise, CA fire. We are talking about proactive shutoffs when certain weather conditions are happening.

Perkins – feels a lot of this has to do with maintenance not only brushing lines.

Ayers – said we asked about what the established triggers are – they talk about certain wind conditions and a lot of those wind conditions are almost daily occurrences in Hood River and Wasco County. Pacific Power said based on the review of history they claim they would not have had an outage in the last 8 years.

We understand from Pacific Power they might be having some public forums on this happening before it occurs.

Pacific Power would provide a cooling shelter and Col River Gorge Campus has been designated a site. We have asked for a cooling site in Mosier and 4 in Hood River.

Perkins said the energy council has been looking at energy resiliency and identified possible sites that are being looked at for feasibility. We are years away from any real project.

Trish Elliott, Health Director – they have been working on emergency medical notification around emergencies and potential power outages. They have notified all the restaurants, pool and lodging folks stating if there is no power, they cannot operate without a plan shown they have an alternate back up power. We have some push back from the restaurant association, but we must support the food code. Working to identify the at-risk

residence and have requested an updated list from the Dept of Health and Human Services but they will not release that information without an eminent risk so on the first red flag day they will ask again. Pac power has agreed to share their energy dependent customers to ensure no one is missed.

A pilot program is going to be started with one community health and North Central Public Health District to GIS map the at-risk homes. Working on one messaging in both English and Spanish being aware of the cultural differences. Encouraging folks to sign up for citizen alert and they are planning a tabletop exercise with Pacific Power in the next several weeks.

Barb – we requested a copy of their plan and just received it last week and we were not provided an opportunity for input before it was developed/published.

Sheriff English – the concern has been outlined well but we are behind, there is a lot of messaging and prep that needs to be done. He is a bit more encouraged with the collaboration with Pacific Power and the Weather service did – that this would not have happened in the last 13 years, but it could happen tomorrow, and we are not ready. Messaging needs to go out. Met last week and feels more encouraged after that there is a plan and feels the gaps will be identified and filled. Pac Power said they will come up with a more comprehensive plan within the next month.

Perkins noted that if this happens, harvest is around this same time and Hood River Elec Coop is working on getting a direct feed from Bonneville but that is a minimum of 3 years out.

Perkins hopes we would be proactive in pushing information out to the general public most likely faster than what Pacific Power is comfortable with and we need to be careful with that, but that information needs to be put out.

Barb said we are working together but we are very limited with staffing.

Perkins said we need capacity to help Barb with coordinating with the businesses to put together a plan it could take 6-12 months to get a plan together.

Benton asked if Pacific Power has any resources available for communities for planning. Benton is interested in what their messaging is. When they upgraded to smart meters feel the messaging on that was a good job, but he hasn't seen much with respect to this issue.

Perkins is frustrated over the lack of coordination. What happens if this is going into effect when/if will people be notified.

Ayers stated we have inserted ourselves into this issue and are pushing for information and for the plan to be bolstered. Pushing for messaging.

She is not asking for a letter to be sent at this time just wanted to brief the commission on this issue.

Oates asked if we should coordinate with Jeff to see about assistance from the Governor. Ayers talked about a program the Governor indicated might be available.

McBride thanked Barb, Trish and Matt for their effort on working on getting a plan in place.

English stated that after last week's meeting with Pacific Power it was determined that a letter would be held at this time to allow those steps identified in the meeting to come to fruition. We might come back at some time to ask for a letter.

Perkins concerned that this has been since end of May and there has been very little cooperation and coordination. Feels it is important that the governing body express concern over this issue.

Forest Recreation Trails & Forest Management Discussion

Doug Thiesies, Forest Manager – noted the FY 19/20 budget is not funding the position of trails coordinator after July 31, 2019.

We have a salvage sale starting in August – notification of that event will fall on the Assistant Forester and himself.

The trails coordinator administered the State ATV grant. The grant doesn't cover much of this position. This position also covered the Kingsley Campground rehab. What now?

Doug handed out talking points that outlined what will happen.

Noted they will not be able to hold regular trail committee meetings. (Ordinance compliance issue)

Talked about possible outside funding opportunities – priority is the Tree Farm and the functionality of that and allowance for managing that, timber cuts etc.

The State Parks has invested over \$1M in this community and trail system over the last several years. There is a possibility that the trail coordinator position could be funded from grant funds.

Trail attention: more attention on non-motorized trail system (2-1)

Possibilities – 1-2 years of funding to support the system and a trail coordinator possibility. One group is working on that concept. Options: sponsors for staging areas perhaps.

Benton – are we just looking for funding for that position or is there other funding. Thiesies, said is it the position, there is admin support, there is M&S involved. Do we account for administration when we go out for a funding ask?

Benton would be interested in finding a long-term solution particularly the non-motorized community.

Perkins his concern to having that position vacant for a year. It will be impossible to gate and close that trail system. We need to come up with a way to fund that position.

Oates said we need 3 things: Cost, Local Help to get us through 1-2 years, and then look for funding longer term than that. Thiesies said it will not be difficult to come up with the number. We can confirm with State for ATV funding.

Hecksel we don't know what sort of funds can be generated and feels we need to look at the full meal deal and then will scale it back in increments to accommodate the amount of funding that would be attainable.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA
6:00pm, CBAB, 601 State Street, Hood River, OR - 1st Floor Conference Room

MINUTES

Chair Oates called the business meeting to order. Present: Commissioner Perkins, Commissioner McBride, Commissioner Benton, Counsel Davies and Administrator Hecksel.

Any item or issue not on the agenda you have a question, comment or statement about please bring up under Items from the Public

CONFLICTS OR POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None declared.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO/FROM THE AGENDA

We will need an exec session for labor negotiations and remove action items from the work session.

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Laurna Greenwood Riverside Drive off of Dee Hwy

Karl Homat, Riveside Drive

Stan Heinaman, Riverside Drive,

Issue is Cherry Cannons and hazing of elk. Ms Greenwood has lived in her home for 40 years. Cherry cannons go off during the day during season. When harvest is over it is gone. Last year from spring to fall cannons went off 24/7 for 3 months. Spoke to the neighbor where the cannons were being fired from Mr. Gidley said he didn't have money for fencing and therefore he had to keep the elk out of his orchard somehow. When the cannons stated again this year she called the sheriff's department to complain about noise and were told there is nothing they cannot do because the county noise ordinance exempts agricultural practices. This is not a typical ag practice to shoot cannons 24/7.

Claims the cannons go off every 7 minutes night and day with a few days where there wasn't any but then it starts up again.

She has called ODFW and was told the owner has a permit to haze elk – if elk have become that much of a problem something needs to be done. Understands the need to use something during harvest season. As a human being she doesn't feel it appropriate she is being hazed.

Mr. Homat - moved in 2015 and there was no issue until 2018. We understand the neighbor needs to thrive too but you have to be a good neighbor. There must be alternatives. They are surrounded by orchards and what if they all start doing this same thing.

Asking if something that can be done to adjust the noise ordinance to keep the noise down during the regular sleeping hours.

They drafted and mailed a letter to the orchard owner that is shooting off the cannons. They have not heard anything back. They are looking to find a resolution.

5 days ago he counted 33 blasts in an hour.

Mr. Heinaman – moved to his home 15 years ago – he served in the war and the blasts are disturbing to wake up to. Asking for some other way to address the issue.

Understands the elks are becoming more and more of a problem but there must be something that is done to not unnecessarily disturb the neighbors.

Benton stated that he spoke with the property owner with the cannons last week and understands they are exploring other options.

Laurie, Regional Manager with Pacific Power out of Pendleton, OR and Cheryl, Clark County – Pacific Power employee

Laurie – Thanked staff for working with them on this PSPS issue and would be happy to come and share the plan with the commission – which should be delivered next month and will have table top exercises and identify gaps in the plan. They want to build partnerships and have better communication in general, not just for this issue.

Feels there is a rare chance that an outage would happen. Stated this is a last resort tool for them. There will be ways an outage will be able to be isolated. They would work with the appropriate entities to make the smallest impacts possible to the community if this were to ever happen. Stated that the outages would be hours not days. Intends to have short outages and get the power back on quickly, hopefully that will ease some of the fears and as the plan is finalized for HRC and Wasco will make everything feel a bit better. They intend to communicate to the emergency management group –

Cheryl – noted this is not a pilot for the State but Hood River has been identified as high risk as well as Southern Oregon

Laurie noted that they were able to work with the county and have solar put onto the county health department so that will help with some resiliency issues – they want to be good partners.

They are looking for the plan that will come out at the end of this process it will be a good tool between Pacific Power and the County Emergency Management folks.

Benton would like to know if the plan will be published somewhere or not for the public to access. Will there be commitments and steps to the system throughout the process and a timetable on when that is expected to happen and the impact that would have on the plan. Feels as much as can be communicated would be very helpful.

REPORTS – Commissioners, Legal Counsel, County Administrator

- Department Reports Included

County Administrator – attend the ICMA last week and found it useful. Learned more about recent legislation that will most likely have a negative financial impact on the county in the future.

McBride – MCHA funding application was turned down for lot 700. That would have been a large amount of funding for that project. He is not sure where that leaves the project.

Benton – working through new NORCOR structure and the next several meetings they will determine how the management of NORCOR will happen. Also, they are going through the NORCOR bylaws.

Oates – Attended the Mt Hood Meadows ribbon cutting for their new day lodge building. Earlier that day he attended the breakfast at the Museum.

Attended the Walden town hall meeting in Cascade Locks, OR – which consisted mostly of the border issue.

Another Charter review meeting was held with the next meeting taking place August 1st at 3:00pm.

Later this week he will be meeting with Walden’s new representative Greg Moser – feels we need to talk with them on SRS funding. Most of that funding goes to the schools, but they do not have any cost associated with that, the cost is laid on the county and he would like to ask that they tweak that a bit and look at how the funding is distributed.

McBride – noted that he did attend the Merkley town hall – and did express the counties continued interest in PILT and SRS funding.

CONSENT ITEMS

- ✓ Approve minutes from the following Commission meetings: June 17, 2019
- ✓ Approve a Fund Exchange Agreement with ODOT for a portion of the cost to replace a road grader, authorizing the County Administrator to sign the agreement subject to final review by legal counsel.
- ✓ Authorize Chair Oates to sign off on the OLCC liquor license for Hood Crest Winery.
- ✓ Declare PW EQ #05151 to be declared surplus and sold at auction.

Commissioner Perkins made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Commissioner Perkins -yea
Commissioner Benton – yea
Commissioner McBride -yea
Chair Oates -yea

Motion carried.

ITEMS FROM THE WORK SESSION

This section was removed from the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Administration

Mid-Columbia Economic Development Board Participation

ACTION: Appointed Gordon Zimmerman as the county's city representative on the MCEDD Board.

Commissioner Benton made a motion to Gordon Zimmerman as the County's City representative on the MCEDD Board. Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Commissioner Perkins -yea
Commissioner Benton – yea
Commissioner McBride -yea
Chair Oates -yea

Motion carried.

Commissioner Perkins stated he is willing to be the MCEDD rep but needs to know the meeting dates/times before he confirms. Staff will provide the information to him via e-mail.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

Chair Oates moved the commission into executive session per the highlighted statute below.

*As necessary, Executive Session will be held in accordance with but not limited to:
ORS 192.660 (2) (a) Personnel, ORS 192.660 (2)(d) Labor Negotiations, ORS 192.660 (2)(e) Property,
ORS 192.660 (1)(f) Records exempt from public inspection, ORS 192.660 (2)(h) Legal Counsel,
ORS 192.660 (2)(i) Performance Evaluation*

ADJOURNMENT – Chair Oates adjourned the meeting at 7:00pm

X

Jeff Hecksel
County Administrator

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS/EVENTS (Note: The below is not an inclusive listing, and all dates and times subject to change with or without notice as required)

Jul 15	4:00/6:00pm	HRC Board of Commissioners Mtg., 601 State Street, HR (time subject to change)
Jul 16	7:00pm	HR Library District Board Mtg, 502 State Street, HR
Jul 17	3:00pm	County Staff Meeting, 601 State Street, HR
Jul 23	2:00pm	County Safety Committee Meeting, 309 State Street, HR (4 th Tues. ea. month)
Jul 25	5:30pm	County Planning Commission Mtg, 601 State Street, HR (2 nd & 4 th Wed. ea. mth, generally)
Aug 5	1:00pm	Tri-County Mental Health Board, Mid-Columbia Center for Living, TD (1 st Mon. ea. month)
Aug 7	2:00pm	HRC Water Planning Group, 601 State Street (1 st Wed. each month, generally)
Aug 12	4:00/6:00pm	HRC Board of Commissioners Mtg., 601 State Street, HR (time subject to change)
Aug 14	3:00pm	County Staff Meeting, 601 State Street, HR
Aug 14	5:30pm	County Planning Commission Mtg, 601 State Street, HR (2 nd & 4 th Wed. ea. mth, generally)
Aug 20	7:00pm	HR Library District Board Mtg, 502 State Street, HR
Aug 27	2:00pm	County Safety Committee Meeting, 309 State Street, HR (4 th Tues. ea. month)
Aug 28	5:30pm	County Planning Commission Mtg, 601 State Street, HR (2 nd & 4 th Wed. ea. mth, generally)