

## INFORMAL MINUTES

April 17, 2006

2:00 p.m.

Room 108, Courthouse

PRESENT: Commissioners Leslie Lewis, Kathy George, and Mary P. Stern.

Staff: John Mr. Gray, Jr., John Krawczyk, Dave Lawson, Eileen Slater, Dan Linscheid, Ken Huffer, and Murray Paolo.

Guests: David Bates, News-Register; Mike Propes, Polk County Commissioner; Cassie Sollars, candidate for Commissioner; Jamie Sheahan, Yamhill Basin Council; and Thomas Edwards, George Fox University student.

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\* indicates item forwarded to formal agenda

Leslie called the meeting to order.

Willamette River Channel Maintenance - Polk County Commissioner Mike Propes presented a request from State Representative Jeff Kropf to form a Chapter 190 agreement between all entities interested in working on channel maintenance. He explained that this would allow Linn County Soil and Water Conservation District as the lead agency to receive grant money and would protect all parties from any liability.

He stated that Rep. Kropf feels optimistic that the E-Board will fund a study by Oregon State University regarding ways to dredge the river without harming fish runs. The Board expressed its support of the study. Mary stated that she would like to talk to Tim Stieber from the Yamhill County Soil & Water Conservation District and she would like to see the grant proposal.

\* Personnel - John K presented personnel requests from various departments. See agenda for details.

\* Contracts/Grants - See agenda for details.

\* Road Vacations - Approve RV-3-2006, a request for vacation of a portion of a public road, petitioners Majovski and Craig, no hearing necessary under ORS 368.

\* Reschedule the public hearing for RV-2-2006, petitioner Woodland Heights Homeowners Association, to June 28, 2006.

\* Refund - Authorize a refund of \$466 to Wallace Lien, P.C. from the Planning Department.

\* Dues - Authorize the payment of 2006-07 membership dues to the National Association of Counties (NACo), \$1401.

MINUTES

INFORMAL SESSION

Page 1

April 17, 2006

2:00 p.m.

LL\_\_KG\_\_MS\_\_

\* Resolution - Approve Resolution 06-04-19-1 regarding the county's 2006 election to receive national O&C Lands related safety-net payments under P.L. 106-393.

Work Session - A work session was scheduled for April 19, 2006 to discuss the radio project with Murray Paolo.

\* Budget Transfer - Approve the transfer of appropriation authority and funds for security improvements to the new Courthouse evidence room, \$12,859.

\* Committees - Approve the reappointment of Tim Loewen to the Local Alcohol and Drug Planning Council for a three-year term to expire May 1, 2009.

\* Approve the appointment of Randy Williamson to the Ambulance Service Area Committee for a two-year term to expire December 31, 2007.

The meeting recessed to executive session at 2:46 p.m. pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e) for the purpose of discussing real property transactions. The meeting reconvened at 3:01 p.m. with no formal decisions made.

\* Parks - Jamie Sheahan presented a grant application for the five-year restoration plan for Deer Creek Park, noting that the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is interested in helping with proscribed burns. Ken Huffer stated that the project would not affect his staff's ability to do other projects.

Leslie suggested using some of the county parks for the annual bird counting event next year on Presidents Day weekend. Kathy suggested having a contribution bucket for native seeds at the Parks Day event in September.

Carlton Fire District - Mary stated that Steven Weaver is willing to come to informal session next week to give the Board an update on the signature gathering process and then the Board should be ready to make a decision regarding the city's petition for a ballot measure in the November election.

\* Tichenor Reimbursement - Approve an order to partially indemnify Cal Tichenor for legal fees.

John G discussed the following figures regarding Cal Tichenor's legal defense:

\$73,740	total expenses incurred
\$35,642	already paid by the county
\$31,584	paid by Cal, reimbursement requested
\$ 6,514	Blackman expense unpaid
\$ 7,600	donations from Oregon counties
\$ 1,087	balance owed Cal (after donations used to pay Blackman's remaining bill)

He stated that while Mr. Blackman's rate is not the cheapest around, the county's order did not specify a rate limit and it isn't right to compare rates between lawyers with different specialties

and experience. He said that there are several different ways to come up with a reimbursement amount and the Board needs to be careful about setting a precedent. Kathy pointed out that the bill would have been much higher if Cal hadn't contributed a huge amount of his own work in preparing briefs.

The Board agreed that the county needs to make a strong statement of support for Cal, but also needs to uphold its responsibility as stewards of the taxpayers' money. After some discussion, the consensus was to cap the county's total contribution at \$50,000, with half of the remaining payment to come from the District Attorney's budget and half from contingency.

Mary noted that Jefferson County had indicated that although they were not able to contribute at this time, they may be able to during the next fiscal year. She suggested sending a follow-up letter to Oregon counties with the remaining balance in case any are willing to contribute during the next fiscal year. She added that citizens could also make donations and could remain anonymous if they wish.

AOC - Mary provided a summary of the Association of Oregon Counties meeting she had attended.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Anne Britt  
Secretary