

**WORK SESSION MINUTES**

**May 2, 2013**

9:00 a.m.

Commissioners' Office Conference Room

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Kathy George, Mary P. Stern, and Allen Springer.

**STAFF:** Laura Tschabold and Christian Boenisch.

**Others:** Nathalie Hardy, News-Register; Jon A. George, Steve Bobb, Sr., June Sherer, Chris Mercier, Kathleen Tom, Cheryle Kennedy, Rob Greene, Michael Karnosh, Chris Leno, Michael Wilson, and Eirik Thorsgard, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (CTGR).

**TOPIC:** Red Hills Acquisition Project

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Kathy George called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The group discussed a proposal submitted by the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon (CTWS) for Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) mitigation funding for the Red Hills Conservation Area, which is located within CTGR's treaty boundaries (see Exhibit A), near Lafayette. Eirik Thorsgard stated that a pattern of behavior and possible motivation for CTWS's proposal is to establish a foothold in the area in order to expand its fishing and hunting rights.

Rob Greene stated that opening up the mitigation process to any interested tribe creates very complex jurisdictional issues. He requested that the Board oppose the use of public dollars for this process, and distributed copies of a draft letter for the Board's consideration. Kathleen Tom said that CTGR has nothing against the other tribes, but has to stand up for its treaty rights. Cheryle Kennedy added that CTWS already has three-quarters of a million acres of land, which is much more than CTGR has. She said that the federal government and other entities failed to think through the decisions that were put into place, which pit tribes against each other.

Kathy suggested that the Board add to the draft letter a statement encouraging Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife to work with CTGR on the mitigation project, since the Red Hills Conservation Area is located within the heart of CTGR-seated lands. Mary agreed to work on the letter and get it signed by the Board as quickly as possible, with copies to be sent to the governor and local delegates.

The meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Anne Britt  
Secretary

**Red Hills Acquisition Project  
Location Map  
Showing Relative Distances to Grand Ronde vs. Warm Springs  
Reservation  
May 2, 2013**

