

Union County
Board of Commissioners Meeting
May 5, 2010

Present: Commissioner Mark D. Davidson
 Commissioner Steve McClure
 Commissioner R. Nellie Hibbert

Call To Order

Chairman Davidson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all three Commission members present.

Public Comments

Brad Whales, 68592 Kerns Loop, Cove, came to the Commissioners to express his opposition to the Antelope Ridge Wind Farm. He knows that the County is looking at tax dollars and SIP money and his feeling is that those dollars are merely going to offset the loss in property values and the taxable property values that the County will end up with.

Dennis Wilkinson, 68287 Lower Cove Rd., Cove, asked the Commissioners why doesn't Horizon Wind have to give the production reports on a monthly or yearly basis. Dennis asked if the Commissioners can require the report. Commissioner McClure stated that it goes through the Oregon Department of Energy but the Commissioners can ask them to require the report to be submitted on a continual basis. He also asked what the new towers on top of Mt. Fanny are. He stated that there are two or three new towers. The Commissioners didn't know what kind of towers they were but told Dennis that they would look into it and let him know what information they find.

Fireworks Committee

Steve Combs, Fund Raising Coordinator for Union County Fireworks Committee, P.O. Box 135 La Grande, came to the Commissioners to request funding for the annual fireworks show in Union County. He explained that the fireworks are a free show that is put on every year for the community. The County has given funds in the past with a \$2500 donation and he is asking for the same amount this year. He stated that each year it gets harder to raise the money. They appreciate Union County being a contributor to the event.

Commissioner Davidson asked Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer, what line item the funding would come from. Shelley explained that it is usually funded out of the economic development fund.

Commissioner Hibbert moved approval of the donation of \$2500 to the Union County Fireworks Committee for the annual fireworks show in Union County. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

The April 22 and 29 claims journals; and the April 21 and 28 Public Works claims journals; and the January 7 Board of Commissioners minutes were approved as presented on the consent agenda.

Unanticipated Funds Court Order

Corrected Court Order 2010-21, In the Matter of Appropriating Unanticipated Funds, was presented for consideration. This Court Order would allow for the refunding of funds collected in donations for the timber on the Mt. Emily Recreation Area Trails Unit if the amount that is needed is not reached. This is a correction to the Court Order that was approved at the last Commission meeting. She realized that the first Court Order did not allow an opportunity for refunds if there are not enough donations raised. **Commissioner Hibbert moved approval of Corrected Court Order 2010-21. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

JTA Grant Funds

Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer, brought agreement #26561 between the Oregon Department of Transportation Public Transit Division and Union County to the Commissioners for consideration. This agreement is for JTA funds that are allocated for transportation services for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities. There was a review process and an application was submitted to the Commissioners for these funds to be awarded to Community Connections. This funding source is similar to the one that is dealing with the 12th Street Project where the funds are on hold until July 1st. If the agreement is approved any services that are provided after the agreement is signed would be eligible for reimbursement assuming that the funding becomes available. The provider is aware of the stipulations and did want the County to go ahead and approve the agreement so that in the event the funding does become available they can bill back for rides that are being provided at this time. **Commissioner McClure moved approval of the JTA grant with Oregon Department of Transportation as presented. Commissioner Hibbert seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Title II Projects 2011

Shelley brought the Title II Projects for 2011 to the Commissioners for consideration. There is a draft letter for the funding that would go to Steve Ellis, the forest supervisor, which would recommend the Title II project for funding within the local RAC. Commissioner Davidson stated that the Reforestation Board reviewed the project requests and has recommended to the Commission

that they approve them as presented. It is consistent with the projects that were approved and funded in the past. They are all within Union County.

Commissioner Hibbert moved approval of the Title II projects as part of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act as presented. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discretionary Recommendations

Shelley brought the recommendations for Discretionary funding to the Commissioners for consideration. The Discretionary Fund Committee has reviewed the applications and has given the Commissioners their recommendation for funding. There were two applications received. One was from Union County Economic Development Corporation and one from the Union County Chamber of Commerce. The recommendations from the Committee are to fund UCEDC in the amount of \$2,800 and the Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$2,443. **Commissioner McClure moved approval of the funding recommendations as presented. Commissioner Hibbert seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Appointment to Commission on Children and Families Board

Court Order 2010-23, In the Matter of Appointment to the Union County Commission on Children & Families, was presented for consideration. This Court Order would appoint Jamie Murchison, Rosina Armon, Chantelle Brown and Jennifer Tracy to the Commission with terms expiring December 31, 2012.

Commissioner McClure moved approval of Court Order 2010-23 as presented. Commissioner seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Military Families Appreciation Day

Proclamation 2010-02, In the Matter of a Proclamation Declaring May 8, 2010 Military Family Appreciation Day, was presented for consideration. Commissioner Hibbert explained that in Region 13 Worksource Oregon a sub committee has been developed recognizing that there is a need for assistance and recognition for military families. There are 129 active Oregon National Guard members in the local community. There will be a deployment this fall and Region 13 is intending to convene a considerable large meeting of those who may be an assistance to the veterans. **Commissioner McClure moved approval of Proclamation 2010-02 as presented. Commissioner Hibbert seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Road Vacation – Portion of Powers Lane

Court Order 2010-22, In the Matter of Vacating a Portion of Powers Lane, was presented for consideration. Hanley Jenkins, Planning Director, explained that the Planning Department received a petition to vacate a portion of Powers Lane from Steve Colkitt. The petition proposed to vacate most of Powers Lane as a result of a boundary line adjustment and partitioning associated with adjoining property. The need for public road access no longer exists. Notice was sent to

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adjacent land owners as well as the Public Works Director, Richard Comstock. Richard submitted a letter to the Commissioners supporting the vacation request. The public hearing was opened for testimony.

Steve Colkitt stated that this was negotiated in a land deal between him and Ron Nash. He would like to have the vacation completed.

Rick Robinson, Bagett, Griffith and Blackman, stated that they do have a partition platt involved in this process. It will include a hammerhead turn around as well.

The public hearing was then closed.

Commissioner McClure moved approval of Court Order 2010-22 as presented. Commissioner Hibbert seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

ORS 192.660(1)(d) Labor Negotiations

Adjournment

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Wilhelm
Department Specialist