



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

February 3, 2009

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

County of Lake County
State of Oregon

WORK SESSION

The Lake County Board of Commissioners met in Work Session on Tuesday, February 3, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. The following members were present: Chair Bradley J. Winters, Dan Shoun and Ken Kestner. Also present: Administration Assistant Bob Pardee and Clerical Assistant Karen Smith.

Deletions: January 21st Meeting Minutes
Additions: None

Public Comment

None

Road Dept.

Truck Quotes

Rick DuMilieu, Road Master, reviewed the used Truck Quotes received. Mr. DuMilieu indicated due to current economic conditions, this is a good time to purchase used equipment. Quotes were received from Pape, Kenworth, Kenworth Northwest, Redding Kenworth and Kenworth Sales Company.

Mr. DuMilieu explained that he prefers staying with major truck brands like Peterbilt and Kenworth to ensure part availability in the future. This has been an issue with some of the Ford and International trucks currently in the fleet.

Resolution 2009-007

The total amount of \$180,000 is based on the hope that the Road Master can find a third truck in the same price range as reviewed above.

Discussion followed regarding future reserve spending strategies, including the use of 'Safety-Net' monies.

Secure Load Ordinance

The Board reviewed the draft ordinance. Discussion followed regarding the need to define where the 'fine' will be accounted for. Separate fund and/or line item?

Commissioner Winters suggested there be a definition of where the additional fee/fine will be tracked, and how the funds will be used.

Commissioner Kestner indicated it is important to keep the fee/fines collected for the appropriate purpose.

Mr. DuMilieu indicated there is a need to determine whether 'fine' or 'fee' is the appropriate approach. This will be discussed further at tomorrow's Regular Session with Legal Counsel.

Bob Pardee suggested having Legal Counsel format this and other like documents in the proper legal format. The Board agreed.

Commissioner Winters commended Mr. DuMilieu and his crew on work done in the Christmas Valley area on County Roads. Commissioner Winters further reported that Mr. DuMilieu is working with the Ford Family Foundation working group in Christmas Valley to bring attention to the work being done.

Mr. DuMilieu reported he has had a discussion with Mr. Gerald Pitts in Christmas Valley who owns property near the 'S' curves west of the town site. Mr. Pitts would like to bring a presentation to the Board later this spring regarding a proposed kiosk/turnout at that site.

Other Business

Renewable Energy Planning

Bob Pardee updated the Board regarding his trip to Billings, Montana to attend the Harvest Clean Energy 9 Conference. Mr. Pardee reported on his discussion with Mark Kendall, Senior Policy Analyst for the Oregon Department of Energy regarding land use and local government interaction with renewable energy projects.

Mr. Pardee hopes to have Mr. Kendall come before the Board of Commissioners with data regarding standardizing how local governments pursue renewable energy development.

Jail Discussion – Dave Schutt

District Attorney Dave Schutt approached the Board with questions regarding the status of what is being done regarding the Jail and future expansion / improvements.

Mr. Schutt expressed concern regarding an incident with an alleged Felon on February 2. This individual is disabled, and has a history in the Lake County Jail. This person has been charged with four Class A felonies and has been released back into the community due to a crowding issue.

Commissioner Shoun indicated he has had a discussion with the Sheriff as recently as last week regarding the status of the working group regarding the Jail Advisory Committee. Commissioner Shoun indicated the Board has asked repeatedly for the Sheriff to get this Committee in place.

Commissioner Kestner indicated the reason for 'slowing' the process a couple years ago was to ensure the appropriate people are involved.

Commissioner Kestner asked Mr. Schutt as to whether the person in question was released due to a medical condition, or a prioritizing issue due to the crimes committed. Mr. Schutt indicated his perception was that it was due to the potential cost of housing this inmate due to his medical condition. His frustration was that if it is a cost

issue, then the Sheriff needs to come to the Board for approval, because this is not the kind of individual who should be released in the public.

Mr. Schutt's key question is just who is the lead for this project? Who would be responsible for addressing issues such as introducing a bond?

Commissioner Shoun indicated the issue is that the Jail Committee needs to be assembled, and there is a need to get a project moving.

Commissioner Winters indicated if anyone is to blame for the 'slowing', he might be as responsible as anyone. There has been much discussion regarding the potential use of the Library / Memorial Hall or building a new Courthouse. There are many questions to be answered.

Mr. Schutt agreed that it is prudent to take a measured approach, but he is concerned about whether anyone is really taking a lead. Last month alone 14 individuals were released due to overcrowding issues. Mr. Schutt asked if the Board could give him some feedback in the very near future, as he would like to be part of the process.

Commissioner Kestner indicated that at the meeting he will attend in Colorado (the last week in February) he hopes to have current and updated information on strategic planning methods and ideas to proceed.

Commissioner Winters indicated there is a process laid out by the Architect that has been commissioned that outlines each step needed.

Commissioner Kestner suggested there is a need for a project manager to drive the process, and be involved with scheduling and coordinating an Advisory Committee.

Mr. Pardee asked if the existing Advisory Committee process should be considered to establish a Jail Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Winters agreed that this needs to be done. There are many resources throughout the region of people who have recently worked through the process.

Mr. Schutt agreed the funding is a challenge.

Commissioner Winters asked where the funding will come from.

Mr. Schutt believes there are options, through better Jail design, to increase the population without adding significant staffing costs.

Commissioner Shoun agreed this issue needs to be kept on the 'front burner', and that we have much work to do.

10:00 – Break

10:07 – Resume

South Central Oregon Economic Development District

Executive Director Betty Riley reviewed a draft Economic Development Action Plan she has assembled for Lake County. This includes a job description and budget for a Rural Development Specialist.

Commissioner Winters indicated that he had asked Ms. Riley to assemble this information, and that if the Board felt this was an appropriate venture, the funding would be requested through the Open Request portion of the budget process.

Commissioner Winters commended Riley on the content of her draft action plan, and appreciates the approach taken regarding job retention and working with community partners.

Mrs. Riley indicated the job retention approach is the foundation which will attract new business. It is important to build upon the core economic base in any community.

Discussion followed regarding funding options and the amount of time this person would spend in Lake County.

Mrs. Riley indicated she could use an additional staff person for regional projects, so there may be an opportunity to cost share between Lake County and South Central Oregon Economic Development District (SCOEDD).

Commissioner Shoun asked Mrs. Riley for her best estimate of how long it would take for her to know if a Rural Development Specialist was productive, and making a positive impact. Mrs. Riley indicated nothing will happen 'overnight', and it would likely take at least three years for this position to become established, and have a track-record that would show success. She did indicate that much could be assessed in the first six to nine months as to how motivated or productive the right candidate could be. This person will need to have good communication and problem solving abilities.

Mrs. Riley indicated she has had 'frank' discussions with Lake County Development regarding their potential role in this process. The current Part Time Director is not particularly interested in the 'bigger' scale approach this position might require.

Commissioner Kestner asked Mrs. Riley how she would recruit for this type of position. Mrs. Riley indicated she has resumes at this time of folks that have marketing and business background. She isn't sure they would be the right fit, but due to economic issues in the region, it appears this would be a good time to attract qualified candidates. One challenge is that the most qualified person(s) at this time would be taking a pay-cut to work in Lake County.

Commissioner Shoun expressed concern that whoever is recruited, it is important to have a person who is committed to remaining in the community.

Discussion followed regarding the skill-sets and personality traits needed for this position.

Discussion followed regarding where this position would be housed, including the possibility of housed in the County Courthouse, Incubator Building, Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC) and Town Hall. Mrs. Riley indicated this person could almost work 'virtually', with a cell phone, laptop and site visits.

The Board reviewed the projected costs associated with this position, and discussed salary, travel and office cost.

Commissioner Kestner suggested it would be appropriate to recruit County Alumni for a position like this. Discussion followed regarding how this might be done.

Discussion followed regarding the cost to the County for this position, it was initially proposed that 60% of the cost would be carried by the County. This could be adjusted as the individual becomes more familiar with the role.

Mrs. Riley indicated she is currently pursuing a similar proposal with Klamath County.

Commissioner Shoun indicated he is leaning heavily toward moving forward on this type of arrangement, with the understanding that it would very much be a 'work in progress'.

Commissioner Winters asked if outside funding opportunities were to become available, would there be a decreased obligation to both SCOEDD and Lake County. Mrs. Riley cautioned this can be troublesome, but certainly if funding were to become available this could be a consideration.

Commissioner Winters indicated that the Board has asked for this type of proposal from other organizations, and this is the most comprehensive plan presented to the Board.

Commissioner Shoun thanked Commissioner Winters for pursuing this discussion with Mrs. Riley.

Mrs. Riley suggested this will need to be a full SCOEDD board meeting item for discussion, as half of SCOEDD's Board is Lake County.

11:05 – Break

11:10 - Resume

Other Business

Building / Planning Structure

Commissioner Winters reported he asked for this to be on the Agenda. Discussion followed regarding whether a Code Specialist would be a member of the Labor Contract.

Commissioner Winters also noted that according to the AOC document recently received regarding required County services. O.R.S. does require a Planning Director to administer the County Land Use Plan.

Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Kestner moved to accept the meeting minutes for January 7, 2009; January 13, 2009; and January 20, 2009. Commissioner Shoun second. Motion carried.

Liaison Updates

Commissioner Kestner asked that the 40 acre ownership issue in Christmas Valley be included on Tomorrow's agenda.

Due to Commissioner Schedules next week, there will be no Work Session.

Commissioner Shoun will be at Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) next week.

Commissioner Kestner will be out of town all next week.

Bob Pardee asked if the Board has been involved with, or given further consideration to drafting a response to the Court Facilities Assessment.

Discussion followed regarding the Court Facilities Assessment, and whether there had been any response drafted regarding this Assessment. Commissioner Winters will follow-up with the Judge and the Sheriff.

Backscatter Site

Commissioner Winters reported he has received a letter from the General Services Administration (GSA) regarding the disposal process of the Backscatter Site in Christmas Valley. This property will be available for sale soon.

Discussion followed regarding various assumptions as to how the GSA will prioritize the sale of this property. Commissioner Winters will keep the Board informed as he learns more about the sale process.

Railroad

Commissioner Winters reported that the Railroad Commission has not been active. Mr. Pardee was directed to bring this group together and schedule a meeting soon.

Commissioner Kestner reported he will be scheduling a phone conference with the regional Union Pacific (UP) representative.

Commercial / Residential

Commissioner Kestner reported that Tony West has worked with Klamath County to facilitate an Intergovernmental Agreement similar to the one that Lake County has with Deschutes County to provide commercial inspection services.

There being nothing further to come before the Board, the Lake County Board of Commissioners Work Session adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert R. Pardee
Administrative Assistant

Board Approval,

Bradley J. Winters
Chairman

Dan Shoun
Vice Chairman

Ken Kestner
Commissioner