



proud past, promising future

CLARK COUNTY  
WASHINGTON

**RAILROAD ADVISORY BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2008**

**4:00 PM -5:30 PM**

**1300 FRANKLIN STREET – PUBLIC SERVICE CENTER**

**6TH FLOOR – TRAINING ROOM #679**

**ROLL CALL:**

<b>Members Present:</b>	John Allen, Dick Carroll, Dick Clairmont, Bill Ganley, Richard Hanford, Dave Hurt, Tom Smith, Florence Wager, Dan Weaver
<b>Absent Members:</b>	Scott Dalesandro, Rodger Lance, Lloyd Lycan, Jack Melton, Melinda McLucas, Bart Phillips
<b>Ex-Officio:</b>	Will Pickering, Eric Temple
<b>Public:</b>	Doug Auburg, BYCX
<b>Staff:</b>	Fred Abraham, Mary Beth O'Donnell

**Agenda Item**

**Meeting called to order** at 4:02PM

- **Roll Call/Introductions**  
There were no introductions today.

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

- Motion to approve minutes of the meeting from July 14, 2008 by Dick Clairmont, seconded by Florence Wager, minutes unanimously approved as circulated.

**Communications/Announcements**

- Dan Weaver distributed a draft of a letter of support for Clark County's latest Rail Emergent Grant application to WSDOT. Dan will send the signed original to Fred Abraham to be submitted with the application no later than September 4, 2008. There is a total of \$2.75 Million available, with individual amounts awarded based on points given in the application. Fred Abraham distributed a copy of the grant application and reviewed it with the group. The application is due September 5, but plans are to turn it in a week prior. WSDOT is familiar with the County now based on past and current grant as well as through Rail Day in April. Fred encouraged members of the group to contact the Legislators with their support.

**PVJR Activities**

- Eric Temple was contacted by telephone. Eric reported that Keyera is attempting to buy the 5 acre parcel on 78<sup>th</sup> Street and St. Johns to relocate their propane facility. It would be a good fit in the neighborhood.
- Eric is also talking with Scott Dalesandro about a relocation of his business, Columbia River Logistics, in Clark County. They are looking at a site on 88<sup>th</sup> Street and discussing price. BNSF is somewhat discouraging this due to the problem with the interchange. This business could bring 3,300 cars a year to the line, with as many as 50 at a time, making interchange difficult as it interrupts the flow of BNSF's main line. There are options under consideration including building parallel tracks next to the main line or re-establishing the south leg of the "Y" at Rye Junction, but it is not an easy fix. We need a combination of State and Federal funding to make it happen. The growth of the County's line however could force a resolution to this problem. Upgrading the line is the first priority.
- Lakeside Industries is not in a big hurry to build a facility, even though they won the appeal.
- PVJR is looking at Chelatchie Rock facility at MP 33, but that development is a long way off.
- A meeting with Rep. Wallace and Sen. Pridemore has been set for 8/25/08 to ask for their help in obtaining any left over monies from the \$8.5 Million 39<sup>th</sup> St. overpass project.
- The potential trans-load facility grain customer between 78<sup>th</sup> and 88<sup>th</sup> Street trans-load

<b>Agenda Item</b>
operation may not work out due to their inability to get empty containers to transfer grain for shipping.
<b>BYCX Activities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• August is the second month the BYCX is running the Train Robbery. There has been a good turn out, lots of fun and no injuries. Yacolt fire department is using the line for HASMAT training next week. 50-100 ties are being replaced and spot repairs being done. FRA conducted a courtesy inspection and found no defects other than some brush issues and the need to change out a few ties. Doug Auburg said that FRA also found that Yacolt needed to repaint the crossing lines on newly repaved roads.</li> <li>• There was nothing new to report on the 501C grant request. It is on hold until Doug and Bill Young meet with the Mayors of Battle Ground and Yacolt.</li> <li>• The revenue from the fireworks stand was considerably lower this year due to competition by the Chamber of Commerce. They brought in about \$5,000 this year compared to \$15-18,000 in years past. They may not have a stand in the future as it is a lot of work for little gain. They will have to find a way to replace this income. Florence Wager said she will talk to Doug about possibilities for raising money.</li> </ul>
<b>Status of County Activities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fred Abraham handed out bid statistics showing locations for replacement ties on the grant project as well as the letter of confirmation from the County to the General Contractor on the project. The contractor should be on site by September 1<sup>st</sup> as the permits are nearly ready from the City. The work to be on at M.P. 2.59 will be bid on an RFP separate from the rehabilitation portion of the project.</li> <li>• 78<sup>th</sup> St: The 5 acre property on the NE corner is to be up for auction in September.</li> <li>• 182<sup>nd</sup> Ave overlay is complete; the crossing has been repaved/replaced.</li> <li>• 65<sup>th</sup> St: Fred is going to be working with Public Works to replace the old rubber crossing panels with concrete panels in conjunction with road work at 65<sup>th</sup> and St. Johns in future work plans. The ties are still in good shape.</li> <li>• CREDC is developing a plan with Eric Temple, looking at current properties along the line with abandoned spurs to possibly relocate and put rail served businesses on these sites. The planning is in early stages. Fred will meet with Mayors of surrounding cities to talk about setting aside properties for railroad businesses. Currently, there are no incentives in place for these businesses. The railroad industrial land zone, designated by the BOCC, is under appeal at the State level right now. It could be 2-3 years before the appeal is settled. The Railroad Resource Work Group went on a field trip to see examples of rail served business parks. Their next step will be to develop design standards. They are working towards having the codes in place for future development so they'll be ready when the land is made available. Dan Weaver reported on the trip and mentioned the business park on 112<sup>th</sup> as a good example of high berms along the road being used to block the view of the industry on the property. The group also visited the Port of Camas/Washougal and the Port of Woodland.</li> </ul>
<b>Sub-Committee Reports:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were no committee reports today.</li> </ul>
<b>Unfinished Business:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>High Rail Trip:</b> Mary Beth to check back with Will Cahill about dates he's available to take the interested parties on the trip.</li> <li>• Fred passed around the final plan for the Rails and Trails alternative alignment.</li> </ul>
<b>Adjournment</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meeting was adjourned at 4:58PM.</li> </ul>