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CLARK COUNTY  
WASHINGTON

**RAILROAD ADVISORY BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, JULY 13, 2009**

**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 Clairmont, Scott Dalesandro, Bill Ganley, Dave Hurt, Rodger Lance, Lloyd Lycan, Melinda McLucas, Jack Melton, Jerry Petrick, Thomas Smith, Florence Wager, Dan Weaver (One position is vacant)
<b>Excused Members:</b>	Dick Carroll, Will Pickering, Eric Temple
<b>Ex-Officio:</b>	Eric Temple, Will Pickering
<b>Public:</b>	George Hudson (Alta), Troy Pierce (Public Works) Lisa Goorjian (Parks)
<b>Staff:</b>	Fred Abraham, April Flinn
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>
<b>Meeting called to order @ 3:59 pm</b>	<b>Dan Weaver</b>
<b>Roll Call/Introductions</b>	<b>Dan Weaver</b>
Introductions were made around the table.	
<b>Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes</b>	<b>Dan Weaver</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moved and seconded minutes approved as circulated.</li> </ul>	
<b>Communications/Announcements</b>	<b>Dan Weaver</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A copy of the letter for the RRAB member applications was distributed. There have been no responses to the letter. Fred and April will follow up on this with the Commissioner's office.</li> </ul>	
<b>PVJR Activities</b>	<b>Eric Temple</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None. Eric indicated he would be unavailable, no answer to phone call.</li> </ul>	
<b>BYCX Activities</b>	<b>Will Pickering</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fred Abraham gave the update from an email from Will Pickering in his absence.</li> <li><b>Car Mover</b> – BYCX has received a donation of an older track mobile "car mover" from PDM Steel in Woodland, WA. They are arranging transportation to Chelatchie. The machine will be used for moving equipment in and around the shop at Chelatchie without having to use the Yacolt locomotive.</li> <li><b>Excursion</b> – On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend BYCX worked with Yacolt to provide an evening excursion to tie into their 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities. After the run, they pushed the train towards the baseball fields where the riders could watch the fireworks show.</li> <li><b>Next Excursion</b> – BYCX's next excursion will be on July 25<sup>th</sup> &amp; 26<sup>th</sup>. It will be one of their "train robbery" events.</li> <li><b>Tunnel Inspection</b> – BYCX will be providing their locomotive and flatcar to the contractor on July 21<sup>st</sup> to help with the tunnel inspection.</li> </ul>	
<b>Status of County Activities</b>	<b>Fred Abraham</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Keyera</b> – Fred Abraham received an e-mailed letter from Todd Bryan with Keyera, and received a follow up formal letter indicating that for now they will be setting up their business at the Port of Vancouver. The weight of the steel was a safety factor considered by Keyera in their decision among other internal process that led to the decision.</li> <li><b>Lagler Property</b> – The property is now under appeal by Futurewise. They filed the appeal last Thursday. Futurewise wants all the property designated by Judge Harris for agricultural use, to be reviewed and all lands in the 2007 comprehensive plan reserved for agricultural use. The Clark County Commissioner's have 14 days from the date filed to counter the appeal, to ask that all land identified in the 2007 comprehensive plan remain as approved for development. The appeal could be tied up in court for 3-5 years. Mr. Lagler has indicated that if he doesn't have somebody willing to purchase and develop his property, he will continue to farm the land.</li> <li><b>WSDOT Grant</b> – The second draft of the grant charter has been sent to WSDOT today and they will be reviewing it. We should have a final draft by August and be able to start writing the contract</li> </ul>	

between WSDOT and Clark County.

- **State and Federal Appropriation and Re-Authorization** – The requests are still moving forward in Congress. There has been no indication from Brian Baird's office on the re-authorization of \$1.8 million or Patty Murray's office on the appropriation request of \$2 million that we are out of the running. The reauthorization of \$1.8 million FY2010 and the appropriation request for FY2011 was for \$2 million, are for infrastructure upgrades.
- **Battle Ground Storm Water/Pavlina Development** – Nothing more has moved forward since the last meeting. Dennis Pavlina has been working with the City of Battle Ground to work internally on some issues. They have contacted Clark County's environmental department, and the City of Battle Ground is working with them as to environmental issues to be considered. There is still a lot of work to be done.
- **Public Works/Railroad Internal Process** – An issue came up because of the Caples Road Crossing that took over two years to get rebuilt. There was some communication breakdown between public works and the railroad coordinator apparently. A meeting was held to discuss and define ways to make the process work better. They defined that if it is a road born problem, that public works will have to address the crossing need. If it is a railroad born problem, then the railroad will have to address the needs. If it is a grant situation, then the railroad can put themselves into the grant and get the railroad crossing fixed. Points have been identified for Public Works and General Services to better communicate. Everything will now go through Heath Henderson and he will disseminate it through his staff at the appropriate level.
- **Railroad Safety Update** – Will Cahill has been trained as a trainer for road worker protection and is now in the process of writing the manual for training Clark County staff, and the test that will go along with that. Once this is done, it will be reviewed by Clark County and CBRR to make sure it complies with the operating rules. It will then be forwarded to the FRA for final approval. It should be ready to go in the fall of this year. Dick Clairmont will assist Will Cahill with this and be a potential EIC on the rail line. Tim McVicker has done a good job of setting up the basic safety training information and concerns internally.

**Subcommittee Reports**

- **Web Page** – Nothing new
- **Community Outreach** – Nothing new
- **ROW** – (Lloyd Lycan) Lloyd walked the track and took pictures of all the crossings. Pictures of the crossings were distributed around the room to look at. The public crossings are in good shape. The residential/farm crossings need maintenance. Some of the residential crossings had no stop signs or cross bucks. The private crossing land owners will be sent notice to comply with the standards. It needs to be decided which ones need to be upgraded. Recommendations will be made to Mark Wildson of Risk Management on which crossings to pursue first.

**Unfinished Business**

**Dan Weaver**

- **Bicycle Safety** – The letter to Mark Wildson was distributed around the room. Public Works was notified that they need to put bicycle safety signs where the road meets the rail at a skew or where the road is rough and caution should be given.
- **Fruit Valley Signage** – The PA's office is suggesting a "No Trespassing" sign at Fruit Valley. The County will be working with the City of Vancouver, because this is in their jurisdictional boundary to make sure a sign is put up appropriately.

**New Business**

**Dan Weaver**

- **99<sup>th</sup> Street Extension** – At some point the 99<sup>th</sup> Street in the long range plans of the road atlas will be extended. This is a long range plan, probably 15-20 years out. There were 15 alternatives for the rail to be considered and it has been narrowed down to two. These two have been presented to Eric Temple. The County should go forward with the plan that has less constraint for the PVJR.
- **Rails With Trails** – Troy Pierce with Public Works and Lisa Goorjian with Parks presented. The first segment of development is 2.7 miles between Fairground Park and Battle Ground Lake State Park. The trail will be separated from the track where possible, and follow the terrain. The trail will be used for pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian traffic. George Hudson with Alta Planning and Design discussed other Rails with Trails around the country, and the impact that they have had.

**Good of the Order**

**ALL**

- **Nothing**

**Round Table**

**ALL**

- **Nothing**

**ADJOURNMENT @ 5:41 pm**