



proud past, promising future

CLARK COUNTY  
WASHINGTON

**RAILROAD ADVISORY BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, JULY 11, 2011**

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

**1300 FRANKLIN STREET – PUBLIC SERVICE CENTER**

**6TH FLOOR – TRAINING ROOM #679**

**ROLL CALL:**

<b>Members Present:</b>	Dick Carroll, Dick Clairmont, Todd Coleman, Scott Dalesandro, Bill Ganley, Lloyd Lycan, Jack Melton, Aryana Peiravi, John Shaffer, Jon Yamashita, Tom Smith, Florence Wager.
<b>Excused Members:</b>	Bryan Snodgrass, Bonnie Moore, Dan Weaver
<b>Absent Members:</b>	
<b>Ex-Officio:</b>	Will Pickering, Eric Temple
<b>Public:</b>	Doug Auburg
<b>Staff:</b>	Jon Holladay, Linnea LaRocque

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>
<b>Meeting called to order @ 4:03 p.m.</b>	Lloyd Lycan
<b>Roll Call/Introductions</b>	Lloyd Lycan
<b>Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes</b>	Lloyd Lycan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopted</li> </ul>	
<b>Communications/Announcements</b>	Lloyd Lycan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	
<b>PVJR Activities</b>	Eric Temple
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Car counts are about the same as last year with only a 3 cars difference. Eric feels positive having these steady customers. A couple hundred cars a year are expected from Canfield beginning the end of this month, hopefully.</li> <li>Separation of Business: September 13<sup>th</sup> is next scheduled engagement.</li> <li>Dave Gray feels the track is in better shape than ever and we're close to FRA Class 1 status.</li> <li>Legislature meeting went well. It's a tough budget year, yet to get \$455k is impressive. Working on the top ten projects may provide for more financing to move forward.</li> </ul>	
<b>BYCX Activities</b>	Will Pickering
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good weather has provided for good ridership.</li> <li>Cleaned up the engine. Due to its age, it's getting harder to find parts.</li> </ul>	
<b>Status of County Activities</b>	Jon Holladay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grant Progress: Construction was complete a month ago. \$80K more in administrative monies are being released to Jon for use to buy more rail. We now have enough new rail to rebuild 4600 feet of track. The \$455k grant will be used to provide labor to lay the rail.</li> <li>Bridge #23 (Lucia Falls) replaced most timbers in need on the east (Yacolt) side. The west side has need of additional repairs not identified before. DNR was pulled of this bridge before it was completed due to Bridge #12 (Cedars Golf Course) which needed immediate repairs. DNR crew and a contractor the westerly approach retaining walls. It took 4 days. Everyone did a fantastic job. DNR is off on another project now, then hopefully they will return depending on fire season.</li> <li>FRA Signal maintenance compliance: Procedure Manual will probably be completed in this</li> </ul>	

Agenda Item	Facilitator
<p>coming month.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Customers: Modoc will be addressed later in the presentation.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Subcommittee Reports</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Neighborhood Assn. (Dick): Nothing to report. (Adjourned for August)</li> <li>Web Page (Scott): Nothing to report.</li> <li>Legislative &amp; Econ. Dev. (John &amp; Bonnie, absent): Working on list of projects.</li> <li>Rails with Trails (Florence): Met with various members of the group to discuss signage. Sample was passed around. Included will be some history of the line, a map and a notation stating "This is an active railroad, please stay on the trail". It's a classic line with something citizens and the county should be proud of. The fencing recommendation is cable and post. They're still tinkering with the design. Steve recommended the top of the fence is white so it's easy to recognize as well as critter space down at the bottom since this goes through areas with lots of wildlife. AmeriCorps will come in August/September with organized community groups to come in later to maintain the horse trail which will build a sense of ownership.</li> </ul> <p><b>Follow-up on plan for fence and sign:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Reps: Bill (Battle Ground Council), Aryana (Battle Ground Chamber), Todd (Port of Vancouver), Bryan (City of Vancouver), Lloyd will add Bonnie (CREDC). <i>Todd:</i> Old rails from a Port project could be obtained for railroad if re-usable.</li> <li>RR Master Plan Subcommittee: (Dick Clairmont, John Shaffer, Dan Weaver) Putting together the priorities of the railroad. Different folks involved with the railroad - exactly what their priorities may be to make the railroad work well/better. Dick requested from each member a list by priority of goals they feel need to be addressed. Send them to Dick via email. List them in order of importance to you. These items will be combined and sorted to determine what needs to happen.</li> </ul>	Lloyd Lycan
<p><b>Unfinished Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RRAB Makeup - Duties – Expectations: a new subcommittee with Dick Carrol as Chair was established along with Jack Melton and John. Lloyd will serve as Ex-Officio. They will develop a short list of items to be shared and discussed at the September meeting.</li> <li>A motion was made to recess annually in August. This motion was seconded and adopted.</li> <li>Budget will be addressed in the future.</li> </ul>	Lloyd Lycan
<p><b>New Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jon shared with the Advisory Board what he had presented to the Board of County Commissioners.</li> <li>Modoc Railroad Academy: If it comes in, it would not replace any entity on the railroad. School will locate somewhere beyond Battle Ground, by the first quarter of 2012. They would be re-locating an existing school, not a new branch campus.</li> </ul> <p>They are a private non-profit vocational school who train locomotive engineers and conductors for the railroad industry. They have 100% placement after graduation with outfits like Amtrak and BNSF. Their classes are always full. They have been in operation around for 15 years.</p> <p>They're currently located just north of Sacramento near the airport. They have a small campus with a ½ mile track. They have several locomotives, freight cars, cabooses and some spurs to practice switching but with their growth outlook, they have no room to grow and are completely jammed.</p> <p>Several years ago, they started looking for an opportunity to expand.</p> <p>There may be some local, new hires for this school, as some current employees may choose not to relocate to this area.</p>	Lloyd Lycan

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>
<p>This school has a national draw. The attending students will require local accommodations like room and board as well as all other living expenses. Due to new regulations and recertification requirements passed by the Federal Railroad Administration, Railroads will need to provide in-house training or seek a third party for outside training. Modoc is/will be in position to fill this need. They would like to expand to other training like maintenance and repairs as well.</p> <p>They are deeply involved in future technology as well.</p> <p>Clark County has unused track which is out of the way, safe and quiet to offer Modoc. Modoc moving here would provide nation-wide visibility to this railroad.</p> <p>They would prefer to move in with a small footprint initially, with plans to expand. There would be little direct revenue for the county, but each class may perform one full week of track maintenance. This could mean many hours of track maintenance over 20 years. It also is a good argument to obtain grant monies for a section that has been under-capitalized.</p> <p>Odds are good, however financing for the move is not yet secured. Loans and grants are being investigated. Their school is not attached to the national rail network, so each item needs to be physically lifted and moved by truck.</p> <p>The Modoc Railroad Academy video was shown ~</p>	
<b>Good of the Order</b>	ALL
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<b>Round Table</b>	ALL
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<b>ADJOURNMENT @ 5:31 p.m.</b>	