

**Minutes
Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
July 19, 2011**

Call to Order

Chair Lisa M. Marsyla called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners, on July 19, 2011, at 9:30 a.m. in the public meeting room of the Wahkiakum County Courthouse.

Present: Commissioner Lisa M. Marsyla, Commissioner Blair H. Brady, Commissioner Daniel L. Cothren, Clerk of the Board Marsha LaFarge, HHS Director Judy Bright; Locall Emergency Response Coordinator Jerusha Kasch, Tom Villanti of NoaNet (by conference call), Public Works Director Pete Ringen, Real Property Rights Advisory Board Chairman Art Hyland, Sheriff Jon Dearmore, Undersheriff Mark Howie, Chief Civil Deputy Joannie Bjorge and State Dept. of Emergency Management Director Jim Mullens.

Others Present: *Wahkiakum County Eagle* Business Manager Betsy Nelson, Michael Linn, Al & Nancy George, Jerry & Kathleen Hogan, Beau Renfro, Bob Meier of Rayonier, Carol Larson and Ron Kimmel.

Flag Salute

Chair Marsyla led the flag salute.

Regular Meeting Agenda

It was M/S by Commissioners Brady and Cothren to approve the Regular Meeting Agenda for July 19, 2011. Carried.

Consent Agenda

It was M/S by Commissioners Cothren and Brady to approve the Consent Agenda for July 19, 2011. Carried. The Consent Agenda contained the following items:

- A. Minutes of July 12, 2011
- B. Resolution No. 104-11. A resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from the emergency medical services cumulative reserve fund for the payment of vouchers properly chargeable to said fund in the amount of \$186.48
- C. Resolution No. 105-11. A resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from the county properties cumulative reserve fund for the payment of vouchers properly chargeable to said fund in the amount of \$5,844.08.
- D. Resolution No. 106-11. A resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from the electronic communications cumulative reserve fund for the payment of vouchers properly chargeable to said fund in the amount of \$100.98.
- E. Voucher Approval - \$528,156.25

Public Comment

Commissioner Cothren stated he invited Bob Meier from Rayonier to the meeting to discuss the hunting permit program announced two weeks ago and to address his and his constituents' concerns. Meier explained Rayonier instituted a new hunting program near Fossil Creek and Salmon Creek that provides enhanced hunting and recreation access on 46,000 acres near Grays River in Pacific and Wahkiakum Counties. In the 15,000 acre Salmon Creek area, hunters will bid on a limited number of access permits for archery and modern deer hunting seasons and in the 31,000 acre Fossil Creek area, hunters may purchase access permits on a first-come, first served basis which will allow access from August 15 through December 31, 2011. Meier stated the Fossil Creek permits were sold out within the first week; however, there are still permits open in the Salmon Creek area. Meier also reported there is a smaller area in Wahkiakum which contains 120 acres where no permits will be required.

Cothren expressed his displeasure regarding this program and feels local residents will lose their heritage to hunt and fish on these lands. Cothren has been contacted by many of his constituents who expressed their displeasure over this new program. Cothren also expressed his concern that other timber companies will follow suit and require the purchase of permits to hunt on their land.

Commissioner Marsyla asked if Rayonier would be open to some dialog with Wahkiakum and Pacific Counties to discuss their hunting programs in future years. Meier agreed to meet to discuss future hunt programs on their lands.

New Business

Resolution Authorizing Line Item Amendments

It was M/S by Commissioners Brady and Cothren approving Resolution No. 107-11 a resolution authorizing line item amendments within the 2011 budget for the county properties fund. Carried.

Unfinished Business

WorkFirst Children Program Agreement

It was M/S by Commissioners Brady and Cothren authorizing the chair's signature on the WorkFirst Children Program Agreement between Department of Social and Health Services and Wahkiakum County. Carried.

Public Works

Ferry Security System Contract

It was M/S by Commissioners Brady and Cothren authorizing the chair's signature on the Ferry Security Project Contract between Mill Plain Electric and Wahkiakum County for the installation of the ferry security system in an amount not to exceed \$19,680 to be paid from the county road fund. Carried.

Risk Road Culvert Replacement

Public Works Director Pete Ringen reported the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approached him earlier this year with a proposal to replace a 4-foot diameter steel culvert on Risk Road near the intersection

with SR-4. The outlet of the culvert is perched and presents a barrier to fish passage. This project is proposed as a cooperative project between the county and USFWS and the majority of the cost will be borne by USFWS. USFWS will complete all of the permitting and replacing of the culvert with the county assisting in the backfill process. Ringen stated he has contacted Diking District No. 4 to discuss this matter and they have no concerns. Ringen estimates the county's labor and equipment costs to be around \$8,000. Ringen asked the board to consider the presented landowner agreement for the replacement of the culvert and to take action at their next board meeting.

Real Property Rights Advisory Board

Chairman Art Hyland reported their group met and discussed the Columbia Land Trust impact on the Grays River area and also attended the KATU interview regarding the biosolids issue.

NoaNet


HHS Director Judy Bright explained that NoaNet, a nonprofit corporation, obtained rights to a lay fiber optic line along SR 4. The county has the opportunity to connect to his line using funds from their H1N1 grant. Bright investigated the use of these funds and found she could use them for connectivity to the internet; however, the funds must be spent by July 31, 2011. Tom Villanti of NoaNet called in and gave a video presentation of their project. The commissioners expressed their support for the connection.

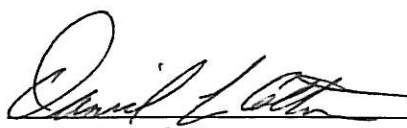
State Department of Emergency Management

Jim Mullens, Director of the State Department of Emergency Management expressed his desire to have an open dialog regarding the needs of the county for a Department of Emergency Management Coordinator. Mullens stated there is a real need to have available a credible local coordinator who is able to coordinate the county's needs in the event of an emergency. Mullens emphasized that when a disaster occurs, everyone will be asking why wasn't the county ready? Sheriff Jon Dearmore reported his office applied for and received a federal grant in the amount of \$11,000; however, they need to hire a coordinator and set up a line item in their budget in order to use it. Commissioner Marsyla stated the commissioners need to look at this matter during budgeting as our citizens expect us to handle emergencies and we cannot expect volunteers to do all the work. It was agreed that the commissioners will look hard at this matter during the 2011 budget process.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Chair Lisa M. Marsyla adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Attest: 
Marsha LaFarge
Clerk of the Board

Approved: 
Daniel L. Cothren
Vice Chair of the Board