

Report on issues discussed at the weekly Management Update meeting on March 16, 2009

Commissioners present: Commissioner Milne, Commissioner Brentano and Commissioner Carlson

INFORMATIONAL

No. Santiam Canyon EDC projects update

Representatives from the North Santiam Canyon Economic Development Corporation presented an update on current programs. They discussed the Santiam River trail project, business and employment assistance programs and the GROW North Santiam initiative. Highlights and future goals of each project were provided. North Santiam Canyon EDC Chair Paul Matter concluded by saying how much the county's support was appreciated. The commissioners thanked Paul and the other presenters for the update and complimented them on the success of the projects.

Water Quality Advisory Committee formation

Matt Knudsen, environmental specialist, discussed a proposal to form a temporary water quality advisory committee. He explained that as part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit process requirements and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) plan implementation a series of ordinances will need to be enacted with a five year timeline. The advisory committee will assist staff develop the ordinances as part of the stormwater management plan. Matt said one goal is to keep processes similar to other programs in the county. Matt discussed proposed internal and external committee members. Commissioner Milne suggested adding an additional citizen member. Commissioner Carlson recommended staying in close contact with the cities of Keizer and Salem who are also going through, or have been through, this process. The commissioners asked Matt to come back periodically for progress reports.

One-foot reserve strip dedicated as public right-of-way

Mark Riggins, public works, discussed a request by a property owner for removal of a one-foot reserve strip between the property and the street. Mark said many years ago reserve strips had been used to control access. After consultation with other affected departments, Mark said the recommendation from public works is to dedicate the reserve strip to the public for right-of-way purposes. Mark said he would also like to develop a process for dedicating the remaining reserve strips. He said there about 125. There was general discussion regarding how the process would be triggered and what some of the legal requirements may be. Jo Stonecipher, legal counsel, said they could be dealt with as they come up as part of the land use process. Mark said he will schedule the current request for formal consideration by the board at an upcoming board session.

Marion County Parks memorial bench program

Russ Dilley, public works, provided an update regarding the proposed parks memorial bench program. The program would allow citizens to purchase a bench and engraved plaque for placement in a county park. Staff will choose the bench. Russ presented proposed policies and an application process for the memorial bench program. The commissioners expressed support for the program. Commissioner Carlson said she noticed in the policy that requesters are responsible for repairs in cases of vandalism. She asked that sign-off regarding repair be added to the application and agreement. Commissioner Milne also asked for additional work on placement criteria. She said the current criteria may be too restrictive. Commissioner Carlson asked for additional criteria that, while considering first amendment rights, would bar unsuitable messages on plaques. In response to a concern by Commissioner Milne, Commissioner Brentano suggested adding language that would allow the county the option of removing a bench if the requester chose not to make repairs. Russ said he would make the requested changes and return with updated materials at a future management update meeting.

Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) draft recommendations

Jeff Bickford, public works, provided requested revisions to the draft Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP). Jeff summarized the revisions. He said that following public comment there may be additional changes. Commissioner Brentano asked that if food waste composting expansion is considered that local communities be provided the opportunity for input. Commissioner Carlson also asked about a recent letter to the editor that discussed the availability of curbside recycling. Jeff said the letter writer was from a rural area. He said that within all the urban growth boundaries curbside recycling is available, with availability in other areas where there are numerous houses close together. He said it is not cost effective for the haulers to provide curbside recycling in many rural areas. Jeff said in addition to the county transfer stations there are other recycling drop-offs throughout the county. Commissioner Brentano discussed concerns he had heard regarding quench water associated with damp ash that is disposed of. He asked if it would be possible to use heat generated at the waste-to-energy facility to dry the ash prior to disposal. Jeff answered that it is preferable to have the ash slightly damp to prevent the ash from blowing around. Jeff said the quench water is only a small percentage of the water; the remainder is from rainfall. In response to a question by Commissioner Milne, Jeff said that the revisions would be presented to the Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWMAC) at their next meeting. He said there are other public forums planned. The board will also hold a public hearing on the matter. Jeff said he hoped to have the final draft ready for formal consideration by the board in May or June.

Wellness Update

Beth Hawk, wellness coordinator, and Mina Hanssen, risk manager, provided an update and progress report on the wellness program. Beth also introduced Jessica Hicks, an intern from Western Oregon University. Beth

discussed the fall/winter risk and safety training calendar, upcoming total health assessments, smoking cessation program, on-site weight management programs and ergonomic assessments. Commissioner Milne asked if program results could be reflected in numbers. Mina discussed how the data would be used with healthcare insurers to help lower costs in the future. She said the cultural changes are making a big difference. Jessica discussed the projects she has worked on including the healthy eating promotion and the beginnings of a wellness resource center. Beth concluded by discussing the healthy eating campaign and distributed a flier that encourages healthy meals/snacks at catered meetings, and a cookbook with healthy recipes submitted by employees.

2009-2011 Community Dispute Resolution Program

Dan Estes, senior policy advisor, discussed an application for renewal of grant funds through the state's Community Dispute Resolution Program. He said these funds help fund programs like Neighbor-to-Neighbor. Marion County received about \$89,000 in the last biennium. Although, funding for the program has not been reauthorized by the state at this point, the county must apply now in order to be considered for funding if it is reauthorized. The board supported reapplication for funds. Dan will prepare a resolution for formal consideration at the Wednesday, March 18, board session.

OTHER

Dan Estes, senior policy advisor, discussed the copy fee policy, which was last updated about five years ago. He said he had been approached by legal counsel for updates. Jo Stonecipher explained that departments had been in contact with her office for policy updates. She said as part of the policy update they would be looking at other types of fees like color copies, CD/DVD, and electronic records. Dan will begin working on the policy and will brief department heads and elected officials at their next meeting on April 2.

Dan also mentioned that additional changes had been made to the Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB) grant application. He said he will present an updated copy to the board at a future management update.

COMMISSIONERS' UPDATE

Commissioner Brentano said he and John Lattimer, chief administrative officer, met with Gregg Cline of the Oregon Department of Forestry. In summary Gregg's message was that there are three timber sales in Marion County and none are going through at this time. This will result in a loss in revenue from the sales for the county.

Commissioner Brentano also reported that he had been contacted by the manager at the Santiam Canyon Communications Center (9-1-1) regarding legislative issues regarding the state 9-1-1 program including proposals for consolidation of 9-1-1 centers and proposed cuts to funding from the state. Commissioner Brentano asked Jolene Kelley, office manager, to relay the information she had learned regarding the 9-1-1 issues. Jolene discussed potential funding cuts for the current and next biennium. She said that while

there is no current legislation regarding 9-1-1 consolidation, it is a continuing conversation. She said the 9-1-1 community has convened a task force to discuss the issue and make recommendations for efficiencies in the system. Jolene said 9-1-1 officials are seeking letters of support for use of 9-1-1 tax money for its intended purpose. The commissioners supported sending a letter; however they would like more specific information regarding the proposed funding cuts. Jolene and Dan Estes will compile additional information and draft a letter.

Commissioner Carlson reported on a meeting she attended recently regarding stimulus funding for Oregon. She said Oregon is slated to receive about \$4.8 billion.

Commissioner Carlson said that she had recently attended the United Way celebration dinner. She reported that United Way had reached its \$2 million campaign goal.

Barb Young, senior policy advisor, discussed a recent conference call with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), regarding stimulus funds for transportation projects that Bill Worcester and Cindy Schmitt, public works, participated in. She said they also discussed the redistribution process for money that is not used by other states. Jan Fritz, county deputy administrative officer, discussed a recent report that linked Oregon to the green movement. She recommended looking at the *The Oregon Way* approach as outlined on the Governor's web page.

Commissioner Brentano discussed an e-mail from a constituent who provided a news article on what other jurisdictions have been doing to help ease fees and charges. Commissioner Milne said she has also been working on a list of ideas and will present them at an upcoming management update. There was discussion regarding violations in EFU zones. The board asked Jo Stonecipher to discuss extensions of timelines for properties to come into compliance with the planning director.

Commissioner Milne concluded by providing information about the upcoming Marion County Employees' Night at Volcanoes Stadium. Employees' night is scheduled for Friday, July 24. There will be a pre-game concert and barbecue and a fireworks display after the game.

WORK SESSIONS AND OTHER MEETINGS

- 3/17 Department Head meeting with Board of Commissioners – Public Works, 1:30-2:30
- 3/18 Board Session, 9:00-1:00
Covanta Tour – Rep. Brian Clem, 3:30-5:00
- 3/20 Rep. Kevin Cameron, 7:00-7:45
- 3/23 Commissioners' calendar review, 8:30-9:00
Management update, 9:00-11:00
Marion County Housing Authority, 2:00-3:00
Work Session – City of Salem-population forecast, 5:30-6:30

This all-county e-mail authorized by Jan Fritz, deputy county administrative officer.