



Work Session Summary Minutes

OREGON

Santiam Canyon Sewer Project

April 22, 2025. 10:30 AM

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem
5th Floor, Suite 5232, Commissioners Board Room

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners: Kevin Cameron, Colm Willis, and Danielle Bethell.

Boards Office: Matt Lawyer, Chris Eppley, and Jan Fritz.

Legal Counsel: Steve Elzinga, and Scott Norris.

Public Works: Brian Nicholas, Chris Einmo, and Tsige Woldegiorgis.

Commissioner Danielle Bethell called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Discussion

- Reviewed Santiam Canyon Sewer Project Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) proposal from Slayden Constructors, Inc.
- Project timeline targets substantial completion by December 2026.
- The project design stage is at 90% completion.
- Reviewed permitting process with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), with potential rule adoption in November.
- Financial projections total approximately \$77.8 million.
- Explored funding sources including American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, state lottery funds, and additional grants.
- Potential negotiation strategies for reducing project costs.
- Reviewed allowances and contingencies within the contract.

Other

- Property acquisition closing scheduled for upcoming Friday.
- Temporary construction easement needed for staging area.
- Rock crushing operations planned on-site to produce approximately 75% of required gravel.
- Mill City will operate the new wastewater treatment plant.
- Concerns raised about Mill City's readiness, specifically regarding certified plant operators.
- Potential extension of project work into early 2027.
- Senate Bill 1189 potentially supporting project progress.

Next Steps

- Confirm May 15th board session for GMP proposal approval.
- Explore the possibility of an earlier board session if legislative bill passes.
- Follow up with Mill City regarding operator certification.

- Investigate additional funding sources, particularly \$5 million potential capital construction funds.
- Conduct further discussions with Slayden Constructors, Inc. about potential cost reductions.
- Prepare for property closing and initial construction mobilization.
- Continue coordination with DEQ for permitting process.
- Develop communication plans for neighbors regarding construction activities.
- Finalize temporary construction easement agreements.

Adjourned – time: 11:48 p.m.

Minutes by: Mary Vityukova

Reviewed by: Gary L. White