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CLARK COUNTY
WASHINGTON

RAILROAD ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008

4:00 PM -5:30 PM

1300 FRANKLIN STREET – PUBLIC SERVICE CENTER

6TH FLOOR – TRAINING ROOM #679

ROLL CALL:

Members Present:	John Allen, Dick Carroll, Dick Clairmont, Scott Dalesandro, Bill Ganley, Richard Hanford, Dave Hurt, Rodger Lance, Lloyd Lycan, Jack Melton, Bart Phillips, Tom Smith, Florence Wager, Dan Weaver
Absent Members:	Melinda McLucas
Ex-Officio:	Pat Boss (for Eric Temple via conference call); Absent: Will Pickering
Public:	Doug Auburg (BYCX)
Staff:	Fred Abraham, Mary Beth O'Donnell

Agenda Item
Meeting called to order at 4:05PM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll Call/Introductions
Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to approve minutes of the meeting from May 12, 2008 by Florence Wager, seconded by Bill Ganley, minutes approved unanimously as circulated.
Communications/Announcements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dan Weaver did not have a letter to the BOCC yet on the State Hearings Board land use ruling.
PVJR Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pat Boss gave a report in Eric Temple's absence, via conference call as follows: • There has been favorable response to funding requests from Murray and Baird's offices. They have been receiving letters from people (neighborhood groups, shippers, etc) in support of the railroad and its refurbishing, both locally and in their DC offices. If we can get \$2-3 Million in Federal funding it will add momentum to the efforts at State level. • PVJR has been talking to many local companies about the line and receiving cooperation from Burlington Northern. Some challenges have resulted from the State Hearings Board appeal as there isn't marketable, zoned land to sell to potential customers. Everyone is working together to bring more business to the line. • Car loads will be ahead of last year by end of second quarter. The rise in fuel prices is causing companies to rethink using rail for transportation – rail is the "new green". This can help drive more freight to the line. They have talked to Port of Portland about coming up to Clark County.
BYCX Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will Pickering was absent. Doug Auburg reported he doesn't have the schedule for repair of the kinked rail damaged by the snow plow but will talk to Will tomorrow.
Status of County Activities
<p>WSDOT Grant update: The Pre-App conference with City of Vancouver was Thursday, June 5, to discuss MP0.4 and 2.59 drainage issues and permit requirements. There are fewer permits required than originally anticipated. The goal is to have all costs to Cahill by the end of this week to finalize the scope and bid documents. Most likely the drainage portion will be dropped from the project at this time and just the permitting process will be completed in order to move the bidding process forward on the rehab portion. The actual drainage work can be addressed under the next grant.</p> <p>Caples Road: Nothing new to report. Carl Oman has gone out for bid on repair work. He's</p>

Agenda Item

looking at concrete crossing material as an option due to anticipated increase in truck traffic once the Lakeside Industries plant goes in.

- **Illegal Crossing:** A meeting with the property owners will be set up in June.

CBRR Dinner Train: The train has been moved out of the Battle Ground yard up to Moses Lake.

Burnt Bridge Creek Trestle: Health Department reports have come back showing no creosote present on the wood and consequently no environmental hazard is caused by the trestle in the water. Cedar wood was used to build the trestle, which over time has become a habitat for fish and plant life. A response letter will be sent to the concerned citizen with this report by June 12.

Railroad Resource Work Group (RRWG): The group is continuing with its work in spite of the State Hearings Board appeal. They will get the code and design standards written for eventual use, whether for this land under appeal, or another.

Battle Ground drainage: A formal letter will be sent of City of Battle Ground stating the county's willingness to work with them to remediate the problem. The series of retention ponds designed to collect drainage water were never connected and are not doing the job. The developer is unwilling to do anything more.

3 Acre Parcel: Eric Temple purchased this land a year ago for a sand trans-load facility, west of I-205. Originally he intended to site Keyera there. The future plans to extend 99th St would intersect this parcel making it unfit for Keyera.

7 Acre Parcel: Property east of 78th St currently owned by the county and is considered to be surplus. Keyera is interested in purchasing the land to develop their business. They presented the idea at the neighborhood meeting last week and community feedback was positive. They will have to go through the county bid process. A meeting will be held this week with Keyera, Fred, Eric, and county staff to discuss details. Keyera must be out of their current location by July-August 2009.

Sub-Committee Reports:

- **Encroachments:** Lloyd Lycan reported that last Wednesday's trip was cancelled and rescheduled for this Wednesday. Lloyd will coordinate with Cahill on the meeting place. Dick Clairmont and possibly Tom Smith will go along. This trip will be from Battle Ground northward.
- **Web Page:** Rodger Lance said the web site had improved. Mary Beth reported making a few changes to the pages.
- **Community Outreach:** John Allen thanked Dick Clairmont for covering for him while he was out of town. There is nothing new to report. Fred has been receiving good comments from the community on RRAB involvement.

Unfinished Business:

- It has been determined that Bart Phillips term on the board is current until 12/31/09. Let the minutes reflect Mr. Phillips term is in effect through 12/31/09. A motion was made by Bill Ganley and seconded by John Allen to incorporate this into the minutes. The vote was unanimous.

Good of the Order

- If anyone is interested in going on a hi-rail tour, contact Fred via email. It would include the lower portion of the line. Dick Clairmont and Richard Hanford expressed their interest in going.
- Fred has the application for the next WSDOT grant. There is \$2.75 Million available under this State grant. Applications are due by September 15.
- Tom Smith stated that UP is very busy and reopened a line south of Eugene. Though lumber is the primary product and is off a little, the sidings are full. They need more capacity and pay \$1/car for storage. There is very little space on the county line to store cars other than for current shippers. The Barberton spur is needed for interchange of sand cars. People complain about having rail cars parked in the Battle Ground yard for any length of time. There isn't any other available space.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:25PM.